SPTH4210 - Research Review
Course Outline

Course Coordinator  Associate Professor Alison Ferguson
GP1.18, phone 4921 5716
Email: Alison.Ferguson@newcastle.edu.au

Semester  Semester 1 – 2005
Semester 2 - 2005

Unit Weighting  10

Teaching Methods  Lecture
Individual Supervision

Brief Course Description
Students' prior learning of research methodology is reviewed in the context of speech pathology clinical research. Students review the current theoretical and empirical research literature in order to argue for a specific research question or direction for further research. The major modes of delivery are lectures and tutorials.

Contact Hours
1 - 2 hrs/week (1 hr/week lecture; up to 1 hr/ week individual supervision as arranged)

Learning Materials/Texts
TBA

Course Objectives
Students will be able to:
1. Interpret and critique theoretical and empirical research literature with regard to - theoretical and clinical validity, and methodology.
2. Identify and select a worthwhile area with potential for further research.
3. Define an answerable and methodologically feasible research question or direction.
4. Present and defend a logical argument verbally and in writing, in a professional manner.

Course Content
Review of the research development process
Defining and planning research problems
Critique
Interpreting data
Research ethics
Funding research
Drafting and final documentation of research
Verbal presentation of research
Publishing research

Distributed to students week commencing:
21st February, 2005
CTS Download January 2005
**Assessment Items**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Timing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written (preliminary) research proposal</td>
<td>10% W6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary literature review</td>
<td>20% W10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal defence</td>
<td>25% W11-13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written research review &amp; final proposal</td>
<td>45% W14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assumed Knowledge**

All SPTH 3000 level courses

**Callaghan Campus Timetable**

**SPTH4210**

RESEARCH REVIEW

Enquiries: School of Language and Media

Semester 1 - 2005
Lecture     Friday     13:00 - 14:00     [GP3-16]

Semester 2 – 2005
Lecture     Thursday   13:00 – 14:00     [V09]

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**Plagiarism**

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -

The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

**Written Assessment Items**

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

**Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations**

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment: or
2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consid.htm

**Changing your Enrolment**

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2005
For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2005
For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2005
For Trimester 2 courses: 10 June 2005
Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the School Office.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/change-enrol.html

Contact Details

School of Language & Media
Office, Room MC1271st Floor McMullin Building
Phone: 02 4921 5175, 4921 5172, 4921 5360, 4921 5155
Email: Language-Media@newcastle.edu.au

Faculty Student Service Offices
Faculty of Science and Information Technology
Room V19 (Mathematics Building)
Phone: 0249 215 562

The Faculty of Education and Arts
Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)
Phone: 0249 215 314

The Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment
Room: EF101 (EF Building) Phone: 0249 216 065

Architecture and Built Environment
Room: A106 (Architecture Building) Phone: 0249 215 782

The Faculty of Health
Level 1 (Bowman Building) Phone: 0249 215 682

The Faculty of Business and Law
Room: SRS130 (Social Sciences Building)
Phone: 0249 215 983
The Dean of Students
Dr Jennifer Archer
phone 492 16723;
fax: 492 16895;
Jennifer.Archer@newcastle.edu.au
Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline
No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS
The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness.

If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 49 21 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au.

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester.

For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at:
www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Relationship between course objectives and CBOS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>Clinical Skills</th>
<th>Clinical Skills</th>
<th>Empirical/Analytical Skills</th>
<th>Interpretative/Synthetic Skills</th>
<th>Critical Thinking Skills</th>
<th>Communication Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBOS * Indicator</td>
<td>1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 3.3, 5.6, 7.1</td>
<td>Specialised area within full range</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Select</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>Specialised area within full range</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Define Question</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>Specialised area within full range</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Present</td>
<td>5.6, 6.1</td>
<td>Specialised area within full range</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Competency Based Occupational Standards for Speech Pathologists - Entry Level (Revised 2001)
The assessment of this course relates to the learning objectives as outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Obj 1 Critique</th>
<th>Obj2 Select</th>
<th>Obj3 Define</th>
<th>Obj4 Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Early draft</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Final Assignment</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Presentation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Delivery**

On-campus students are encouraged to attend each week in order to make use of peer discussion, and all issues raised will be summarized for off-campus students by student notetakers via BLACKBOARD discussion forums.

