SPTH4210 - Research Review
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Sally Hewat
Room: GPG.28
Ph: 4921 5159
Fax: 4921 7386
Email: Sally.Hewat@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Monday 11-2 or by appointment

Semester: Semester 1 - 2008
Unit Weighting: 10
Teaching Methods: Self Directed Learning

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.

Contact Hours
Self Directed Learning for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts

Course Objectives
Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1, 2008
CTS Download Date: 5 Feb 2008
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

Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Assignment - 5,000 words Written research review &amp; final proposal 45% W14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Draft 1 - 500 words Written (preliminary) research proposal 10% W6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Draft 2 - 1,500 words Preliminary literature review 20% W10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations - Individual</td>
<td>Seminar Presentation - 15 minutes Verbal defence 25% W11-13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assumed Knowledge
All SPTH 3000 level courses

Callaghan Campus Timetable
SPTH4210
RESEARCH REVIEW
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2008
Lecture Friday 12:00 - 13:00 [V01]

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;
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 following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.
Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- **Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.
- **Requests for Rescheduling Exams** must be received in the Student Hub no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. Students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer in the first instance.

**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 2008
- For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2008
- For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2008
- For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2008
- For Trimester 3 courses: 22 September 2008
- For Trimester 1 Singapore courses: 3 February 2008
- For Trimester 2 Singapore courses: 25 May 2008

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester. 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 staff in the Student Hubs.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students

[https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au](https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au)

**Faculty Information**

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students on campus.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan campus**
• Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Union Building
• Hunter Hub: Student Services Centre, Hunter side of campus

**City Precinct**
• City Hub & Information Common: University House, ground floor in combination with an Information Common for the City Precinct

**Ourimbah campus**
• Ourimbah Hub: Administration Building

**Faculty websites**

**Faculty of Business and Law**

**Faculty of Education and Arts**
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/

**Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment**
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/

**Faculty of Health**
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/

**Faculty of Science and Information Technology**
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/

**Contact details**

**Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie**
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

**Ourimbah**
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

**The Dean of Students**
Resolution Precinct
Phone: 02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

**Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)**
Phone: 02 4348 4123
Fax: 02 4348 4145
Email: resolutionprecinct@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

Web Address for Rules Governing Professional Doctorate 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 02 4921 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

Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion
forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students
## SPTH4210 Research Review

### Important Additional Information

#### Relationship of Course Objectives to Graduate Attributes, Professional & Occupational Competencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Newcastle Graduate Attributes¹</th>
<th>Community Responsiveness</th>
<th>Professionalism</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Competencies²</td>
<td></td>
<td>Generic Professional Competencies³ (COMPASS™ Unit, Element)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Objectives</td>
<td>Clinical populations</td>
<td>CBOS Unit, Element</td>
<td>Professionalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Interpret, critique research</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.5, 5.7, 5.8</td>
<td>GPC 4.2, 4.4, 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Identify, select area to research</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>GPC 1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Define research Q</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>GPC 1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Present, argue verbally &amp; in writing in prof manner</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>7.1, 7.4</td>
<td>GPC 4.2, 4.4, 4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Relationship of course objectives and assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>Prelim proposal</th>
<th>Early prelim lit review</th>
<th>Final assignment – research review &amp; final proposal</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Interpret, critique research</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Identify, select area to research</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Define research Q</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Present, argue verbally &amp; in writing in prof manner</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date. Late assignments will be subject to the penalties described below.

**Hard copy submission** – APPLIES TO FINAL ASSIGNMENT DUE WEEK 14

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¹ The University of Newcastle Graduate Attribute Policy (under development May 2007)

² Competency Based Occupational Standards for Speech Pathologists - Entry Level (Revised 2001, Speech Pathology Australia)

- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length:** The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University Assessment Item Coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet available at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/)
- **Assignments should be submitted to the Student Hub located at:**
  - Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan

- **Date-stamping assignments:** All students must date-stamp their own assignments using the machine provided at each Student Hub. If mailing an assignment, this should be address to the relevant School. Mailed assignments are accepted from the date posted, confirmed by a Post Office date-stamp; they are also date-stamped upon receipt by Schools.

- **Keep a copy of all assignments:** It is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in electronic and hard copy formats.

**Online copy submission to Turnitin**

In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of the following assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website available @ [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

| Essays / Written Assignments | Assignment - 5,000 words Written research review & final proposal 45% W14 |

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing. Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

**Electronic submission – via DIGITAL DROP BOX ON BLACKBOARD**

Use the Digital Drop Box to submit electronic copies of:

| Essays / Written Assignments | Draft 1 - 500 words Written (preliminary) research proposal 10% W6 |
| Essays / Written Assignments | Draft 2 - 1,500 words Preliminary literature review 20% W10 |

To find the Digital Drop Box, go to the ‘Course Tools’ on the left hand menu when you first enter the course BB site. Once you’ve selected it, you can upload by ‘adding file’, but it won’t end up in the lecturer’s box till you click ‘send file’.

These assignments will be marked, with feedback provided on the electronic copy. Once marked they will be returned to your Digital Drop Box.

