

PHTY1040: Introduction to Physiotherapy

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description This course will provide an introduction to the role of the physiotherapist and contexts of physiotherapy practice. The course will cover foundational physiotherapy skills and knowledge needed for general physiotherapy practice.

Academic Progress Requirements This course is a compulsory program requirement and is monitored for academic progress purposes. The course must be completed to progress in the program or meet other program requirements.

Failure or withdrawal from this course will result in students being considered under the Student Academic Progress Procedure.

Requisites This course is only available to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) program.

Contact Hours

Callaghan Lecture
Face to Face On Campus
1 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Practical
Face to Face On Campus
4 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

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.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator **Callaghan**
Professor Suzanne Snodgrass
Suzanne.Snodgrass@newcastle.edu.au
(02) 49212089
Consultation: By appointment.

Teaching Staff Professor Suzanne Snodgrass
Suzanne.Snodgrass@newcastle.edu.au

Lucia Chambers
Lucia.Chambers@newcastle.edu.au

Dr Dawn Simpson
Dawn.Simpson@newcastle.edu.au

Kate Newton
Kate.Newton@newcastle.edu.au

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

- Role and scope of practice of the physiotherapist within the Australian health care system, and as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Introduction to clinical communication skills, professional behaviour, interprofessional and reflective practice as relevant to physiotherapy practice
- Ethical, lifespan, gender, cultural and legal considerations for physiotherapy practice
- Basic methodological concepts relevant to the use of measurement in physiotherapy practice including reliability, validity, and diagnostic accuracy
- Basic evaluation and measurement procedures used for assessing joint range of motion
- Massage: basic techniques, regional adaptation, and indications/contraindications
- Physiotherapy prescription of mobility aids, transfer skills and patient handling

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss the roles, responsibilities and skills of a physiotherapist as a member of the health care team in a variety of contexts and health care settings
2. Demonstrate introductory skills in communication, professional behaviour and attitudes for physiotherapy practice including culturally sensitive, ethical and reflective practice
3. Discuss ethical, lifespan, gender, cultural and legal considerations for physiotherapy practice
4. Apply basic biomedical and behavioural knowledge to the measurement and evaluation of various parameters of physical function and demonstrate an understanding of biomechanical and methodological issues related to basic measurement and evaluation skills used in physiotherapy practice.
5. Appropriately select, and correctly demonstrate, basic measurement and evaluation procedures used for the physiotherapy assessment of physical function; appreciating age, gender, cultural and ethical considerations
6. Describe and demonstrate basic intervention techniques used by physiotherapists to improve patient function.

Course Materials

There are a number of textbooks which you will need access to help you learn in this course. The following are recommended as texts and are available from the Bookshop on campus:

Essential Texts:

1. Clarkson, H. (2021). *Musculoskeletal assessment: Joint motion and muscle testing* (4th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer.
2. Oatis, C.A. (2017). *Kinesiology: The mechanics and pathomechanics of human movement* (3rd ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

Recommended Texts:

- Lippert, L. (2017). *Clinical kinesiology and anatomy* (6th ed.). Philadelphia: F.A. Davis. (Earlier editions are available in the Auchmuty library. Students have reported this book is useful for learning the concepts of kinesiology, which can be complex.)
- Kisner, C., Colby, L. A. (2018). *Therapeutic exercise: Foundations and techniques*, (7th ed.). Philadelphia: FA Davis. (This text is available as an e-book through NewCat+. This will be an essential text in Semester 2, Year 1, and it is referred to several times in PHTY1040.)

Anatomy texts and resources:

- Muscolino, J. E. (2017). *Musculoskeletal anatomy coloring book* (3rd ed.). St. Louis: Mosby.
- Albertine, K. H. (2007). *The anatomy student's self-test colouring book* (2nd ed.). South Yarra: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Aclands Online: useful anatomy resource available through the UON library: Newcat. Use the following link : [Home | Acland's Video Atlas of Human Anatomy \(newcastle.edu.au\)](http://Home | Acland's Video Atlas of Human Anatomy (newcastle.edu.au))

(Copies of Clarkson, Oatis, Lippert, Muscolino, and Kisner&Colby textbooks are available for short loans from the Auchmuty Library.)

Attendance/Class Requirements

Most practical/tutorial sessions will contain a practical hands-on component and require students to act as models for each other. In some cases, this may mean disrobing. It is important that you come to each session appropriately attired to disrobe during the semester.

Should you be unwilling or unable to act as a model for any particular session (e.g. due to medical problems) you are asked to notify the tutor responsible for your practical/tutorial session as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made. If you are in doubt whether it is advisable for you to act as a model because of medical considerations please discuss the issue with the Course Coordinator.

You are reminded that carelessness in the laboratory can have serious results. All hazards, accidents and injuries must be reported to a lecturer immediately.

To be prepared for lectures and especially laboratory sessions, it is important that you have read the reading material listed in your Course Manual prior to the appropriate session.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 3 - Practical Viva Examination 2: Pass requirement - Must pass this assessment item to pass the course (see additional notes below in the Assessment section).

