CHIR3105
Chiropractic Science 5
Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Department of Chiropractic

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Aron Downie
aron.downie@mq.edu.au

Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to BChiroSc and (CHIR2103 or CHIR213) and (CHIR2104 or CHIR214)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is an introduction to chiropractic spinal technique and extends palpation from the technique units at 100 and 200 level. It further develops psychomotor skill acquisition from previous units. Students gain proficiency in a core group of spinal and peripheral joint manipulative techniques. The hypotheses and scientific rationale relating to chiropractic intervention is explored. Biomechanical function of the spine is explored in detail. Major themes relating to evidence-based practice (EBP) are explored.

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:

- **ULO1**: Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics
- **ULO2**: Perform basic static and motion palpation of spinal joints
- **ULO3**: Perform spinal adjustments and/or mobilisations with the appropriate psychomotor skills
- **ULO4**: Apply theoretical frameworks for the assessment and therapeutic intervention for common musculoskeletal conditions at a rudimentary level.
- **ULO5**: Demonstrate Research skills at the level of closed inquiry within structured guidelines as part of a research skills development (RSD) progression
General Assessment Information

Competency based assessment

In higher education, assessments must be able to recognise various levels of competencies in order to encourage students to become not only competent, but progress onto developing expertise. A key component of effective assessment in competency-based education is for assessments to be criterion-based using a developmental perspective. Defining the criteria in developmental terms, commonly called milestones or benchmarks, allows programs to determine whether the trainee is on an appropriate ‘trajectory’. Milestones provide specific guidance on trainee progress throughout the continuum of their training program. CHIR3105 practical examinations are competency based.

For more information see: "Competency-based Assessment, Macquarie University"
https://staff.mq.edu.au/public/download/?id=40618

Serious and unavoidable disruption

The University classifies a disruption as **serious and unavoidable** if it:

- could not have reasonably been anticipated, avoided or guarded against by the student; and
- was beyond the student's control; and
- caused substantial disruption to the student’s capacity for effective study and/or completion of required work; and
- occurred during an event critical study period and was at least three (3) consecutive days duration, and/or
- prevented completion of a final examination.

Students with a pre-existing disability/health condition or prolonged adverse circumstances may be eligible for ongoing assistance and support. Such support is governed by other policies and may be sought and coordinated through Campus Wellbeing https://students.mq.edu.au/support/wellbeing

Examinations

You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available in Draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in Final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations.

The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of **documented illness or unavoidable disruption**. In these circumstances, you may wish to
submit an application for 'Special consideration' [https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration](https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration)

If you receive special consideration for the final exam, a supplementary exam will be scheduled in the interval between the regular exam period and the start of the next session. By making a special consideration application for the final exam you are declaring yourself available for a resit during the supplementary examination period and will not be eligible for a second special consideration approval based on pre-existing commitments.

### Extensions and penalties

Extensions to assignments are at the discretion of the unit convenor. It is the responsibility of the student to prove to the convenor that there has been an unavoidable disruption. Please submit a 'Special consideration' and request an extension. The online form will ask you to provide evidence of the disruption.

*Marks will be deducted for late submissions in the absence of an approved extension. Marks will be deducted at the rate of 10% of the available marks per day.*

### Grading descriptors

**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.

**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 a 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.

**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; plus communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.

**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; and 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.

**Fail:** does not provide evidence of attainment of all learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; and incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little
Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hurdle</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>iLearn Quiz 1</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iLearn Quiz 2</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot Test 1</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomechanics written report</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot Test 2</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Week 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of semester written examination</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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iLearn Quiz 1
Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 2 hours
Due: Rolling
Weighting: 2%

Online quiz covering material from weeks 1-5

On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics

iLearn Quiz 2
Assessment Type 1: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task 2: 2 hours
Due: Rolling
Weighting: 3%

Online quiz covering material from weeks 6-10
On successful completion you will be able to:
  • Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics

**Spot Test 1**

Assessment Type 1: Clinical performance evaluation  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 2 hours  
Due: **Week 6**  
Weighting: **5%**

Spot Test 1: Students will perform a chiropractic practical exam within normal tutorial time. Immediately afterward (i.e. during the same class), students will be given individual verbal feedback on their performance. The layout of the exam will help students prepare for the end of semester OSCE.