**Penalties for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted more than ten days after the due date will be awarded zero marks.

Refer - ‘Rules Governing the Administration of Assessment Items - Rule 000113’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000113.html (section 18)

Special Circumstances

Students wishing to apply for Special Circumstances or Extension of Time should apply online. Refer - ‘Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items - Procedure 000641’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html

Assignment Re-submission

Students who have failed an assignment which is required to establish clinical competency are permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. Students are always welcome to contact their Tutor, Lecturer or Course Coordinator to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.

Re-marks & Moderations

A student may only request a re-mark of an assessment item before the final result – in the course to which the assessment item contributes – has been posted. If a final result in the course has been posted, the student must apply under ‘Procedures for Appeal Against a Final Result’ (Refer - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/).

Students concerned at the mark given for an assessment item should first discuss the matter with the Course Coordinator. If subsequently requesting a re-mark, students should be aware that as a result of a re-mark the original mark may be increased or reduced. The case for a re-mark should be outlined in writing and submitted to the Course Coordinator, who determines whether a re-mark should be granted, taking into consideration all of the following:

1. whether the student had discussed the matter with the Course Coordinator
2. the case put forward by the student for a re-mark
3. the weighting of the assessment item and its potential impact on the student’s final mark or grade
4. the time required to undertake the re-mark
5. the number of original markers, that is,
   a) whether there was a single marker, or
   b) if there was more than one marker whether there was agreement or disagreement on the marks awarded.

A re-mark may also be initiated at the request of the Course Coordinator, the Head of School, the School Assessment Committee, the Faculty Progress and Appeals Committee or the Pro Vice-Chancellor. Re-marks may be undertaken by:

1. the original marker; or
2. an alternate internal marker; or
3. an alternate external marker (usually as a consequence of a grievance procedure).

Moderation may be applied when there is a major discrepancy (or perceived discrepancy) between:

1. the content of the course as against the content or nature of the assessment item(s)
2. the content or nature of the assessment item(s) as against those set out in the Course Outline
3. the marks given by a particular examiner and those given by another in the same course
4. the results in a particular course and the results in other courses undertaken by the same students.

For further detail on this University policy refer - ‘Re-marks and Moderations - Procedure 000769’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html
Return of Assignments

Students can collect paper assignments from the Shortland Student Hub during office hours. Students will be informed during class as to the earliest date that assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.

Electronic assignments will be marked, with feedback provided on the electronic copy. Once marked they will be returned to each student’s Digital Drop Box.


Preferred Referencing Style

In this course, it is required that you use the APA referencing system for referencing sources of information used in assignments. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure.

An in-text citation names the author of the source, gives the date of publication, and for a direct quote or specific information includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors’ last names (or by titles for works without authors).


For further information on referencing and general study skills refer - ‘Infoskills’ available @ www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html

Students are also encouraged to make use of ‘Endnote’ software – a reference database which allows you to select your referencing format style – and which is available at no charge via the library – see: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/library/endnote/index.html

Student Representatives

Student Representatives are a major channel of communication between students and the School. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on School websites.

Refer - ‘Information for Student Representatives on Committees’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/committees/student_reps/index.html

Student Communication

Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students

Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services is available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html
Assessment details:

1. **SPTH4210 - Research Proposal** (500 words) - 10%. Due Week 6 - Friday 28th March by 4pm – Submit via BB Digital Drop Box

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 Week 10 – Friday 9 May 4pm – Submit via BB Digital Drop Box

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 (theoretical foundations & potential applications): 6
- 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 Week 14 – Friday 6th June, 4pm. Submit in the first instance electronically through Turnitin (via Blackboard), and submit the hard copy of the assignment, with coversheet, at the Shortland Student Hub. When you submit the assignment to Turnitin, do not include the assignment questions below, and do not include your reference list. However, these should be included in the hard copy paper submission.

**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

4. **SPTH4210 - Seminar Presentation** - (10 minutes) - 25%. Students will present their research in class time as well in additional times to be scheduled – between weeks 11-13 (and into week 14 if needed to allow sufficient time for all students to present).
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

Additional suggested readings

The following readings provide content coverage from lectures and are available on Shortloans Online.


Other recommended readings


## Lecture/Tutorial Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week beginning</th>
<th>Lecture Topic &amp; Assessment at a Glance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>Introduction to course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>29 February</td>
<td>Review of research development process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Critiquing the literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Defining &amp; planning research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>No lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Statistical Review (Kim Colyvas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proposal due – Friday – digital drop box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4 April</td>
<td>Research ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Planning &amp; funding research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mid-Semester Recess: 14 April – 25 April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Week beginning</th>
<th>Lecture Topic &amp; Assessment at a Glance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Disseminating the findings of research: presenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>Disseminating the findings of research: publishing Early draft due – Friday – digital drop box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>16 May</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>SPAA/NZ Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final assignment due – Friday 6 June - turnitin &amp; copy to Shortland Hub</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Examination Period: Monday 9 June to Friday 27 June 2008