



SPED930

Orientation and Mobility Practicum

S2 Placement 2019

Department of Educational Studies

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Susan Silveira

susan.silveira@mq.edu.au

Contact via 029870248

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8.30-5.00pm Monday to Friday

Administration

Lena Karam

[lena.karam@mq.edu.au](mailto:lana.karam@mq.edu.au)

Contact via 0298720303

RIDBC Renwick Centre

8.30-4.00pm Monday to Friday

NSW/ACT Guide Dogs Practice Coordinator (O&M Services)

Ewa Borkowski

ewa.borkowski@mq.edu.au

Contact via 0294129337

NSW/ACT Guide Dogs Association

9.00-5.00pm Monday to Friday

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MDisabilityStud and permission by special approval

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is only available to students who are sponsored by Guide Dogs NSW/ACT. It provides students with opportunities to gain exposure to Orientation and Mobility programs and teaching situations under the guidance and assistance of an experienced instructor. Students will receive a gradual induction into the profession of Orientation and Mobility instructor.

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:

Independently plan, deliver and evaluate long cane, ID cane, and support cane programs

Deliver cane programs in domiciliary environments or the environment chosen by the client

Maintain client-related records and documentation

Demonstrate professional ethics and reflective practice

General Assessment Information

SPED930 Practicum Information Form

All students are required to submit the completed SPED930 Practicum Information Form to sue.silveira@ridbc.org.au by Friday, Week 1 (5 pm), as evidence that all relevant mandatory checks have been completed and submitted. The Practicum Information Form is available on the SPED930 iLearn site and in the SPED930 Student Handbook.

Submission of the SPED930 Student Handbook

The following guidelines should be followed when submitting the SPED930 Student Handbook:

- The SPED930 Student Handbook must be submitted as a single document through Turnitin with all forms completed and initialled by the supervisor and/or student as indicated.
- It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the SPED930 Student Handbook is successfully submitted through Turnitin.

Students should be aware that all competencies included in the SPED930 Student Handbook must be passed at a basic level for the student to pass the practical assessment.

Assessment Presentation and Submission Guidelines

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.

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.

Withdrawing from this PG Unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via <https://ask.mq.edu.au> before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following sessions and may impact on your progression through the degree.

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
Practical Assessment	100%	Yes	Week 13

Practical Assessment

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **100%**

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

The student's knowledge and skills as a beginning O&M specialist will be assessed against defined competencies in the areas of professionalism, ethics and personal characteristics. All competencies must be passed at a basic level for the student to pass the practical assessment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Independently plan, deliver and evaluate long cane, ID cane, and support cane programs
- Deliver cane programs in domiciliary environments or the environment chosen by the

client

- Maintain client-related records and documentation
- Demonstrate professional ethics and reflective practice

Delivery and Resources

Students will be provided with the opportunity to gain exposure to O&M programs and teaching situations under the guidance and assistance of an experienced instructors. Students will receive a gradual induction into the profession of O&M, and will be supplied with all required resources.

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

Students should be aware that all competencies included in the SPED930 Student Handbook must be passed at a basic level for the student to pass the practical assessment.

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

- Deliver cane programs in domiciliary environments or the environment chosen by the client
- Maintain client-related records and documentation

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

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

- Independently plan, deliver and evaluate long cane, ID cane, and support cane programs
- Maintain client-related records and documentation

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

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

- Independently plan, deliver and evaluate long cane, ID cane, and support cane programs
- Deliver cane programs in domiciliary environments or the environment chosen by the client
- Demonstrate professional ethics and reflective practice

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

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:

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

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

- Independently plan, deliver and evaluate long cane, ID cane, and support cane programs
- Deliver cane programs in domiciliary environments or the environment chosen by the client
- Maintain client-related records and documentation
- Demonstrate professional ethics and reflective practice

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

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

- Demonstrate professional ethics and reflective practice

Assessment task

- Practical Assessment

Fitness to Practice Policy and Requirements

Macquarie University operates under a 'Fitness to Practice' (FTP) model as specified in the University's Academic Progression Policy. For this Unit, this means that when undertaking a placement, a student is declaring that they are able to demonstrate professional competence; acceptable professional behaviour; freedom from impairment that may provide additional risk; and compliance with program specific requirements needed for a student to practice properly and safely throughout their Practical, Clinical or Professional program or unit.

It is the responsibility of the student to determine whether they are fit to undertake a placement. When a student is feeling unfit to undertake a placement, they should not do so.

Prior to commencing the practicum for SPED930 students are required to:

- make themselves aware of, and meet, the FTP requirements
- self-identify and seek support where there is a risk of not meeting a FTP requirement
- actively participate in intervention strategies
- use the support services offered to them when a FTP issue is identified.

Details are available on the Macquarie University website and any changes will also be available on the iLearn site. For more information see:

<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/academic-progression>