



SPH 824

Complex Communication Needs and AAC

S2 Day 2016

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MSpchLngPath

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this unit students consider the underlying conditions and the particular communication needs of children and adults with a range of disabilities. These disabilities include cerebral palsy, developmental disability, autism, and mental health issues. Alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) will be discussed in detail and issues affecting families and carers will also be addressed. This unit focuses on functional communication assessment and intervention within a social model of disability.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices

Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns

Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Group Presentation</u>	30%	No	Week 5
<u>Review</u>	20%	No	Week 10
<u>Case study</u>	50%	No	Week 14

Group Presentation

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will present a review of a disability to the class. Students will address the impact of the disability on communication across a person's lifespan.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Review

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will review research on an AAC systems, chosen from a given list.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Case study

Due: **Week 14**

Weighting: **50%**

Case

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Delivery and Resources

Classes for SPH824 will be delivered over the regular 13 week semester. Students are expected to attend 3hr lectures and participate in in-class learning activities, small group work, and discussions.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html. For more information visit http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Assessment tasks

- Group Presentation
- Review
- Case study

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals

with complex and/or multiple disabilities

- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Assessment tasks

- Group Presentation
- Review
- Case study

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities
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Assessment tasks

- Group Presentation
- Review

- Case study

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
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Assessment tasks

- Group Presentation
- Review
- Case study

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities

- Describe and compare AAC strategies and speech generating devices
- Evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disorders, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns
- Select assessment and evidence-based speech pathology practices that integrate the views of those with complex communication needs and their family and/or carers

Assessment tasks

- Group Presentation
- Review
- Case study

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication difficulties
- Discuss issues related to assessment and speech pathology intervention with individuals with complex and/or multiple disabilities
- Evaluate the impact of severity of impairment on the activities and participation in society of those with disabilities

Assessment task

- Case study