SPTH4210 - Research Review
Course Outline

Semester: Semester 2 - 2010
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
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 2 - 2010
Lecture Wednesday 12:00 - 14:00 [V07]

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

Academic fraud is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

a) falsification of data;

b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;

c) reusing one's own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;

e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and

f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment.
and then submitting the work as one's own.

**Plagiarism** is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;

b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

**Turnitin** is an electronic text matching system. During 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 text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).

- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

**RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS**

Students can access the University's policy at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html)

**MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM**

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS**

*Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations* items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy specified in **Late Penalty** (under student) at the link above.

Requests for Extensions of Time must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

- 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.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

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

**Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:**

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.

- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

*Late applications may not be accepted.* Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.
STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

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 contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, 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 on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td>Singapore students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)</td>
<td>contact your PSB Program Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>Dean of Students Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/</a></td>
<td>The Dean of Students and Deputy Dean of Students work to ensure that all students receive fair and equitable treatment at the University. In doing this they provide information and advice and help students resolve problems of an academic nature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/</a></td>
<td>Phone:02 4921 5806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/</a></td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au">Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic
Important Additional Information

**Online Tutorial Registration:**
Students are required to enrol in the Lecture BUT DO NOT NEED TO ENROL IN A SPECIFIC TUTORIAL TIME for this course via the Online Registration system. (Tutorial exercises are conducted within lecture times.) Refer - [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/regdates.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/regdates.html)

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

**Studentmail and Blackboard:** Refer - [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au](http://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.

**Preferred Referencing Style**
In this course, it is required that you use the use 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 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).

- Further information on referencing and general study skills can be obtained from: Infoskills: [www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorials/infoskills/index.html)

Students are also encouraged to make use of ‘Endnote’ software – a reference data base 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](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/library/endnote/index.html)

**Student Representatives**
We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Your third year student representative is the channel of communication between students and the Speech Pathology Program Convenor and with the School of Humanities and Social Science Board. Contact details of Speech Pathology Student Representatives can be found on the Speech Pathology Blackboard site.

**Student Communication**
Students should discuss any course related matters with the Lecturer/Course Coordinator (Dr Sally Hewat) in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline Convenor (Dr Sally Hewat) or Program Convenor (Assoc Prof Alison Ferguson). If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School of Humanities and Social Science if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

**Penalties for Late Assignments**

**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](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**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/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/)).

**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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Newcastle Graduate Attributes</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Professionalism</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Responsiveness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupational Competencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generic Professional Competencies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reasoning</td>
<td>Lifelong Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(COMPASS™ Unit, Element)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Objectives</td>
<td>Clinicalpopulations</td>
<td>CBOS Unit,Element</td>
<td>Professionalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Interpret, critique</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.5, 5.7, 5.8</td>
<td>GPC 4.2, 4.4, 4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GPC 3.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)
2. Identify, select area to research
   - Selected
   - 5.7
   - GPC 1.3
   - GPC 3.2

3. Define research Q
   - Selected
   - 5.7
   - GPC 1.3
   - GPC 3.1,
   - 3.2

4. Present, argue verbally & in writing in prof manner
   - Selected
   - 7.1, 7.4
   - GPC 4.2, 4.4,
   - 4.5
   - GPC 2.1,
   - 2.2

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>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Identify, select area to research</td>
<td>X</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>X</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>

Course Assessment Details

1. SPTH4210 - Research Proposal (500 words) - 10%. Due Week 6 - Monday 30th August by 5pm – 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 – Monday 11th October by 5pm – Submit via BB Digital Drop Box

Electronic submission – via DIGITAL DROP BOX ON BLACKBOARD

Use the Digital Drop Box to submit electronic copies of: Research proposal 10% W6 and 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.
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  
- Description of the problem (theoretical foundations & potential applications)  
- Clear line of argument  
- Reading (including referencing)  
- Overall clarity (including writing style)  

Total  

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3. SPTH4210 - Final Assignment - (3,500 – 5,000 words) - 45%. Due Monday 8th November by 5pm.
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  
- Previous research subjected to theoretical and methodological critique  
- Line of argument justifies significance of question  
- Arguments are supported  
- Research question/direction is feasible for further research  
- Clearly written  
- Presentation (incl. proofreading, spelling, referencing)  

Total Mark

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5. 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.

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  
- Logical coherence in progression of ideas  
- Presentation style: (incl. professional manner, use of audio-visual materials, clarity, level of audience interest generated)  
- Response to questions, challenges  

Total  

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Final Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Typed: 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/
- 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.

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. 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.
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>26th July</td>
<td>Introduction to course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2nd August</td>
<td>Review of research development process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sourcing appropriate literature / Using Library resources (guest lecture – Ruth Talbot-Stokes, Faculty Librarian tbc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9th August</td>
<td>Critiquing the literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>16th August</td>
<td>Defining &amp; planning research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>23rd August</td>
<td>Statistical Review (guest lecture Kim Colyvas, Statistician)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>30th August</td>
<td>Research ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Research Proposal Due – Monday 30th August – digital drop box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6th September</td>
<td>Planning &amp; funding research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>13th September</td>
<td>Disseminating the findings of research: presenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>20th September</td>
<td>Disseminating the findings of research: publishing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mid-Semester Recess: 27th September – 8th October 2010**

| 10   | 11th October  | Problem Solving                        |
|      |               | Early draft due – Monday 11th October – digital drop box |
| 11   | 18th October  | Presentations                          |
| 12   | 25th October  | Presentations                          |
| 13   | 1st November | Presentations                          |

| Final Review assignment due – Monday 8th November – submit to turnitin & hard copy to Shortland Hub |

**Examination Period: Monday 8th November to Friday 26th November 2010**