SPTH4211 - Research Development
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  Student Projects

Brief Course Description
In this course students develop a feasible and ethically sound research methodology for a speech pathology research question.

Contact Hours
Student Projects for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term or equivalent by distance mode

Learning Materials/Texts


The following reading is available on Shortloans Online.


Other recommended readings


Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Interpret and critique research methodologies, at an advanced level.
2. Define an answerable research question.
3. Propose a valid and feasible research design to address the question.
4. Anticipate and plan ways to manage the ethical issues which would arise in implementing the methodology.
5. Select and justify appropriate qualitative and quantitative measures and statistical analyses which would be required to deal with the data.
6. Propose a feasible timeline, budget and sources of funding for the conduct of the research.
7. Present information in a logical and professional manner, both verbally and in writing.

Course Content

The nature of data and the selection of research methodology

Applying for ethical clearance for research

Locating and applying for funding for research

Planning and organization for data collection

Planning and organization for data analysis

Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essays / Written Assignments</th>
<th>Assignment 1: detailed methodology 30%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 2: ethical considerations 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 3: organisational plan 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Presentations - Individual | 10 minute presentation (week 14): 20% |

Assumed Knowledge

SPTH4210. Students must meet the requirements for entry to the Honours stream

Callaghan Campus Timetable

SPTH4211

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science

Semester 1 - 2008

Consultation and Presentation: Friday 15:00 - 16:00 [GP3-20]

Student Presentations
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 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

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
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

End of CTS Entry

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/

- 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

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 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/)
- **By arrangement with the relevant lecturer, assignments may be submitted at any 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.

- **You may email assignments directly to the lecturer in this course:** Clearly identify the course code, your surname, and the assignment in the Subject Heading of the email. Hard copies may also be submitted.

- **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/)

- Assignment 1: detailed methodology (week 5): 30%
- Assignment 2: ethical considerations (week 8): 30%

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 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)

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


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:

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.


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](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html)
# SPTH4211 Research Development

## Additional Important Information

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>Clinical populations</th>
<th>CBOS Unit, Element</th>
<th>Community Responsiveness</th>
<th>Professionalism</th>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Generic Professional Competencies[^1] (COMPASS™ Unit, Element)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Interpret, critique method</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.5, 5.7, 5.8</td>
<td>GPC 4.4, 4.5</td>
<td>GPC 1.1, 1.2, 1.3</td>
<td>GPC 3.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Define research question</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7, 5.8</td>
<td>GPC 1.3</td>
<td>GPC 3.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Design research</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7, 5.8</td>
<td>GPC 1.1, 1.3</td>
<td>GPC 3.1, 3.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Anticipate &amp; plan for ethical issues</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7, 7.1</td>
<td>GPC 4.4, 4.5</td>
<td>GPC 1.1, 1.3</td>
<td>GPC 3.2</td>
<td>GPC 2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Select, justify measures, stats</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>GPC 1.1, 1.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Plan resources</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>GPC 4.3</td>
<td>GPC 1.3</td>
<td>GPC 3.2</td>
<td>GPC 2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Present</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>GPC 4.2, 4.4, 4.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GPC 2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Relationship of course objectives and assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Objectives</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Ethics</th>
<th>Research Plan</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Interpret, critique method</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Define research question</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Design research</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Anticipate &amp; plan for ethical issues</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Select, justify measures, stats</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Plan resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</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)
Description of Assessment Tasks

Assignment 1: detailed methodology (week 5): 30%

In 2,000 words, describe the rationale for the research design selected to address the research question, drawing on both the literature on research methodologies as well as a critical evaluation of previously published research relevant to your research question. (see grading guide below) 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.

Assignment 2: ethical considerations (week 8): 30%

In 1,000 – 1,500 words, describe the ethical considerations which need to be considered in the planned research methodology, drawing on the NHMRC guidelines for ethical research in humans. (see grading guide below) 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.

Grading guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49% or less</td>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>An unacceptable effort, including non-completion. The student has not understood the basic principles of the subject matter and/or has been unable to express their understanding in a comprehensible way. Deficient in terms of answering the question, research, referencing and correct presentation (spelling, grammar etc). May include extensive plagiarism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50% to 64%</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a reasonable attempt to answer the question, shows some grasp of the basic principles of the subject matter and a basic knowledge of the required readings, is comprehensible, accurate and adequately referenced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65% to 74%</td>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question, a capacity to integrate research into the discussion, and a critical appreciation of a range of different theoretical perspectives. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought. The work is coherent and accurate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75% to 84%</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Evidence of substantial additional reading and/or research, and evidence of the ability to generalise from the theoretical content to develop an argument in an informed and original manner. The work is well organised, clearly expressed and shows a capacity for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85% upwards</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
<td>All of the above, plus a thorough understanding of the subject matter based on substantial additional reading and/or research. The work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion of the topic, particularly the theoretical issues involved, and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignment 3: organisational plan for data (week 12): 20%

Draw up a detailed organisational plan for data collection and analysis which was/will/would be required for your research. You may choose to use a table or spreadsheet format as appropriate.

Criteria for marking:
Feasibility (10%),
Clarity (5%),
Presentation: 10 minutes (20%) This presentation should be designed to be consistent with the standard of professionalism required in presenting ‘research in progress’ to a research team, or department of professional colleagues. It is not necessary to use powerpoint or other audio-visual aids, unless appropriate to the issues you are communicating.

Criteria for marking:
5 - Clarity & coherence
5 - Professional manner maintained in informal setting
5 - Ability to obtain input & discussion from audience
5 - Ability to respond and build on discussion or questions from audience
20 - Total

SPTH4211 Suggested work 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>February 22</td>
<td>Review your research question – identify any inter-library (‘GET IT’) requests that need to be made &amp; organise these</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>February 29</td>
<td>Start reading specific reference works on possible methodologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Select methodology and draft main points for rationale Kim Colyvas – Guest Lecture RE; Statistics for methodologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Search for additional support for methodology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Good Friday: No lecture Assignment 1: Detailed methodology - Due Thursday 4pm (30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Review NHMRC ethics guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Brainstorm key ethical issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Assignment 2: Ethical considerations - Due Friday 4pm (30%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mid-Semester Recess: Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April 2007

<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>May 2</td>
<td>Additional literature searching &amp; reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Additional literature searching, reading, start re-drafting process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Final planning or documentation of organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Re-drafting for next semester’s work on final thesis Organising data collection and/or analysis Individual consultation as required Assignment 3: Organisational plan for data: Friday 4pm (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>SPAA/NZ conference (No consultation time available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>Presentations (scheduled during week 14/15)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examination period: Tuesday 12 June to Friday 29 June 2007