

HLSC4310B: Research Project B

Callaghan

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description

This course is Part B of a multi-term sequence. Part A must also be completed to meet the requirements of the sequence.

Students will undertake an individual supervised research project, incorporating self-directed learning, with assistance from their supervisor. Projects will address a health sciences related research question. Students will use evidence based techniques to develop and test a hypothesis. This will ideally be in an area where there is sufficient published literature so that the student is able to critically appraise the topic. Students completing this course will have successfully completed Research Project A where they will have initiated and progressed their research project, which is completed in this course, Research Project B.

Assumed Knowledge

All core courses in the first three years of the relevant program. HLSC4120 (may be concurrent).

Contact Hours

Callaghan

Individual Supervision

Face to Face On Campus

140 hour(s) per Term Full Term

Students will meet with their supervisors regularly.

Self-Directed Learning

Self-Directed

140 hour(s) per Term Full Term

Students are expected to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort or total load for this course.

Seminar

Face to Face On Campus

8 hour(s) per Term Full Term

Students are expected to attend oral presentation sessions.

Unit Weighting Workload

10

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

Multi-Term Sequence Advice

This course is part of a multi-term sequence. Both Part A and Part B must be completed to meet the requirements of the sequence. Part A and Part B must be completed in consecutive terms. Students must complete Part A before completing Part B. Students must complete the sequence within a twelve month period. If students complete Part A but are unable to complete Part B within the timeframe, they must re-enrol in Part A. Part A cannot be completed as a standalone course, it will only count towards your program once you have successfully completed Part B.

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00109J

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator **Callaghan**
Dr Jennifer St George
Jennifer.StGeorge@newcastle.edu.au
(02) 4921 6690

Consultation: Use the Discussion Board to ask general questions about research and academic tasks. Contact me via phone or email to discuss (face to face or ZOOM) your own research project and or issues concerning your academic progress.

Teaching Staff Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.

School Office **School of Health Sciences**
Room 302, ICT Building
Callaghan
SchoolHealthSciences@newcastle.edu.au
+61 2 4921 7053

SYLLABUS

Course Content

1. Planning a research question.
2. Critically appraising the literature.
3. Developing a testable hypothesis.
4. Designing a study and selecting a research method.
5. Obtaining ethics approval with support of supervisor (if required).
6. Managing a research project.
7. Presenting research results (written and oral).

Course Learning Outcomes **On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:**

1. Critically appraise the literature related to the research question.
2. Demonstrate the application of research strategies.
3. Collect data appropriately.
4. Analyse and interpret data.
5. Demonstrate advanced oral communication skills including the presentation of a research report.
6. Demonstrate advanced written communication skills including the presentation of a research report.

Course Materials Relevant readings, guidelines and information portals are provided on Canvas site; research supervisors may recommend additional readings or sources.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 2 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Oral Presentation (project results)	<p>Week 11 As per online timetable*</p> <p>Mon 9 October, 12-6pm: N&D (1) Tues 10 October, 9-3pm: OT Wed 11 October, 1-6pm: PHSYIO Thurs 12 October, 12-6pm: N&D (2) Fri 13 October, 8-1pm: MRS</p> <p>*presentations will occur within these time spans. Individual times will be allocated by week 9.</p>	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Research project thesis/dissertation	<p>Week 13 Monday 23th October 2023, by 5pm.</p>	Individual	60%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Oral Presentation

Assessment Type Description

Presentation
The aim of this assessment task is for students to demonstrate their ability to communicate their research project orally.

Weighting Due Date

Students will deliver a 15-minute presentation to their peers and relevant academics. The presentation will describe the introduction, research question(s), methods, results and conclusion/implications of the research project. Students should prepare slides using PowerPoint to support the delivery of their presentation. The audience (fellow students and academics) will have the opportunity to ask questions about the presentation for a maximum of 5 minutes.

20%
Week 11*
As per online timetable**
Mon 9 October, 12-6pm: N&D (1)
Tues 10 October, 9-3pm: OT
Wed 11 October, 1-6pm: PHSYIO
Thurs 12 October, 12-6pm: N&D (2)
Fri 13 October, 8-1pm: MRS

*advise the Course Coordinator ASAP where placement may prevent attendance in this week.

**presentations will occur within these time spans. Individual times will be allocated by week 9 and available on Canvas.

***presentations will be recorded for marking purposes only

Submission Method

Students will present on a scheduled day to their peers and relevant academics in person.

Assessment Criteria

Students will upload a copy of their presentation to Canvas by the end of Week 11.
A detailed rubric is provided on Canvas.
Broadly, 100 marks (20% of your total marks for HLSC4310A and B).
Introduction – 20 marks
Methods – 20 marks
Results – 20 marks
Discussion – 20 marks

Presentation Skills – 20 marks

Return Method
Feedback Provided

Marking is undertaken by the Course Coordinator and Hons Discipline lead or their nominee. The final mark will be an average of the two markers' allocations.

Not Returned

Students will receive a copy of the marking form via email or through Canvas. Oral feedback will also be provided to each discipline on the day of the seminar, and an overall summary provided on Canvas.

Assessment 2 - Research project thesis/dissertation

Assessment Type
Description

Thesis

The Research Project/Thesis for the course is required to be presented as a peer-review journal article. The article should provide a written description of the research project undertaken, in the appropriate format for a peer-reviewed journal (journal to be chosen by the student and supervisors). Students are required to produce a full manuscript that could be submitted to the peer-reviewed journal.

Weighting
Due Date
Submission Method

The student should be able to demonstrate the importance of the project, describe the aims/hypotheses of the project, describe the study design and methodology, describe the results of the study, discuss their findings in context of existing literature, and provide sound interpretation of the findings, including recommendations for ongoing research and/or practice in their discipline.

60%

23rd October 2023 (Week 13), 5pm

Submission via the Canvas site.

All the following documents are required to be submitted.

1. University of Newcastle Assessment Cover sheet
2. Full manuscript
3. Completed reporting guidelines checklist.
4. Copy of the author guidelines for the chosen peer-review journal for submission of the final manuscript.
5. Completed 'Student Contribution to Research Project' form signed by the student and primary supervisor.

Please note: Other than the documents outlined above, no additional files should be included in the submission that would not form part of the submission to the peer-review journal. Any such files will be ignored by the marker.

Assessment Criteria

A detailed rubric is provided on Canvas.

Broadly, 100 marks (60% of your total marks for HLSC4310A and B).

Abstract – 10 marks

Introduction – 15 marks

Method – 15 marks

Results – 20 marks

Discussion – 20 marks

Academic writing - 20 marks

Marking will be undertaken by two discipline experts, one of whom will be external to the School of Health Sciences.

To finalise the marking of a research component in Bachelor Honours Degrees:

- a) the mark will be the average of the two examiner marks, where two examiners conduct the marking;
- b) if the difference between examiners' marks is more than ten marks (from 100 total marks, a third examiner is to be appointed (not the supervisor);
- c) where three examiners are used, the final mark shall normally be an average of the two closest marks with consideration being given to the written reports of the examiners; and
- d) if the mark from a third examiner is more than 10 from either original marker, the final

mark will be as decided by the relevant Head of School on the advice of the relevant Program Convenor.

Return Method

Not returned.

Feedback Provided

Students will receive feedback and a copy of the marking rubric and feedback via email or through the Canvas site.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Weekly and ad hoc Canvas Announcements from Course Coordinator
- Ad hoc emails from Course Coordinator from Canvas or email.
- Regular meetings with your Research Supervisors

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s).

Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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