On successful completion you will be able to:  
  • Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics  
  • Perform basic static and motion palpation of spinal joints  
  • Perform spinal adjustments and/or mobilisations with the appropriate psychomotor skills

**Biomechanics written report**

Assessment Type 1: Report  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours  
Due: **Week 8**  
Weighting: **10%**

Written report task which asks students to explain biomechanical concepts as they relate to manipulative procedures.

On successful completion you will be able to:  
  • Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics  
  • Demonstrate Research skills at the level of closed inquiry within structured guidelines as part of a research skills development (RSD) progression

**Spot Test 2**

Assessment Type 1: Clinical performance evaluation  
Indicative Time on Task 2: 2 hours
Spot Test 2: Students will perform a chiropractic practical exam within normal tutorial time. Immediately afterward (i.e. during the same class), students will be given individual verbal feedback on their performance. The layout of the exam will help students prepare for the end of semester OSCE.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics
- Perform basic static and motion palpation of spinal joints
- Perform spinal adjustments and/or mobilisations with the appropriate psychomotor skills

Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE)
Assessment Type 1: Clinical performance evaluation
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Week 13
Weighting: 40%
This is a hurdle assessment task (see assessment policy for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

During the Objective Structural Clinical Exam (OSCE) students will perform a practical exam over a number of stations. The OSCE allows students to demonstrate their acquisition of competency across the various clinical assessment and treatment procedures covered in this unit. The OSCE will be conducted during the end of semester practical examination period.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics
- Perform basic static and motion palpation of spinal joints
- Perform spinal adjustments and/or mobilisations with the appropriate psychomotor skills

End of semester written examination
Assessment Type 1: Examination
Indicative Time on Task 2: 10 hours
Due: Exam period
Weighting: 35%
The end of semester written exam is a closed book examination of all the material covered in the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of spinal and peripheral joint mechanics
- Apply theoretical frameworks for the assessment and therapeutic intervention for common musculoskeletal conditions at a rudimentary level.
- Demonstrate Research skills at the level of closed inquiry within structured guidelines as part of a research skills development (RSD) progression

1 If you need help with your assignment, please contact:
- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

2 Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

**Delivery and Resources**

**Classes**

- The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: [http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/](http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/)
- Lectures begin in WEEK 1
- Tutorials begin in WEEK 2
  - Participation in tutorials will be recorded - 85% (or higher) attendance is strongly recommended to achieve competence in the course material

**Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials**

**TEXT**

- Esposito & Philipson, Manual of Spinal Technique - Printed EXCERPT will available for purchase within tutorial class
- Manual of Peripheral Technique, Department of Chiropractic, Macquarie University -
online adjustment compilation available via iLearn download

RECOMMENDED READING

• Bergmann & Peterson: Chiropractic technique, principles and procedures 3rd Ed. ISBN : 9780323049696
• Specific week-week resources available as links via iLearn and Leganto

Teaching and Learning Strategy / technology required

• This unit is comprised of lectures and technique tutorials. There will also be some self directed learning within the course.
• The assignment contributes 10% of the overall mark.
• The unit is an internal offering.
• Students are expected to attend lectures and tutorials (recommended tutorial minimum attendance 85%)
• iLearn is not a substitute for lecture attendance. Complex concepts are discussed as a group within the lecture format.
• The assignment will be submitted via Turnitin
• The online quizzes will be accessed via iLearn

Unit Schedule

See iLearn page for week-week schedule

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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
• Assessment Procedure
• Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
• Special Consideration Policy

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.
To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:
• **IT Support**

• **Accessibility and disability support** with study

• **Mental health support**

• **Safety support** to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault

• **Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues**

**Student Enquiries**

Got a question? Ask us via **AskMQ**, or contact **Service Connect**.

**IT Help**

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