



EDUC399

Professional Capability: Policy, Theory, Pedagogy

S2 External 2015

Dept of Education

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Kerry-Ann O'Sullivan

kerryann.osullivan@mq.edu.au

Contact via kerryann.osullivan@mq.edu.au

C3A904

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

Corequisites

6cp in EDUC units at 300 level

Co-badged status

Unit description

This capstone unit provides a synthesis of students' theoretical and professional understandings within the contemporary educational context. It draws together various studies from within the discipline of Education and integrates psychological, philosophical, historical and sociological viewpoints. It is framed around an exploration of people and their communities, contemporary perspectives and policies, and professional contexts and change.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;

Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;

Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;

Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational

vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Assessment 1	25%	31st August
Assessment 2	35%	30th September
Assessment 3	40%	10th November

Assessment 1

Due: **31st August**

Weighting: **25%**

A 3 part task establishing, representing and evaluating the key concepts, understandings, skills and graduate capabilities developed from your study of Education.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment 2

Due: **30th September**

Weighting: **35%**

Major research and individual investigation with an application task

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through

drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;

- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment 3

Due: **10th November**

Weighting: **40%**

A synthesis task requiring your creative and critical skills to communicate your educational vision.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Delivery and Resources

About this Unit

This capstone unit provides a synthesis of students' theoretical and professional understandings within the contemporary educational context. It draws together various studies from within the discipline of Education and integrates psychological, philosophical, historical and sociological viewpoints. It is framed around an exploration of people and their communities, contemporary perspectives and policies, and professional contexts and change.

Academic Content

There are 3 Modules for this unit:

1. People and Communities
2. Contemporary Perspectives and Policies
3. Professional Contexts and Change

Professional Standards

The framework of the Australian Professional Teaching Standards, developed by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), provides a common reference point to describe, recognise, and support the complex and varied nature of teachers' work. The Standards describe what teachers need to know, understand and be able to do as well as providing direction and structure to support the preparation and development of students.

For more information see: www.teacherstandards.aitsl.edu.au

Australian Professional Teaching Standards addressed in EDUC399 with a specific focus on integrating students' Professional Knowledge, Practice, and Engagement.

Number 6: Engage in professional learning (tasks 1 and 2)

6.2: understand the relevant and appropriate sources of professional learning for teachers.

6.4: demonstrate an understanding of the rationale for continued professional learning and the implications for improved student learning.

Number 7: *Engage professionally*

7.1: understand and apply the key principles described in codes of ethics and conduct for the teaching profession (task 3)

7.4: understand the role of external professionals and community representatives in broadening teachers' professional knowledge and practice. (tasks 1 and 2)

Work Requirements

Credit points indicate the approximate hours per week that a student is expected to spend studying in order to pass a unit. One credit point equals 3 hours; thus, students are expected to spend approximately 9 hours per week studying EDUC399. Study includes attending or listening to lectures, attending workshops, completing set readings and background readings, completing assignments, and using the online system *iLearn*.

Independent study is strongly encouraged in EDUC399.

Internal Students: EDUC399 has one lecture per week of 1 hour's duration.

Students must attend one workshop per week at the time they have been allocated. **All classes (lectures and tutorials on Thursday 13th August, 2015.**

Textbooks and Readings

There is an expectation of your completion of scholarly reading in this unit. It is an

integral part of your study of EDUC399.

Prescribed readings will be available through *e-reserve* in the library.

This will be linked through *iLearn*.

A reading guide/template is available on our *iLearn* unit to assist you with your reading and your independent study / note making.

The reading material that is prescribed in this unit has been selected so as to provoke your thinking, to encourage your critical reflection about the issues, and to extend the ideas from your previous studies. Please consider these prescribed readings in the light of your various set reading from other units

Students are required to complete the weekly readings in advance of each tutorial.

Technologies used and required

This unit has a full WebCT presence through *iLearn*.

Students will need regular access to a computer and the internet to complete this unit.

Weekly access to *iLearn* is compulsory for all students. Important assessment information will be posted here, as will other notices. You are also encouraged to use the discussion forums to share knowledge and ideas with other students. Various activities and materials for discussion and critical reflection are included and external students especially are encouraged to use this web component. Electronic links and suggested references will be included. Please check the *iLearn* unit regularly.

Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au> You will need to enter your student username and password.

Please do **NOT** contact the unit convenor regarding *iLearn* technical help.

Assistance is available from IT Help desk (1800 67 4357).

OneHelp (<https://help.mq.edu.au>) is the online IT support service for both students and staff.

Lectures will be available on the web through the *ECHO lecture* component.

All PowerPoint slides will be available in *iLearn* in advance of the lecture.

What has changed?

