



OVERVIEW

Course Description

This is a physiotherapy clinical placement course in which students are required to integrate theory and practical skills to deliver a physiotherapy service under supervision. This physiotherapy clinical practice course will provide students with an opportunity to develop and demonstrate competence in safely delivering physiotherapy clinical services in a variety of practice environments, and with people across the lifespan.

This course consists of two five-week, full time clinical placements. The placements in this course will occur in one or more of the following areas of practice: acute/cardiopulmonary, rehabilitation/neurology, musculoskeletal/ambulatory care, community practice and/or integrated general.

This course is a Compulsory Program Component and students must pass in order to progress in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy program.

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 and Assumed Knowledge

This course is only available to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) program (12337). Students must have successfully completed PHTY3090, PHTY3100. Students must be concurrently enrolled in PHTY3060. Assumed knowledge is all year 1, 2 and 3 Courses in the Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) program (12337).

Contact Hours

Clinical*

Face to Face Off Campus

35 hour(s) per week for 10 weeks (two clinical placements)

Dates may vary, please refer to the Physiotherapy Placement Calendar, Canvas and SONIA.

* This contact type has a compulsory requirement.

Unit Weighting and Workload

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

Withdrawal from Placement

The final date that a student may withdraw without academic penalty from this course, other than in exceptional circumstances and with approval from the Head of School, is 1 week prior to the commencement of the placement.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Physiotherapy Clinical Education Managers

Joint email: Physio-ClinEd@newcastle.edu.au

Clint Newstead (Course Co-ordinator)
T: 4921 2016

Dr Catherine Johnston
T: 4921 7782

College Professional Placement Unit

Professional Experience Support Officer
Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor
College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing
T: +61 2 4055 0160
CHMW-AlliedHealthPlacements@newcastle.edu.au

School of Health Sciences Office

ICT building
SchoolHealthSciences@newcastle.edu.au
+61 2 4921 7053

Communication Methods

Email, Canvas and SONIA are used extensively for all clinical placement courses in the BPhysio. Students MUST check these regularly.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

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

Contact Hour Requirements:

Clinical Attendance Requirement - Full attendance at clinical placements is required in order to be eligible for clinical assessment.

Course Assessment Requirements:

Assessment 1 (placement 1): Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.

Assessment 2 (placement 2): Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.

Pre-Placement Requirements:

NSW Health Verification Requirements - Mandatory NSW Health Verification Requirements must be met.

Important Placement Requirements

Placement is a mandatory component of your degree. You will not graduate if you cannot satisfactorily complete placement. You will not be able to undertake a placement unless you have completed the pre-placement requirements. You will not be able to enter a NSW Health facility unless you have completed the pre-placement requirements.

Please note

Students will be allocated a clinical placement. Students cannot change their clinical placement site due to not being able to demonstrate the above requirements.

SYLLABUS

Course Content

The clinical placement in this course will occur in one of the following designated physiotherapy clinical areas: acute/cardiopulmonary, rehabilitation/neurology, musculoskeletal, community practice or integrated general. Course content is to be applied to the designated physiotherapy clinical placement area at a beginning new graduate level.

For each clinical placement course, in the designated physiotherapy clinical placement area, content will include:

- Supervised physiotherapy clinical practice experience in a healthcare setting including the provision of timely and constructive feedback on performance
- Involvement in the delivery of a physiotherapy healthcare service and the management of a clinical case load
- Opportunities for the application of background theoretical knowledge
- Opportunities for the application of skills in history taking
- Opportunities for the application of skills in physical examination, physical assessment and the use of appropriate outcomes measures and assessment tools
- Opportunities for the application of clinical reasoning and analysis skills
- Opportunities for the application of verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic communication skills
- Opportunities for the application of skills in evidence-based practice and risk management to enhance patient outcomes and ensure public safety
- Direct experience working and participating in interprofessional practice and within a healthcare team
- Exposure to the role and responsibilities of the physiotherapist and opportunities for the observation of professional role models
- Opportunities for the application of skills in reflective practice and self-review
- Opportunities for the demonstration of professional behaviour, attitudes and responsibilities

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate competence in providing an evidence-based, patient centred, culturally sensitive physiotherapy service for people across the lifespan in a workplace setting
2. Demonstrate appropriate professional behaviour for physiotherapy and interprofessional practice
3. Demonstrate effective clinical communication including, but not limited to verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic forms, with patients, care-givers, clients and other members of the multiprofessional health care team
4. Demonstrate competence in selecting and safely applying appropriate assessment methods and tools (including, but not limited to; patient history and physical examination)
5. Demonstrate competence in analysis, clinical reasoning and decision making in order to plan and progress physiotherapy intervention and management
6. Demonstrate competence in selecting and safely implementing physiotherapy intervention and management (including but not limited to physical treatment techniques, patient education, discharge planning)
7. Demonstrate the ability to provide a safe and effective physiotherapy clinical service including identification, minimisation and management of risk and adverse event
8. Demonstrate all of the capabilities expected of an entry-level physiotherapy practitioner as determined by Physiotherapy Professional entry-level standards.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment summary

Item	Description	Learning Outcomes
Clinical Assessment 1*	Final (summative) clinical assessment, end unit (week 5) placement 1 – 50%* * This assessment has a compulsory requirement. This assessment item must be passed in order to pass the course.	1-8
Clinical Assessment 2*	Final (summative) clinical assessment, end unit (week 5) placement 2 – 50%* * This assessment has a compulsory requirement. This assessment item must be passed in order to pass the course.	1-8
Opportunity to reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Constraints on clinical placements limit re-attempt opportunities.	

Specific assessment information

Students are assessed using the Assessment of Physiotherapy Practice (APP). To pass each assessment item in this course (ie each placement), students must achieve a pass grade on the APP. To achieve a pass grade on the APP the following must be met:

- Students must receive an overall total APP score of greater than 50%
AND
- Students must receive a score of greater than 50% for the combined total of marks for sections “professional behaviour”, “communication” and “evidence based practice”
AND
- Students must receive a score of greater than 50% for the combined total of marks for sections “assessment” “analysis and planning” and “intervention”
AND
- students must receive a score of 2 or more on performance indicator 20 “risk management”
AND
- Students must receive a rating of “adequate” on the End Unit Global Rating Scale

The essential criteria reflect the need for Physiotherapy students to have a minimum specified level of competence in essential areas of professional practice. Students not meeting the essential criteria requirements will be given a fail grade.

As the essential criteria apply to the final assessment only, no opportunity will be provided to remediate the FF grade unless accompanied by the appropriate Special Consideration documentation.

Any student excluded from placement because they are unable to demonstrate the above requirements will not be able to pass this course and will be given a fail grade (FF) for the course.

Any student not able to fulfill these above requirements, or who is unwilling to meet these requirements, needs to make an appointment with the course coordinator to discuss their progress in this course and the degree.

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 and SONIA—see previous information

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.

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: You are entitled to apply for special consideration because adverse circumstances have had an impact on your performance in an assessment item. This includes applying for an extension of time to complete an assessment item. Prior to applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure, available at <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>. All applications for Adverse Circumstances must be lodged via the online Adverse Circumstances system, along with supporting documentation.

Please note – if applying for Adverse Circumstances for Clinical Placement courses, students MUST contact the Clinical Education Manager to discuss all applications.

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