



SPED921

Orientation and Mobility Fundamentals

S1 External 2019

Department of Educational Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Susan Silveira

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Contact via 0298720248

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

Lecturer

Bronwen Scott

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RIDBC Renwick Centre

Administration

Lena Karam

lena.karam@ridbc.org.au

Contact via 0298720303

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8.30am-4pm Tuesday-Thursday

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MDisabilityStud

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the theory and practice of orientation and mobility (O&M) for children and adults who are blind, have low vision, deafblindness or additional disabilities, within a range of learning environments. Unit content includes an introduction to foundational principles of concept development, spatial orientation and environmental analysis, with practical opportunities to teach and learn orientation and mobility concepts and skills.

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:

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- Apply orientation concepts to low vision related materials, including Braille and assistive technology devices and mapping
- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities
- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum
- Provide information on the growth and development patterns related to O&M in children with vision impairment, including the common delays in the development of gross and fine motor skills

General Assessment Information

The SPED921 Campus Conference will be held from 18-22 March, 2019. Attendance at all campus conference days is compulsory. Attendance will be recorded.

Assessment Presentation and Submission Guidelines

Please follow these guidelines when you submit each assignment:

- Allow a left and right-hand margin of at least 2cm in all assignments.
- Please type all assignments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing.
- All assessments must be submitted through Turnitin in .doc format.
- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all assessments are successfully submitted through Turnitin.
- Faculty assignment cover sheets are NOT required.

Draft Submissions & Turnitin Originality Reports

- Students may use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.
- Students are strongly encouraged to upload a draft copy of each assessment to Turnitin at least one week prior to the due date to obtain an Originality Report.
- The Originality Report provides students with a similarity index that may indicate if plagiarism has occurred. Students will be able to make amendments to their drafts prior to their final submission on the due date.
- Generally, one Originality Report is generated every 24 hours up to the due date.

Please note:

- Students should regularly save a copy of all assignments before submission.
- Students are responsible for checking that their submission has been successful and has been submitted by the due date and time.

Assignment extensions and late penalties

- In general, there should be no need for extensions except through illness or misadventure that would be categorised as serious and unavoidable disruption according to the University definition of same, see: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>
- Applications for extensions must be made via AskMQ according to the Special Consideration policy. Extensions can only be granted if they meet the Special Considerations policy and are submitted via <https://ask.mq.edu.au/>. This will ensure consistency in the consideration of such requests is maintained.
- Late submissions without extension will receive a penalty of 5% reduction of the total possible mark for each day late (including weekends and public holidays). You are reminded that submitting even just 1 day late could be the difference between passing and failing a unit. Late penalties are applied by unit convenors or their delegates after tasks are assessed.
- No assessable work will be accepted after the return/release of marked work on the same topic. If a student is still permitted to submit on the basis of unavoidable disruption, an alternative topic may be set.
- Students should keep an electronic file of all assessments. Claims regarding "lost" assessments cannot be made if the file cannot be produced. It is also advisable to keep an electronic file of all drafts and the final submission on a USB untouched/unopened after submission. This can be used to demonstrate easily that the assessment has not been amended after the submission date.

Requesting a re-assessment of an assignment

If you have **evidence** that your task has been incorrectly assessed against the grade descriptors you can request a re-mark. To request a re-mark you need to contact the unit convenor within **7 days** of the date of return of the assignment and provide **a detailed assessment of your script against the task criteria**. Evidence from your assignment must be provided to support your judgements.

Note: Failed assessments cannot be re-marked as they are all double-marked as a part of the

moderation process.

Please note: The outcome of a re-mark may be a **higher/lower or unchanged grade**. Grades are standards referenced and effort is NOT a criterion.

University policy on grading

Criteria for awarding grades for assessment tasks

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the University's Grading Policy. The following descriptive criteria are included for your information.

Descriptive Criteria for awarding grades in the unit

In order to meet the unit outcomes and successfully pass this unit, students must make a genuine attempt at all assessment tasks. Where any submitted assessment task is considered to be unsatisfactory in this regard, the highest possible final grade that can be awarded for the unit will be 45.

