SPED8922

Educational Adjustments for Learners with Vision Impairment

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2020

Macquarie School of Education

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convener and Lecturer
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Contact via 02 9872 0808
RIDBC Renwick Centre
Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays (9am-5pm) - at other times, please email

Administration
Lena Karam
lena.karam@ridbc.org.au
Contact via 02 9872 0303
RIDBC Renwick Centre
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MDisabilityStud

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This Unit provides students with a broad overview of reasonable adjustments and accommodations to curriculum, pedagogy and learning environments for children and young people with vision impairment. Unit content includes legislative and policy frameworks that promote inclusive and equitable education on the same basis as sighted students, implications of vision impairment for social development and learning, and the roles and responsibilities of specialist vision teachers and other professionals.

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:

ULO1: Demonstrate knowledge of current research into the physical, social and cognitive implications of congenital and adventitious low vision and blindness

ULO2: Explain the roles and responsibilities of specialist teachers (vision impairment) and allied professionals in education of learners with vision impairment.

ULO3: In collaboration with class and subject teachers, design and implement reasonable adjustments to the curriculum, assessments and examinations, and educational environments for learners with vision impairment, with sensitivity to age, gender, ability and background

ULO4: Demonstrate knowledge of international and national legislation and policies that promote, protect and support the participation in education and training of learners with vision impairment on the same basis as their sighted peers

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult iLearn for revised unit information.

Find out more about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and potential impacts on staff and students

General Assessment Information

Unit assessment for SPED8922 consists of two tasks which should be submitted electronically via iLearn. You are referred to the prescribed and supplementary topic readings and commentaries as a rich source of ideas and information.

When submitting assignments, please ensure that you comply with the following:

1. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all assessments are successfully submitted through Turnitin or other iLearn lodgement site.

2. The assignment title page should include the student name, student number, unit code, title of the assessment and submitted word count.

3. In addition, add a footer to each assessment task that shows your name or student number, unit code, assignment number, and page numbers.

4. Use Arial size 12-point font, with 1.5 line spacing and "normal" 2.54cm margins for all assessment tasks.

5. Use APA (7th edition) referencing style

6. You are encouraged to use EndNote. This is not compulsory

7. Follow the RIDBC Renwick Centre Accessibility Guidelines

Notes:

- The marking rubrics for the three assessment tasks include references to the SPEVI (2016) Professional Standards Elaborations for Specialist Teachers (Vision Impairment) – available at https://www.spevi.net/professional-standards-elaborations/
- The most recent online APA referencing guide may be downloaded from the Macquarie University library –http://libguides.mq.edu.au/referencing/APA7thEdition.

Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports

Students may use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit. Students are strongly encouraged to upload a draft copy of each assessment to Turnitin at least one week prior to the due date to obtain an Originality Report.

The Originality Report provides students with a similarity index that may indicate if plagiarism has occurred. Students will be able to make amendments to their drafts prior to their final submission on the due date.

Generally, one Originality Report is generated every 24 hours up to the due date.

Students should regularly save a copy of all assignments before submission.

Students are responsible for checking that their submission has been successful and has been submitted by the due date and time.

Assignment extensions and late penalties

In general, there should be no need for extensions except through illness or misadventure that would be categorised as serious and unavoidable disruption according to the University definition of same, see: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ according to the Special Consideration policy. Extensions can only be granted if they meet the Special Considerations policy and are submitted via https://ask.mq.edu.au/. This will ensure consistency in the consideration of such requests is maintained.

Late submissions without extension will receive a penalty of 5% reduction of the total possible mark for each day late (including weekends and public holidays). You are reminded that submitting even 1 day late could be the difference between passing and failing a unit. Late penalties are applied by unit convenors or their delegates after tasks are assessed.

No assessable work will be accepted after the return/release of marked work on the same topic. If a student is still permitted to submit on the basis of unavoidable disruption, an alternative topic may be set.