Changes made to previous offerings:

In 2012 EDUC399 was completely redeveloped with a new convenor and teaching team, a new unit structure, new assignments, and new teaching materials. Since that time some fine-tuning has been made, new readings included, and the lectures and assessment tasks have been revised for 2015, with adjustments made in 2014 for the inclusion of a professional experience block at the start of Session 2.

Unit Schedule

	LECTURES	ASSESSMENTS / EXTERNALS / NOTES
WEEK 3	Introduction : What is Education?	on campus session 1 Saturday 22nd August
WEEK 4	An exploration of learning, critical thinking and scholarly reflection	task 1 due 31st August
WEEK 5	An exploration of personal and professional knowledge and identity constructions	
WEEK 6	An exploration of language, social practices and Discourses of difference	
WEEK 7	An exploration of interpersonal communication, and collaborative and ethical practices	
WEEK 8	A focus on the Australian landscape: professional accountability, standards and equity	Task 2 due 30th September
WEEK 9	A focus on the international environment: politics, globalisation and education	
WEEK 10	The nature of work and change: new professional, social and cultural practices	On campus 2 Saturday 24th October
WEEK 11	The nature of innovation and learning: creativity, design and future research inquiry	
WEEK 12	An education revolution? From history to now	
WEEK 13	Transition to the future: Professional capability	Task 3 due 10th November

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). You may find of particular interest those which can be found in the [Learning and Teaching](#) category.

Academic honesty

Academic Honesty is key to the core values and principles that underpin the University's Ethics Statement (see the policy at http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.htm). The procedures for Academic Honesty as well as the Assessment – Code of Practice outlines the responsibility of students (and staff) in academic endeavours. Please consult these documents (available through Policy central: <http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/all.html>)

One breach of academic honesty is plagiarism, defined in the Academic Honesty glossary as follows: "Plagiarism involves using the work or ideas of another person and presenting it as one's own without clear acknowledgement of the source of the work or ideas". Plagiarism is a serious breach of the University's rules and carries significant penalties. Penalties may include a deduction of marks, failure in the unit, and/or referral to the University Discipline Committee.

Grading

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F. Each assignment uses a standards-based approach to assessment where performance is assessed against specified criteria. These are described in the feedback sheets that will be distributed in hard copy. You will NOT be notified of a numerical mark for awarded for specific assessment tasks.

Your final unit grade (HD to F) will be accompanied by an SNG (Standardised Numerical Grade) The SNG reflects the extent to which you have met the overall grade descriptors eg an

SNG of 73 (ie closer to D than Cr) means your work shows evidence of meeting the Credit descriptors and has some characteristics of the Distinction descriptors.

Appeals against Grades

University regulations allow for students to appeal a final grade if they feel they have been disadvantaged.

Grading appeals can be lodged on the following grounds:

- The unit coordinator did not provide the outline as required;
- Assessment requirements as specified in the unit outline were varied in an unreasonable way;
- A clerical error has occurred in the computation of the grade;
- Due regard has not been paid to the evidence of illness or misadventure that was submitted by the specified date;
- I have been disadvantaged in some way due to the conduct of the final examination; and
- The examiner's judgement was not objectively applied because of prejudice against the individual.

Information relating to grading appeals can be found at: [<http://www.deanofstudents.mq.edu.au/grades.htm>]

Appeals must be lodged on the appropriate university form. This can be accessed at:

[<http://www.registrar.mq.edu.au/academic-index.htm>]

DISRUPTION TO STUDIES

The University is committed to equity and fairness in all aspects of its learning and teaching. In stating this commitment, the University recognises that there may be circumstances where a student is prevented by unavoidable disruption from performing in accordance with their ability. This policy supports students who experience serious and unavoidable disruption such that they do not reach their usual demonstrated performance level. Please see:

http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/exams/disruption_to_studies/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Nicole Saunders, Administration Co-ordinator, Student Well-Being

Tel: 02 9850 6494 fax: 02 9850 6063 TTY: 02 9850 6493 email: disability@mq.edu.au

In person: Level 2, Lincoln Building (C8A), Macquarie University

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;

- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 3

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2

- Assessment 3

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in

their development of a professional capability;

- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate integrated knowledge and understanding of the key principles, theories and concepts used in the discipline of Education;
- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through

drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;

- Identify, synthesise, and evaluate the main content, skills, and capabilities acquired in their development of a professional capability;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment tasks

- Assessment 1
- Assessment 2
- Assessment 3

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment task

- Assessment 3

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active

participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Discuss in an informed manner the significant issues in Educational studies through drawing upon their critical examination of current research, policies and practices in the field;
- Reflect critically on their learning achievements and apply these to their educational vision, their transition to careers, and to their professional development plans; and
- Demonstrate personal competency, knowledge and confidence in their communicative skills in a variety of modes and forms including ICT.

Assessment task

- Assessment 3