Students will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the policy: <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment-in-effect-from-session-2-2016>

The following generic grade descriptors provide university-wide standards for awarding final grades.

Grade	Descriptor
HD (High Distinction)	Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.
D (Distinction)	Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.
Cr (Credit)	Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.
P (Pass).	Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes
F (Fail)	Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

Note: If you fail a unit with a professional experience component the fail grade will be on your transcript irrespective of the timing of the placement.

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](#).

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Tactile Mapping Project	30%	No	03/05/19
Research Paper	35%	No	31/05/19
Practical O&M Skills	35%	No	During Campus Conference

Tactile Mapping Project

Due: **03/05/19**

Weighting: **30%**

Part A involves creating a tactile map for an individual with vision impairment who is transitioning to a new environment. Part B involves planning for sessions with the individual, to teach them the skills required to safely and effectively use the tactile map in a chosen environment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities

Research Paper

Due: **31/05/19**

Weighting: **35%**

This assessment asks you to construct a research paper on an area of O&M of your choice, with lecturer approval. The area must hold implications for O&M Specialists working with individuals with vision impairment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply orientation concepts to low vision related materials, including Braille and assistive

technology devices and mapping

- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum

Practical O&M Skills

Due: **During Campus Conference**

Weighting: **35%**

Your capabilities in the following areas will be assessed: demonstration of O&M teaching skills; performance of O&M techniques; class participation and interaction during the campus conference; and general O&M knowledge.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- Apply orientation concepts to low vision related materials, including Braille and assistive technology devices and mapping
- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities
- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum
- Provide information on the growth and development patterns related to O&M in children with vision impairment, including the common delays in the development of gross and fine motor skills

Delivery and Resources

This unit delivery includes online learning with a campus conference. All learning materials will be available for download in the iLearn site. Students will be required to engage with the iLearn site throughout the session, i.e. prior to, during and following the campus conference. All resources related to Orientation and Mobility practical skills will be provided to students during the campus conference.

There is an expectation that you complete the scholarly reading in this unit. It is an integral part of your study of SPED921. All readings have been included as online readings and can be accessed in the iLearn site. Additional resources can be found at:

- Orientation and Mobility Association of Australasia (OMAA) <https://omaaustralasia.com>
- Vision Impairment Family Network: <http://vifamilynetwork.org.au>
- Family Connect: <https://www.familyconnect.org/parentsitehome.aspx>

Unit Schedule

External Students

1. The on-campus sessions on 18-22 March 2019 are essential to student engagement and learning and attendance on all days is expected. Failure to attend or to have an approved Special Consideration, may result in a Fail grade for the unit.
2. Prior to the on-campus sessions, you should have read the prescribed readings and listened to the lectures. Summarise the main points, and make a note of the key terms and definitions. Prepare any discussion questions of your own that you wish to share.
3. Please make effective use of the online component of the unit and access iLearn regularly. Keep up to date with listening to the lectures on a weekly basis.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](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 \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](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 \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://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 published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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](#) or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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](#)

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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

- Apply orientation concepts to low vision related materials, including Braille and assistive technology devices and mapping
- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities
- Provide information on the growth and development patterns related to O&M in children with vision impairment, including the common delays in the development of gross and fine motor skills

Assessment tasks

- Research Paper
- Practical O&M Skills

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

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum

Assessment tasks

- Tactile Mapping Project
- Practical O&M Skills

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

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum

Assessment tasks

- Tactile Mapping Project
- Research Paper
- Practical O&M Skills

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

- Apply orientation concepts to low vision related materials, including Braille and assistive technology devices and mapping
- Adapt O&M teaching techniques to address the development and learning attributes of individuals with vision impairment across the age spectrum

Assessment task

- Research Paper

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

- Provide instruction in modes of O&M that promote independence and safety
- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities
- Provide information on the growth and development patterns related to O&M in

children with vision impairment, including the common delays in the development of gross and fine motor skills

Assessment tasks

- Tactile Mapping Project
- Practical O&M Skills

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 outcome

- As a team member, contribute to the adaptation of regular instructional programs to promote O&M knowledge and skills for individuals with vision impairment, including for sport, physical education, daily living, independent travel and practical activities

Assessment task

- Practical O&M Skills