

EDU766 Assessing Learning

School: School of Education and Tertiary Access

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast UniSC Moreton Bay	BLENDED LEARNING	Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.
Online	ONLINE	You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course focuses on the dynamic nature of curriculum, pedagogy and assessment for learning principles in the context of secondary schooling. The theory and practice of assessment is interrogated through projects, including how to design intellectually challenging, authentic, credible, safe and engaging processes of assessment of, for and as learning for students. You will then apply specialised knowledge and skills to design, create and justify assessment artefacts including assessment criteria and participate in processes of assessment moderation.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Asynchronous learning materials. You are required to engage (in your own time) with required/recommended course reading materials and activities accessed through Canvas and using the required text.	2hrs	Week 1	9 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On-campus tutorial.	2hrs	Week 1	10 times
ONLINE			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Zoom-based tutorial each week.	2hrs	Week 1	10 times
Learning materials – Asynchronous learning materials. You are required to engage (in your own time) with required/recommended course reading materials and activities accessed through Canvas and using the required text.	2hrs	Week 1	9 times

1.3. Course Topics

- The purposes and principles of assessment, moderation and feedback;
- Assessment *for* learning, assessment *of* learning, assessment *as* learning;
- Constructive alignment;
- The various national and state contexts for assessing student learning;
- Designing assessment: Task-specific criteria and standards, grading tools and rubrics, backward mapping; sharing success criteria with students;
- interpreting and using student assessment data for future planning;
- Setting and achieving goals *for* and *with* students;
- Standardised testing;
- the role and responsibility of teachers in reporting;
- Modifying assessment to cater for diversity and inclusion;
- Strategies to assess student learning including diagnostic, formative and summative assessments.

2. What level is this course?

700 Level (Specialised)

Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership
1 Research, evaluate and critically reflect on assessment principles and concepts related to Assessment for Learning, Assessment of Learning, Assessment as Learning.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Ethical	2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5
2 Research and evaluate past and present assessment policy and practices in relevant secondary learning contexts and demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of providing timely and appropriate feedback to students about their learning and keeping accurate and reliable records of student achievement.	Creative and critical thinker Ethical	2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5
3 Apply deep knowledge and understanding of assessment processes and principles to design rigorous and authentic assessment products and associated teaching and learning sequences that promote learning, engage learners and provide credible assessment of standards.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Ethical	2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5
4 Demonstrate broad knowledge of strategies that can be used to evaluate teaching programs to improve student learning, and involve parents/carers in the educative process	Knowledgeable Ethical	2.2, 2.3, 3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND SCHOOL LEADERSHIP	
2.2	Content selection and organisation: Organise content into an effective learning and teaching sequence.
2.3	Curriculum, assessment and reporting: Use curriculum, assessment and reporting knowledge to design learning sequences and lesson plans.
3	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: Plan for and implement effective teaching and learning
3.1	Establish challenging learning goals: Set learning goals that provide achievable challenges for students of varying abilities and characteristics.
3.2	Plan, structure and sequence learning programs: Plan lesson sequences using knowledge of student learning, content and effective teaching strategies.
3.3	Use teaching strategies: Include a range of teaching strategies.
3.4	Select and use resources: Demonstrate knowledge of a range of resources, including ICT, that engage students in their learning.
5	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE: Assess, provide feedback and report on student learning
5.1	Assess student learning: Demonstrate understanding of assessment strategies, including informal and formal, diagnostic, formative and summative approaches to assess student learning.
5.2	Provide feedback to students on their learning: Demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of providing timely and appropriate feedback to students about their learning
5.3	Make consistent and comparable judgements: Demonstrate understanding of assessment moderation and its application to support consistent and comparable judgements of student learning.
5.4	Interpret student data: Demonstrate the capacity to interpret student assessment data to evaluate student learning and modify teaching practice.
5.5	Report on student achievement: Demonstrate understanding of a range of strategies for reporting to students and parents/ carers and the purpose of keeping accurate and reliable records of student achievement

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in Program ED706

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Task 1 online quiz added prior to census to provide early feedback to students

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	10%	20 mins duration	Week 3	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Artefact - Professional, and Written Piece	Individual	50%	2500 words to be completed in CADMUS	Week 6	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Essay	Individual	40%	2500 words	Week 10	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Online quiz

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to assess your knowledge and understanding of the Australian F-10 Curriculum and of assessment processes and principles (both past and present).		
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes		
FORMAT:	Answer a series of online questions, part multiple choice, part true-false. More details will be provided on CANVAS in Week 1. This quiz must be done prior to census date.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Knowledge and understanding of the curriculum (Australian Curriculum F-10 or relevant ECE curriculum)	4
	2	Knowledge and understanding of past and present assessment policy and practices	1
GENERIC SKILLS:			

All - Assessment Task 2: Critical Evaluation of a unit–assessment & reporting

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to apply your understanding of curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and reporting to evaluate an existing unit of work and to devise some assessment and reporting opportunities.		
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Professional, and Written Piece		
FORMAT:	This task includes three sections. First, critically evaluate an existing unit of work for its constructive alignment. Next, design and justify a summative assessment task that could be used to assess and support student learning in this unit. Finally, describe and justify one “light-touch learning update” and one formal reporting strategy to communicate the learning that has occurred in this unit to parents/ caregivers. All sections should be supported by research literature.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Critically evaluates the extent to which the chosen unit’s assessment, teaching and learning, and intended learning outcomes are constructively aligned.	1 4
	2	Designs and justifies a summative assessment opportunity relevant to the chosen unit of work.	3
	3	Describes and justifies a formal and informal reporting process relevant to the chosen unit of work.	1 2
	4	Communicates reasoned viewpoints with the support of research literature.	4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 3: Moderation: participation and evaluation

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to apply your skills in making judgements about student learning by participating in, and then reflecting on, an assessment moderation process. You will also provide targeted feedback for the parent/ care-giver of two students and describe adjusted instruction based upon assessment data.	
PRODUCT:	Essay	
FORMAT:	Students will participate in a group assessment moderation process during the second half of the course. They engage in professional conversations to make consistent judgements about student learning. Next, they individually write a critical reflection on the moderation process and on the assessment item, using research literature to support the reflection. Students also provide targeted feedback for the parent/ care-giver of two students and consider future teaching implications based upon assessment data.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Reflect on participation in an assessment moderation process 2
	2	Communicates clearly including appropriate use of spelling, grammar, syntax, referencing etc and synthesise research literature to reflect upon assessment processes 1 4
	3	Engages in professional and ethical discussions with colleagues regarding judgements of student learning 2 4
	4	Practices preparing targeted, timely and appropriate feedback to students and parents 2
	5	Analyses student assessment data to evaluate teaching programs and to improve student learning 1 4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy	

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Linda Cranley, Genevieve Johnson, Wendy Harmon	2021	Assessment, Feedback and Reporting, 1st Edition	n/a	Cengage AU

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

- Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
- From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
- More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au