**SPTH4210 Research Review**

**Course Co-ordinator:** Dr Sue Sherratt  
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**Consultation hours:** By appointment

**Semester**  
Semester 2 - 2006

**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 (supported through weekly 1 hour discussion & review)

**Learning Materials/Texts**

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


**Course Outline Issued and Correct as at:** Week 1 Semester 2 2006

**CTS Download Date:** 30 June 2006


Other recommended readings


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>Draft 1 - 500 words Written (preliminary) research proposal 10% W6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Draft 2 - 1,500 words Preliminary literature review 20% W10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Assignment - 5,000 words Written research review &amp; final proposal 45% W14</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 - 2006
Lecture Thursday 13:00 - 14:00 [W308]
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:

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the 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 lodged no later than 5 working days before the date of the examination.

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 2006
- For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2006
- For Trimester 1 courses: 17 February 2006
- For Trimester 2 courses: 9 June 2006

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 Student Enquiry Centre.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/changingenrolment.html

**Contact Details**

**Faculty Student Service Offices**

The Faculty of Education and Arts  
Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building)  
Phone: 02 4921 5314

**The Dean of Students**  
Dr Jennifer Archer  
Phone: 02 4921 5806  
Fax: 02 4921 7151  
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 and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system:


Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: 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.

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:
- **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 coversheet: All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/school/hss/studentguide/index.html

Assignments are to be deposited at any Student Focus (Hub). Focus (Hubs) are located at:

- Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
- Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
- Ground Floor, University House, City
- Ground Floor, Administration Building, Ourimbah

Any changes to this procedure will be announced during the semester.

Do not fax or email assignments: Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse. Assignments mailed to Schools are accepted from the date posted.

Keep a copy of all assignments: All students must date stamp their own assignments using the machine provided. Mailed assignments to schools are date-stamped upon receipt. However, 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 hard copy and on disk.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Assignment - 5,000 words Written research review &amp; final proposal 45%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W14</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.

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.

Special Consideration/Extension of Time Applications
Students wishing to apply for Special Consideration or Extension of Time should obtain the appropriate form from the Student Focus.
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/index.html

No Assignment Re-submission
Students who have failed an assignment are not permitted to revise and resubmit it in this course. However, students are always welcome to contact their Tutor, Lecturer or Course Coordinator to make a consultation time to receive individual feedback on their assignments.
Remarks
Students can request to have their work re-marked by the Course Coordinator or Discipline Convenor (or their delegate); three outcomes are possible: the same grade, a lower grade, or a higher grade being awarded. Students may also appeal against their final result for a course. Please consult the University policy at:

Return of Assignments
Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Focus during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Focus to go to and the earliest date assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.

Preferred Referencing Style
In this course, you are required to use the APA 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:

Student Representatives
We are very interested in your feedback and suggestions for improvement. Student Representatives are the channel of communication between students and the School Board. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on the School website.

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 can be found at:
Other information

**Relationship between course objectives and CBOS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>Clinical Skills</th>
<th>Clinical Skills</th>
<th>Empirical/Analysis Skills</th>
<th>Interpretive/Synthesis Skills</th>
<th>Critical Thinking Skills</th>
<th>Communication Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBOS * Range Unit/Element</td>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Critique</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>Obj 2 Select</th>
<th>Obj 3 Define</th>
<th>Obj 4 Present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Proposal</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Early draft</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Final Assignment</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Presentation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of Assessment Tasks**

1. **SPTH4210 - Research Proposal** (500 words) - 10%. By Friday of Week 6).

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.

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. (Turnitin, plus hard copy)

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. SPTH4210 - Seminar Presentation - (10 minutes) - 25%. Students will present their research in class time – 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  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
<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>July 17</td>
<td>Review of the research development process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>Defining and planning research problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>July 31</td>
<td>Critique of literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>August 7</td>
<td>Research ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>August 14</td>
<td>Interpreting research: Statistics &amp; research design – guest lecturer Kim Colyvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>August 21</td>
<td>Funding research Draft 1 - 500 words Written (preliminary) research proposal 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>August 28</td>
<td>How to document research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>How to verbally present research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>Publishing research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>Draft 2 - 1,500 words Preliminary literature review 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>Seminar Presentation - 15 minutes Verbal defence 25% W11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Mid-Semester Recess: Monday 2 October – Friday 14 October</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>Seminar Presentation - 15 minutes Verbal defence 25% W11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>Seminar Presentation - 15 minutes Verbal defence 25% W11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Assignment - 5,000 words Written research review &amp; final proposal 45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examination period: Monday 6 November – Friday 24 November**