



SPTH8824

Lifelong Disability and AAC

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Department of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Scott Barnes

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MSpchLngPath

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this unit, students consider the nature of lifelong disability for populations within the scope of speech pathology practice. It employs multiple, and socially-oriented models of communication disability. Cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, and autism are addressed, as are issues related to speech pathology practice with alternative and augmentative communication. Quality of life and psychosocial issues across multiple populations are also discussed in detail.

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: Describe and analyse the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication disability.

ULO2: Discuss issues related to living with persistent and multifaceted disability, and its impact upon well-being and participation in society.

ULO3: Evaluate and explain the role of augmentative and alternative communication strategies in speech pathology management of complex communication disability.

ULO4: Describe and evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disability, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns.

ULO5: Select and justify appropriate evidence-based speech pathology assessment and intervention procedures that integrate the views of those with complex communication disability and their family and/or carers.

General Assessment Information

Word limits

Assessment submissions with excessive word counts will receive a penalty commensurate with the amount the submission has exceeded the word limit stated in the assessment description.

Excessive word counts will result in the following penalties:

- From 11 to 20% over the word limit = reduction by one grading band.
- More than 20% over the word limit = reduction by **at least** two grading bands, with further penalties applied at the discretion of the unit convenor.

For example: Word limit = 2000 words; Submission word count = 2240, i.e., 12% over the limit, and therefore a penalty is applied as follows:

- Initial grade = D
- Penalty = reduction of one grading band
- Final grade = C

Penalty for late submission

Late submission of assessments will result in the following penalties:

- 1 day late = reduction by **no more than** one grading band, at the discretion of the unit convenor
- 2 days late = reduction by **no more than** two grading bands, at the discretion of the unit convenor
- 3 or more days late = reduction by **at least** two grading bands, with further reductions at the discretion of the unit convenor

For example: A submission is two days late, and therefore a penalty is applied as follows:

- Initial grade = HD
- Maximum penalty = reduction of two grading bands
- Final grade = C

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Case based assessment - children with complex communication needs	50%	Yes	Week 7
Case based assessment - adults with complex communication needs	50%	Yes	Week 13

Case based assessment - children with complex communication needs

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 38 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **50%**

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

In this assessment task, students will be provided with case details relating to children who have complex communication needs, and may be appropriate for AAC systems. They will be also be provided with clinical scenarios, and asked to develop plans relating to speech pathology management for these cases. The assessment task will require them to integrate and synthesise case information, case data, theory, research evidence, and routine speech pathology practices in order to formulate plans.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe and analyse the prevalence, aetiology, neurology and physiology of the health conditions that underpin complex communication disability.
- Evaluate and explain the role of augmentative and alternative communication strategies in speech pathology management of complex communication disability.
- Describe and evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disability, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns.
- Select and justify appropriate evidence-based speech pathology assessment and intervention procedures that integrate the views of those with complex communication disability and their family and/or carers.

Case based assessment - adults with complex communication needs

Assessment Type ¹: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task ²: 39 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **50%**

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

In this assessment task, students will be provided with case details relating to adults who have complex communication and/or swallowing disorders. They will be also be provided with clinical and life scenarios, and asked to develop plans relating to speech pathology management for these adults. The assessment task will require them to integrate and synthesise case information, case data, theory, research evidence, and routine speech pathology practices in order to formulate plans.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Discuss issues related to living with persistent and multifaceted disability, and its impact upon well-being and participation in society.
- Describe and evaluate the communication needs of those with complex communication disability, including those with challenging behavioural and mental health concerns.
- Select and justify appropriate evidence-based speech pathology assessment and intervention procedures that integrate the views of those with complex communication disability and their family and/or carers.

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

Students will participate in 2 hour lectorial classes blending teacher-fronted delivery with small group activities. Students will be expected to engage with learning materials before attending and participating in weekly classes, and then to complete learning activities following class. All

scheduled learning activities will occur over the standard 13 weeks of the session.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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 \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](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 \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](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/.

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.