



Course Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Education, Arts & Community
Course Title:	CONTEMPORARY EDUCATIONAL THEORIES AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE
Course ID:	EDMED7065
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	Nil
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	070303

Description of the Course:

This course focusses on how an evidence-base for practice is developed in education. It considers the relationship between theory and practice and in particular the differences between a theory, an evidence-base, and other discourses in and surrounding education. The course introduces students to powerful sources of evidence in the learning sciences (e.g. meta-analyses, systematic reviews, randomised control trials, etc) and uses some case studies in the educational landscape to illustrate the complex relationship between theory, evidence, policy and practice. Students will learn how researchers go about testing theories, e.g. falsifiability, intervention etc. It explores current research on what works and debates over how to interpret evidence.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks.

Program Level:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	✓	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Interrogate the relationships between theory, evidence and practice
- K2.** Identify and explore the sources of evidence
- K3.** Distinguish between evidence and other influences on education

Skills:

- S1.** Identify and find sources of evidence for education
- S2.** Evaluate the evidence-base for a particular practice
- S3.** Develop and produce graduate level academic reading and writing

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Design tasks based on evidence
- A2.** Evaluate pedagogy and curriculum based on evidence

Course Content:

This course will cover the following topics:

- The evidence-bases for practice
- Theory, evidence-base, and other discourse in and surrounding education.
- Gathering evidence, e.g. RCTs, meta-analyses, systemic reviews etc.
- Case studies in the educational landscape
- Evidence, policy and practice.
- Current research on what works and debates over evidence interpretation

Values:

- V1.** Fair evaluation of competing theories and evidence
- V2.** Academic integrity
- V3.** Social responsibility through evidence

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University Federation graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the [Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy](#) (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of GAs in the course	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1, K2, S1, A1	AT1, AT2
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	Not applicable	Not applicable
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K2, S2, A1	AT1, AT2
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K1, K3, S2, A1	AT1
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	Not applicable	Not applicable

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3	Source, summarise and value a source of evidence on particular educational topic	Written Critical Summary	30-40%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, A1, A2	Develop a task, lesson or series of lessons based on current contemporary evidence. Justify the design through published evidence.	Written report	60-70%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)