Students should keep an electronic file of all assessments. Claims regarding "lost" assessments cannot be made if the file cannot be produced. It is also advisable to keep an electronic file of all drafts and the final submission on a USB untouched/unopened after submission. This can be

used to demonstrate easily that the assessment has not been amended after the submission date.

Requesting a re-assessment of an assignment

If you have evidence that your task has been incorrectly assessed against the grade descriptors you can request a re-mark. To request a re-mark you need to contact the unit convenor within 7 days of the date of return of the assignment and provide a detailed assessment of your script against the task criteria. Evidence from your assignment must be provided to support your judgements.

Failed assessments cannot be re-marked as they are all double-marked as a part of the moderation process.

The outcome of a re-mark may be a higher/lower or unchanged grade. Grades are standards referenced and effort is NOT a criterion.

Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks

Students will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the assessment policy: https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment-in-effect-from-session-2-2016

In order to meet the unit outcomes and successfully pass this unit, students must make a genuine attempt at <u>all</u> assessment tasks. Where this requirement is not met you will be awarded an FA grade with a maximum mark of 45.

The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

Grade	Descriptor
HD (High Distinction)	Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.
D (Distinction)	Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.
Cr (Credit)	Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.
P (Pass)	Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes

F (Fail)	Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

Withdrawing from this Unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via https://ask.mq.edu.au before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact on your progression through the degree. Please contact Claire Farrington on 0298720811 or claire.farrington@ridbc.org.au prior to withdrawing and for advice related to your progression.

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.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Delivery and Resources

SPED8922 has a full web presence through iLearn. All requirements for this unit begin Session 1 Week 1, 2020. Students are expected to access the iLearn site and engage with unit materials regularly during session 1.

Support resources

Macquarie University has a range of services for students. If you are struggling with any aspect of academic life or career trajectory and skills, we have great supports within the university. Please refer to the comprehensive list of support services here.

Access and technical assistance

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

Please do **NOT** contact the Unit Convenor regarding *iLearn* technical help.

No extensions will be given for any technical issues. Allow enough time for your submissions.

Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk ph: 1800 67 4357, or log a request at help.mq.edu.au.

OneHelp is the online IT support service for both students and staff.

This unit requires students to use several ICT and software skills:

- Internet access: The i*Learn* site contains materials for this unit; it is also required for the online submission of all Assessment Tasks, and for the use of Turnitin submission for ALL tasks.
- Word processing, visual representations, and document formatting: You are required to use an appropriate form of software to present your assignments.
- Uploading of assessment tasks to iLearn.

Unit Schedule

> **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**
>
> The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult iLearn for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week beginning	Topic	
24th February (wk1)	1	Government and international legislation and policy frameworks supporting education of learners with vision impairment
2nd March (wk2)	2	Psychological, social and cultural implications of vision impairment; critical social skills **Thursday 5th March: First teleconference (via Zoom) to discuss course content – Time to be negotiated**
9th March (wk3)	3	Educational implications of vision impairment
16th March (wk4)	4	Roles and responsibilities of specialist teachers (vision impairment) and other professionals
23rd March (wk5) & 30th March (wk 6)	5	Curriculum frameworks, pedagogy, and IEPs: General principles and approaches **Monday 23rd March: Zoom teleconference to discuss assessment task 1 – Time to be negotiated**
6th April (wk 7)	6	Curriculum, assessment and reporting
Mid-Semester Recess – 13th April to 24th April		
27th April (wk 8)	6 cont.	Curriculum, assessment and reporting **Assessment Task 1 due Monday 27th April**

4th May (wk 9)	7	Optical, assistive and mainstream technologies supporting education inclusion and visual functioning **Friday 8th May: Zoom teleconference to discuss assessment task 2 – Time to be negotiated**
11th May (wk10)	8	Early childhood, family and social contexts
18th May (wk11)	9	Primary and secondary school years
25th May (wk12) & 1st June (Wk13)	10	Students with vision impairment and additional disabilities **Assessment Task 2 due Monday 25th May**

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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 or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

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.

Student Enquiries

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.