Off-campus students are encouraged to attend this discussion time whenever they have this time available during the semester. Content covered in lectures is provided through Shortloans Online readings (listed below).

All students are asked to use BLACKBOARD to raise queries and issues for discussion, whether large or small. Even if you think your query relates specifically to your topic, usually the points and issues raised relate to all students doing the course. If the lecturer thinks that the issue would be better dealt with individually, she will direct her response to you alone.

If your query relates to your enrolment, or your personal circumstances (e.g. extensions and so on), then messages can be left for return calls/emails at any time (02 4921 5716 – Alison.Ferguson@newcastle.edu.au).

If ringing from your clinical placement, just leave your phone contact information, so the lecturer can ring you back. This way, your clinic does not carry the cost of the call.

**Timeline for Semester 1**

| W1  | Intro to the research process |
| W2  | Review of quantitative methodologies |
| W3  | Overview of qualitative methodologies |
| W4  | Single case, and mixed methodology designs |
| W5  | Public Holiday |
| W6  | Review of statistics (Kim Colyvas) |

**Proposal due**

| W7  | Refining research direction |
| W8  | Presenting research (verbal, written) |

Recess
### Timeline for Semester 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W1</td>
<td>Intro to the research process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W2</td>
<td>Review of statistics (Kim Colyvas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W3</td>
<td>Review of quantitative methodologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W4</td>
<td>Overview of qualitative methodologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W5</td>
<td>Single case, and mixed methodology designs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W6</td>
<td>Review of statistics (Kim Colyvas)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposal due
W7 Refining research direction
W8 Presenting research (verbal, written)
W9 Ethical & funding issues
W10 Review of statistics (Kim Colyvas)

Preliminary literature review due

Recess
W11 Presentations
W12 Presentations
W13 Presentations
W14 Presentations

Final research reviews due

Required Readings

Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (AVAILABLE
AUCHMUTY SHORTLOANS) If off-campus, see the following sites for a
starting point with referencing using APA!
http://www.library.uq.edu.au/training/citation/apa.html
http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/cite6.html


The following readings provide content coverage from lectures for off-campus
students, and are available on Shortloans Online.

Gerber, R. (1999). The role of theory in social and health research (ch.2). In V.
Minichiello et al (Eds.), Handbook for research methods in health sciences.
and defining problems (ch.4). In Research and statistical methods in
communication disorders. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins.

and statistical methods in communication disorders. Baltimore, MD: Williams &
Wilkins.

In Introduction to research in the health sciences (3rd ed.). Melbourne, VIC:
Churchill Livingstone.
Other recommended readings


How to find your topic

The following flow-chart provides a guide to the process of topic selection. Some students will find that they are at the beginning of the process, while others may be further along.

Consider type of Topic

Issue based topic? Assessment vs intervention processes, professional vs clinical issues

Caseload based topic? Adult vs Child, Speech, Language, Voice, Fluency, Swallowing

General pre-reading, e.g. textbooks, reference books, look for discussions of needs for further research

Brainstorm one or more topic areas (no more than three)

WRITE A SHORT PARAGRAPH Describing each topic

Do a quick search in both NEWCAT and an appropriate journal database with two key words – at this stage just collect titles & abstracts

CONSULT

Consult with academic staff member with expertise in area (email, phone, or by appointment)

Consult with lecturer
Assessment

Note that extensions will only be granted for assignments in cases where clinical workload or personal circumstances are preventing timely completion. Requests for extension must be submitted using the required form found at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consid.htm

Application form is at the bottom of this web-page, in pdf format.

Application for Extension of time (complete section 1, get course co-ordinator/lecturer to sign agreement to extension prior to submission date, course co-ordinator/lecturer & student to keep a copy, student attaches original to assignment when submitted).

Application for Deferred assessment (complete section 2, if assignment get course co-ordinator to sign agreement no later than 3 days after due, co-ordinator/student to keep a copy, student attaches original to assignment with submitted).

Application for Special consideration for Assessment items (complete section 3, submit form to School office) no later than 3 days after performance on attempted assessment item, or across the course has been affected.

Off-campus students can FAX this form (4921 7386).

