

## PHTY2020: Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy I

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA

## OVERVIEW

<b>Course Description</b>	Physiotherapy clinical skills and knowledge needed for the evaluation and management of common disorders of the musculoskeletal system across the lifespan. The course includes manual therapy, orthopaedic physiotherapy and electrophysical agents
<b>Academic Progress Requirements</b>	Nil
<b>Requisites</b>	Students must be active in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) program [12337] to enrol in this course. This course is only available to students who have successfully completed PHTY1020 and HUBS1105.
<b>Assumed Knowledge</b>	HUBS1105, HLSC1000, PHTY1020, HUBS1403, HUBS1404, HUBS1105
<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Callaghan Lecture</b> Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1  <b>Practical</b> Face to Face On Campus 4 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1
<b>Unit Weighting Workload</b>	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**  
Dr Wei-Ju Chang  
Weiju.Chang@newcastle.edu.au  
(02) 4921 5110  
Consultation: by appointment

**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

- Aetiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis and clinical presentation of common peripheral musculoskeletal disorders, including fractures, dislocations, joint disorders and soft tissue injuries
- History taking for patients presenting with common peripheral musculoskeletal disorders, including red flags and yellow flags
- Basic physical examination principles and procedures commonly used in assessing peripheral musculoskeletal disorders
- Basic radiological and other medical investigations commonly ordered for simple peripheral musculoskeletal disorders, including interpretation
- Physiotherapeutic and non-physiotherapeutic management of common musculoskeletal disorders of the periphery, principles of treatment, complications, prognosis and progression
- Physiotherapeutic treatment techniques for common peripheral musculoskeletal disorders including passive joint mobilisation, electrophysical agents and exercise prescription and the indications, contraindications and precautions for these treatments
- Biological basis and empirical evidence for musculoskeletal physiotherapy interventions, including passive mobilisation, exercise therapy and electrophysical agents
- Ethical, lifespan, gender, cultural and legal issues relevant to the management of common musculoskeletal disorders
- Outcome measures for common simple musculoskeletal disorders, including reliability, validity and responsiveness
- Clinical reasoning skills needed for planning and interpreting the clinical examination of common peripheral musculoskeletal disorders, in addition to planning and implementing the rehabilitation program

---

**Course Learning Outcomes**

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

1. Apply biomedical and behavioural scientific knowledge to the physiotherapy evaluation and management of basic peripheral musculoskeletal disorders;
2. Describe the aetiology, epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical presentation, conservative and surgical management of common peripheral musculoskeletal disorders;
3. Conduct an appropriate, safe and effective examination of the peripheral musculoskeletal system, including history and physical examination and correctly select, modify as necessary, and demonstrate measurement and testing procedures commonly used in assessing peripheral musculoskeletal dysfunction
4. Appropriately select, modify as necessary, and correctly and safely demonstrate basic active and passive treatment procedures used in the management of peripheral musculoskeletal dysfunction including electrophysical agents
5. Apply introductory clinical reasoning skills and an evidence-based approach to decision making in musculoskeletal physiotherapy practice
6. Apply basic treatment evaluation and intervention outcome processes appropriate for musculoskeletal physiotherapy practice
7. Demonstrate an understanding of relevant lifespan, gender, cultural, legal and ethical considerations in the management of people with peripheral musculoskeletal disorders

**Course Materials**

**Required texts**

Petty, N., Ryder, D. (Eds.) (2018). Musculoskeletal Examination and Assessment (5th edition). Elsevier, Edinburgh.

Dutton, M. (2017). Dutton's Orthopaedic: Examination, Evaluation and Intervention (4th edition). McGraw-Hill, New York.

**Recommended text**

Brukner, P. and Khan, K. (2017). Brukner and Khan's Clinical Sports Medicine (5th edition). McGraw-Hill, Sydney.

**Other useful texts**

Hengeveld, E. and Banks, K. (Eds.) (2014). Maitland's Peripheral Manipulation (5th edition). Churchill Livingstone Elsevier, Edinburgh.

Hengeveld, E. and Banks, K. (Eds.) (2013). Maitland's Vertebral Manipulation (8th edition). Churchill Livingstone Elsevier, Edinburgh.

*Further specific references and readings will be indicated during the course by the relevant lecturers*

# 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	Formal Exam	Examination period	Individual	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
2	Prac Viva examinations	Week 13, date TBC	Individual	40%	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
3	Essays / Written Assignments	Week7, Thursday 11 April, 5.00pm	Individual	20%	1, 2, 5

## 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

It is a breach of Academic Integrity Policy to submit work or part thereof previously submitted for academic credit in this or any other course without permission from the course coordinator. This information is located in the policy glossary, the Academic Integrity Module and/or details in HLSC1000 content on Academic Integrity for more information.

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 - Formal Exam

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Formal Examination
<b>Description</b>	Formal written examination
<b>Weighting</b>	40%
<b>Due Date</b>	
<b>Submission Method</b>	Formal Exam
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	
<b>Return Method</b>	
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	by appointment with Course Coordinator

## Assessment 2 - Prac Viva examinations

<b>Assessment Type</b>	In Term Test
<b>Description</b>	Compulsory course component. This assessment item must be passed in order to pass the overall course PHTY2020. 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.
<b>Weighting</b>	40%
<b>Due Date</b>	Week 13, date TBC
<b>Submission Method</b>	
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Practical Examination
<b>Return Method</b>	To be provided on Canvas
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	by appointment with Course Coordinator

## Assessment 3 - Essays / Written Assignments

<b>Assessment Type</b>	Written Assignment
<b>Description</b>	1,000 words
<b>Weighting</b>	20%
<b>Due Date</b>	Week7, Thursday 11 April, 5.00pm
<b>Submission Method</b>	Online
<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	Details to be provided on Canvas and in the Course Manual
<b>Return Method</b>	
<b>Feedback Provided</b>	Yes, on marking rubric returned electronically

## 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: Email, Canvas.

### 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/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.*

© 2024 The University of Newcastle, Australia