This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
## Unit Name
Independent Study in Curriculum Issues

## Unit Code
ED649

## Awards
Master of Education

## Core/Elective
Elective

## Strand
Curriculum for Engagement

### Prerequisites
- ED600 Theological Reflections on Education
  - OR
  - ED601 Applying Worldview Studies to Christian Education and
    ED602 Philosophical Perspectives on Education
- RM600 Introduction to Research Methods
- 20 credit points of Elective units

## Modes
External

## Delivery/Contact hrs
Nominal 10 hours per week x 14 weeks = 140 hours (10 credit points)
[Engagement with study materials and readings: 90 hours; Assignment preparation: 50 hours]

## Unit Coordinator
Dr Robert Herschell

## Teaching Staff
Dr Robert Herschell

### Unit Rationale
In a Master of Education program it is important to make some provision for students to pursue areas of special interest. Interest in a topic or issue may not be satisfied by the other coursework units provided by CHC, or may arise out of them. Students may wish to pursue their interest further, yet not at the level of a research dissertation.

ED649 has been designed to meet this need, and will enable students to read more widely on an issue, and possibly to conduct some kind of research. The emphasis will be on self-directed study. While it will not be necessary for the student to take a research methods unit, reading about methods of research that may be used in carrying out the project is essential.

It is expected that ED649 will assist in the professional and personal growth of the student, and also be of benefit to the school and educational community.

### Learning Outcomes:
On completion of this unit of study students will have provided evidence that they have:

1. Identified an area of interest, problem or issue for investigation.
2. Critically reviewed available and relevant literature.
3. Designed the study, the methods of exploration/investigation, and the means of reporting – via a report, journal, article, research paper or presentation to a group – together with any appropriate supplementary materials.
4. Engaged in the implementation of the study, with evaluation, review and critique.
5. Demonstrated appropriate communication and reporting skills.
6. Demonstrated competence in writing at an appropriate tertiary standard (with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation).
Content:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Initial reading to guide the development of the study proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Preparation and presentation of a study proposal for negotiation and approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Completion of a review of appropriate literature related to the topic and the methods of investigation to be employed</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Development of a negotiated contract for carrying out the study, including forms of reporting and timeline</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>Carrying out of the investigation and or trial</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Reporting on the investigation/trial with appropriate recommendations and evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Final report on the investigation/trial submitted</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Set Text Requirements:
No set text

Recommended readings:
Students will undertake their own literature searches in the process of their chosen program of study.

Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Topic/s</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Week Due</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project report (6000 words or equivalent)</td>
<td>Preparation of a report together with progress reports as negotiated, with an option to conduct a student-led seminar or workshop within a school setting.</td>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit Overview:
Provision for postgraduate students to pursue areas of special interest is an integral part of Masters-level studies. ED649 provides a platform for students’ individual investigations and will assist in the professional and personal growth of the student whilst also benefiting the school and educational community.