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Practical Viva examination A	Week 5	Individual	15%	2, 4, 5, 6
2	Group presentation + Reflection	Weeks 10 and 11	Group + Individual	40%	1, 2, 3
3	Practical Viva examination B*	Week 13	Individual	45%	2, 4, 5, 6

*This assessment has a compulsory requirement:

Prac Viva:

Students are required to achieve at least 50% and pass the safety requirement of Practical Viva Examination B to pass the assessment. Students who fail Practical Viva B, by achieving a mark < 50% in the assessment or fail the safety requirement, may be granted a supplementary assessment. A supplementary assessment will only be granted if the student will pass the course by achieving a minimum mark of 50% in the supplementary Prac Viva assessment.

Students who pass the compulsory course component via the supplementary assessment will have a mark capped at 50% for this assessment item.

Students who achieve < 50% in the supplementary or fail the safety requirement will not meet the compulsory course component requirements for the assessment item and will be allocated a fail grade (FF) for the course.

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.

Reminder

- 1) Reusing one's own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course without permission from the relevant Course Coordinator and
- 2) Making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination, in-term test, quiz or other individual assessment item are considered forms of Academic Fraud within the [Student Academic Integrity Policy](#). This information is located in the policy [glossary](#) under *academic fraud*, the [Academic Integrity Module](#) and/or details in HLSC1000 content on Academic Integrity.

Assessment 1 - Practical Viva examination A

Assessment Type Description

Viva Voce "Practical Viva A"

Students are examined at Stations, where they are required to perform practical skills using another student as a model. These practical skills include assessment procedures and techniques. Students must be prepared to act as a model for another student following their own Practical Viva assessment, and if a student is unable to act as a model, then they must notify the Course Coordinator at least 2 weeks prior to the assessment, or as soon as is practicable.

Weighting

Practical Viva A is worth 15% of your final grade in PHTY1040.

Due Date

Week 5 – see Canvas for details

Submission Method Assessment Criteria

Practical Viva Exams are completed on campus on the examination date.

Practical Viva exams are marked on a student's performance in the following domains: patient position, verbal behaviour, performance of technique, response to questioning regarding

Return Method	technique.
Feedback Provided	Non-returnable due to the nature of the assessments. Individual feedback is provided in electronic format via email; additional individual feedback is available from the Course Coordinator by appointment.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 – Group presentation + Reflection

Assessment Type	Presentation + Reflection
Description	Group oral presentation and Written assignment (reflective activity)
Weighting	The Group presentation + reflection is worth 40% of your final grade in PHTY1040.
Due Date	Week 10 (Group presentation) and Week 11 (Reflection)
Submission Method	In class presentation (Week 10) + Online submission via Turnitin and Canvas (Week 11)
Assessment Criteria	Provided in the Course Manual and on Canvas.
Return Method	The Group presentation is non-returnable due to the nature of the assessment; the Reflection will be returned via Canvas.
Feedback Provided	Feedback is provided in electronic format via Marking Rubrics on Canvas (Group feedback for the presentations and Individual feedback for the reflections).
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 3 - Practical Viva examination B

Assessment Type	Viva Voce “Practical Viva B”
Description	Students are examined at Stations, where they are required to perform practical skills using another student as a model. These practical skills include assessment procedures and techniques. Students must be prepared to act as a model for another student following their own Practical/Viva assessment, and if a student is unable to act as a model, then they must notify the Course Coordinator at least 2 weeks prior to the assessment, or as soon as is practicable.
Weighting	Practical/Viva B is worth 45% of your final grade in PHTY1040.
Compulsory Requirements	Pass requirement - Must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
Due Date	Week 13 – see Canvas for details
Submission Method	Practical Viva Exams are completed on campus on the examination date.
Assessment Criteria	Practical Viva exams are marked on a student’s performance in the following domains: patient position, verbal behaviour, performance of technique, response to questioning regarding technique.
Return Method	Non-returnable due to the nature of the assessments.
Feedback Provided	Individual feedback is provided in electronic format via email; additional individual feedback is available from the Course Coordinator by appointment
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.** Note: An opportunity to re-attempt a supplementary assessment will only be granted if the student will pass the course by achieving a minimum mark of 50% in the supplementary Prac Viva assessment. Students who pass Practical Viva B via the supplementary assessment will have a mark capped at 50% for this assessment item.

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: Canvas, email to students' University of Newcastle email address via Canvas, and face-to-face via questions answered within Lectures or tutorials.

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.

Students in 2023 requested additional time to meet with students in their Presentation groups within class time, so this has been timetabled. They also wanted 'hands-on' activities earlier in the course, so we are starting these in Week 1. Student feedback has also contributed to moving the laboratories on Mobility aids earlier in the course to allow more time to practice with this equipment prior to the final Practical Viva. Other stakeholders (clinicians who contribute to the course as examiners of Practical Vivas felt students were not ready for the final Practical Viva without having had a formative Practical Viva; this has been added to the assessments in 2024 in Week 5.

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

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the

Information

Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/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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