SPED910

Critical Reflection and Professional Experience in Sensory Disability

S1 Online 2018

Department of Educational Studies

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor and lecturer
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Renwick Centre, RIDBC
8.30-4.30 Monday to Thursday

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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MDisabilityStud and 16cp from SPED units at 900 level and permission of the
Professional Experience Coordinator

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides students with the opportunity to prepare for, and then undertake 16 days of
professional experiences in practice, in management and evaluation. Central to this
professional experience is a critical reflection model that guides and highlights the student's
awareness regarding the role that research plays in strengthening their professional skills and
knowledge. Using critical reflection students will demonstrate professional practice that
optimises outcomes for people with sensory 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:

> Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability

> Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice

> Ensure improved outcomes for clients with sensory disability, by demonstrating

advanced knowledge and professional practice

Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability

Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

General Assessment Information

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
ePortfolio (Block 1)	25%	Yes	on completion of Block 1
ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)	25%	Yes	10/06/2018
Critical Reflection Essay	50%	Yes	10/06/2018

ePortfolio (Block 1)

Due: **on completion of Block 1**
Weighting: **25%**
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Professional Experience ePorfolio

This assessment asks you to complete a series of practical experiences in the field of sensory impairment and submit a record of your observations and experiences.

Students who are teachers need to demonstrate skills in planning, implementing, managing and evaluating programs for people with a sensory disability.

Students who are Allied Health professionals need to demonstrate professional development in their identified focus areas through completion of a series of observations and reflection in the field of sensory disability.

Your assessment, where appropriate should be presented in the APA referencing style (both in the body of text and reference list). There is no set word count for this assessment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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advanced knowledge and professional practice

- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)

Due: **10/06/2018**

Weighting: **25%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

Requirements are the same as Block 1 ePortfolio (details outlined in Professional Experience practicum/ practical Handbook available on iLearn)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice
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- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Critical Reflection Essay

Due: **10/06/2018**

Weighting: **50%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

The essay of 1500 words is your opportunity to reflect on what you read as part of your literature review and your experiences during your two Professional Experience practicum/practical, and summarise your refined knowledge of your chosen focus areas in relation to improving the outcomes of people with a sensory impairment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Delivery and Resources

This unit is delivered online and organised in external mode only, in a flexible delivery format. All learning materials will be available for download in the iLearn site. Students are required to

frequently access the iLearn site, and to participate in online discussion forums. The unit convenor will moderate the online discussion as required.

Unit Schedule

The unit is divided into a series of topics; the materials are open for the entirety of the session:

- Completion of Critical Reflection Tool
- Completion of Focus Area planning
- Practical (teachers)/ Practicum (Allied Health professionals) in 2 blocks of 8 days
- Submission of block 1 ePortfolio and block 2/ FINAL ePortfolio
- Submission of Critical Reflection Essay

Week	Week Begins	Activities and Assessments	Due Dates
1		**Activity 1** Completion of Critical Reflection Tool **Activity 2** Completion of Focus Area planning	Task 1 and 2 due **midnight 4 March**
2		Ongoing Focus Area planning literature review	
3		**Assessment 1** Start Practicum or Practical Block 1	The practicum/practical dates outlined here are only a guide to assist you in ensuring that you will finish by the end of Semester.
4		Practicum/ Practical	
5		Practicum/ Practical	
6		Practicum/ Practical submission of Block 1 ePorfolio	midnight **8 April** as a guide only
7		Start Practicum/ Practical Block 2	NOTE: Ensure 2 week gap between submission of Block 1 ePortfolio and starting of block 2, to allow sufficient time for marking and feedback
8		Practicum/ Practical	
9		Practicum/ Practical	
10		Practicum/ Practical	
11		Practicum/ Practical	
12		Practicum/ Practical	

Week	Week Begins	Activities and Assessments	Due Dates
13		**Assessment 1** Submission of Block 2/FINAL ePortfolio **Assessment 2** Submission of Critical Reflection Essay	As stated in the handbook all ePortfolios need to be completed and submitted for marking in week 13 of the Session in which you enroll in the course. If you wish to have ePortfolio feedback before writing your essay you will need to submit it prior to the 4 June

Learning and Teaching Activities

Initial Critical Reflection on Professional Competencies tool

A self evaluation of current professional skills prior to commencing the Professional Experience practicum/ practical.

Focus Areas and literature review

Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/ practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http

s://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice
- Ensure improved outcomes for clients with sensory disability, by demonstrating advanced knowledge and professional practice
- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)
- Critical Reflection Essay

Learning and teaching activities

- A self evaluation of current professional skills prior to commencing the Professional Experience practicum/ practical.
- Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.

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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice
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advanced knowledge and professional practice

- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability

- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)
- Critical Reflection Essay

Learning and teaching activities

- A self evaluation of current professional skills prior to commencing the Professional Experience practicum/ practical.

- Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.

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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
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Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)
- Critical Reflection Essay

Learning and teaching activities

- A self evaluation of current professional skills prior to commencing the Professional Experience practicum/ practical.
- Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.

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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice
- Ensure improved outcomes for clients with sensory disability, by demonstrating advanced knowledge and professional practice
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)
- Critical Reflection Essay

Learning and teaching activities

- Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.

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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice

- Ensure improved outcomes for clients with sensory disability, by demonstrating advanced knowledge and professional practice
- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability

Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)

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

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of research in the field of sensory disability
- Plan, analyse, present and implement complex activities in their field of practice
- Demonstrate effective interdisciplinary team collaboration to best support the needs of clients with sensory disability
- Critically evaluate own professional practice and implement change

Assessment tasks

- ePortfolio (Block 1)
- ePortfolio (Block 2/FINAL)

Learning and teaching activities

- Complete a literature review of chosen Focus Areas for Professional Experience practicum/practical based on areas for improvement, identified in self evaluation tool.