

SPTH4030: Professional Issues 1

Online

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description	In this course, students gain a deep understanding of the professional issues associated with working life as a Speech Pathologist and strategies for maintaining professionalism throughout their careers. Students also develop key job seeking and career planning skills ahead of transitioning into the professional workforce.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Requisites	This course is only available to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Speech Pathology (Honours) [12318].
Assumed Knowledge	Students are required to have successfully completed SPTH1080, SPTH2080. Students are expected to have Assumed Knowledge: SPTH2001, SPTH2002, SPTH2003, SPTH3101, SPTH3102
Contact Hours	Online Self-Directed Learning Self-Directed 10 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 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 **Online**
Dr Megan Barr
Megan.Barr@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation: I work part-time at UoN. Email for an appointment time.

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

School Office **School of Health Sciences**
Room 302, ICT Building
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SYLLABUS

Course Content

- Professionalism and professional conduct
- Reflective practice (demonstration of self-awareness, critical reflection to guide professional development and practice)
- Life-long learning (including critical appraisal of emerging evidence, and consideration of clinical education)
- Communication skills
- Working in teams (collaborating with colleagues)
- Counselling in the context of individual case management
- Role and scope of practice for new graduate speech pathologists (job seeking skills, stress management, mentoring)

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

1. Design and develop an individualised learning and career plan including a Curriculum Vitae and job application.
2. Locate and critically appraise emerging research on issues impacting Speech Pathologists.
3. Describe and reflect on the speech pathologist's scope of practice in relation to counselling, ethical practice and medico-legal issues in clinical practice.
4. Demonstrate appropriate negotiation, communication, and organisation skills when working within a team.
5. Develop self-awareness and demonstrate critical reflection to guide future professional development and practice.

Course Materials

SCHEDULE

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Written Assignment (Job Application)	Friday 5th April - Week 6	Individual	20%	1, 5
2	Mock Interview	Week 7 Individual appointments from Monday 8th April - Wednesday 10th April	Individual	30%	1, 5
3	Journal	Week 9 - Monday 6th May Response to peers in your group by Friday 10th May	Individual	20%	3, 5
4	Group Presentation	Appointments during weeks 11 and 12	Group	30%	2, 3, 4

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 - Written Assignment (Job Application)

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Description	Details on Canvas
Weighting	20%
Length	1,200 words maximum
Due Date	Friday 5th April - Week 6
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - .
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 - Mock Interview

Assessment Type	Viva Voce
Description	Details on Canvas
Weighting	30%
Due Date	Week 7 Individual appointments from Monday 8th April - Wednesday 10th April
Submission Method	Specific Location
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - .
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 3 - Journal

Assessment Type	Journal
Description	Details on Canvas
Weighting	20%
Length	Three 5 minute videos and supporting links
Due Date	Week 9 - Monday 6th May Response to peers in your group by Friday 10th May
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	See Canvas

Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - .
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 4 - Group Presentation

Assessment Type	Presentation
Description	Details on Canvas
Weighting	30%
Length	10 minutes plus documentation
Due Date	Appointments during weeks 11 and 12
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - .
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

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).

Attendance

Attendance/participation will be recorded in the following components:

- Self-Directed Learning (Method of recording:)

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

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.

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RELATIONSHIP OF COURSE OBJECTIVES TO: COURSE ASSESSMENT ITEMS, UON GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES¹, AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY AUSTRALIA'S PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS²

Course Learning Outcomes	University of Newcastle Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes				
	Attributes	Life Ready Graduates: 'Work Ready' ~ 'Healthy and Well' ~ Community Minded'			
	Learning Outcomes	SPA Professional Standards: Domains (standards, elements)			
	Assessments	Practice area (Communication/swallowing)	Domain 1: Professional Conduct	Domain 2: Reflective Practice & Life-long Learning	Domain 3: Speech Pathology Practice
1. Demonstrate understanding of principles of professionalism (including ethics, EBP)	Written assignment Journals Presentation	Communication Swallowing	1.1 a, b, c, d, e, f, g 1.2 a, b, c 1.3 a, b, c, d, e, f, g 1.4 a, b, c, d 1.5 a, e, f 1.7a, b, c, d	2.1 a, b 2.2 a, b, c 2.3 a, b, c 2.4 a 2.5 a, b 2.6 a 2.7 a, b	3.1a 3.2 a d 3.4 a, b 3.6 a
2. Demonstrate independence in critical appraisal (acquire, critique, integrate knowledge)	Written assignment Journals Presentation	Communication Swallowing	1.1 a, c, d, e, f, g 1.3 a, d, e, g 1.4 a, b, c, d 1.7 a, b, c, d	2.1 a, b 2.2 a, b, c 2.3 a, b, c 2.4 a, b 2.5 a, b 2.6 a 2.7 a, b	3.1 a 3.2 a, d 3.4 a, b 3.6 a
3. Demonstrate understanding of scope of practice in relation to counselling	Written assignment Journals Presentation	Communication Swallowing	1.1a, b, c, d, e, f, g 1.2 a, b, c 1.3 a, b, c, e 1.4 a, b 1.5 a, e, f 1.7a	2.1 a, b 2.2 a, b, c 2.3 a, b, c 2.4 a, b 2.5 a 2.6 a	3.1 a 3.2 a, d
4. Work effectively in a team	Presentation	Communication Swallowing	1.1 a, c, d, e, f, g 1.2 a, b, c 1.3 c, f 1.4 a, b, c, d 1.5 f 1.7 a, c, d	2.1 a, b 2.2 a, b 2.3 a, b, c 2.4 a 2.6 a 2.7a, b	3.1 a 3.2 a, d 3.6 a
5. Develop self-awareness and critical reflection	Written assignment Journals Presentation	Communication Swallowing	1.1 c, d, e, f, g 1.3 a, e, g	2.1 a, b 2.2 a, b, c 2.3 a, b, c 2.5 a, b 2.6 a	3.4 a, b

1. University of Newcastle's strategic plan 2020-2025: Looking Ahead (<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/our-uni/strategic-plan/life-ready-graduates>)

2. Speech Pathology Australia (2020). Professional standards for speech pathologists in Australia (https://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/SPAweb/Resources_For_Speech_Pathologists/Professional_Standards/Professional_Standards/SPAweb/Resources_for_Speech_Pathologists/CBOS/Professional_Standards.aspx?hkey=583a56af-74e0-4111-95fa-656502269967)