Any assignment submitted later than the due date (whether extension is granted or not) cannot be guaranteed to be marked in time for you to receive feedback for the next assignment, and this is NOT considered sufficient reason for an extension to the subsequent assignment.

Description of Assessment Tasks

1. **SPTH4210 - Research Proposal** (500 words) - 10%. By Friday of Week ). Submit using the DIGITAL DROP-BOX in the Blackboard site for this assignment. Make sure your file is named so that both you and the stage of the assignment are clearly identifiable, e.g. **Jonesproposal.doc**
The Research Proposal should be no more than 2 pages (500 words) and should provide a working title for the research, the name of the speech pathology consultant to the project (if appropriate), and should describe the problem or issue to be addressed, and propose how this project will progress. Use of diagrams to illustrate your thinking about the research is encouraged. Some evidence of reading is required, although this is likely to be very preliminary. The research area may be still fairly general at this stage.

Criteria for marking:
- Working title - succinct, informative 1
- Description of the problem 3
- Research plan 2
- Reading (including referencing) 2
- Overall clarity (including writing style) 2
**Total** 10

### 2. SPTH4210 - Early Draft - (1,500 words) - 20%. Due by 12 noon on Friday of Week 10. Submit using the **DIGITAL DROP-BOX** in the Blackboard site for this course. Make sure your file is named so that both you and the stage of the assignment are clearly identifiable, e.g. `Jonesearlydraft.doc`

The Early Draft should describe the general background to the research, and describe in detail the specific literature which is relevant to the research. Students are encouraged to use diagrams, figures, tables, and headings as needed for increasing clarity.

Criteria for marking:
- Working title - succinct, informative 2
- Description of the problem 6
  - theoretical foundations & potential applications
- Clear line of argument 5
- Reading (including referencing) 4
- Overall clarity (including writing style) 3
**Total** 20

### 3. SPTH4210 - Final Assignment - (3,500 words) - 45%. Due by 12 noon on Friday of Week 14. Submit in the first instance electronically through turnitin (see information at the end of this course outline), and attach the turnitin ‘receipt’ to the hard copy of the assignment, which should be submitted in the Speech Pathology Assignment Box, with the School of Language & Media coversheet, at the School office, 1st flor, McMullin Building.
Criteria for marking

. Evidence of independent, relevant and comprehensive reading  7
. Previous research subjected to theoretical and methodological critique  7
. Line of argument justifies significance of question  6
. Arguments are supported  6
. Research question/direction is feasible for further research  7
. Clearly written  6
. Presentation (incl. proofreading, spelling, referencing)  6

Total Mark 45

5. SPTH 4210 - Seminar Presentation - (10 minutes) - 25%.
Students will present their research in class time – between weeks 11-14. Wherever possible, students who are off-campus for clinical work, are to seek to negotiate leave from clinic for this examination. Individual arrangements will be made where this is not possible.

Students will present a short verbal description of their research project and provide a verbal defence of their research direction in response to audience questions. The standard of presentation should reflect that required in a professional research forum. Brevity, clarity and audience interest are key goals of the presentation.

Criteria/Weighting for Marking:

. Appropriate selection of information suitable to the type of presentation  6
. Logical coherence in progression of ideas  6
. Presentation style: (incl. professional manner, use of audio-visual materials, clarity, level of audience interest generated )  8
. Response to questions, challenges  5

Total 25
Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Proposal 500 words</td>
<td>Written (preliminary) research proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>W6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Early Draft - 1,500 words</td>
<td>Preliminary literature review</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>W10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Final Assignment - 3,500 words</td>
<td>Written research review &amp; final proposal</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>W14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Presentation 10-15 minutes</td>
<td>Verbal defence</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Wks11-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Turnitin


- Go to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)
- Register as a user for turnitin
- Log on into the course (identified by its Class ID 1240085, Class Name SPTH4210, with password SPTH4210, - submit to Semester 1 final assignment or Semester 2 final assignment as appropriate)
- Submit your assignment directly to this site. (If you want to check the originality of your work prior to final submission, submit it to the section marked ‘revision’, then check the originality report. Once you are happy with the assignment, submit it to the final assignment section.
- Make sure your file is named so that both you and the stage of the assignment are clearly identifiable, e.g. Jonesfinal.doc