



SPTH8831

Speech Pathology Clinical Practice 1

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

Department of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MSpchLngPath

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

In this clinical practice unit, lectures and tutorials will introduce students to speech pathology professional standards, reflective practice, foundational clinical skills, and advanced communication skills. Students will attend clinical placements and engage in clinical observation, speech pathology practice, and case discussions with clients, families and relevant professionals. Placements will provide learning experiences with a range of child and adult communication and swallowing disorders. Students will also engage in the preparation, planning, and reflection activities required for clinical placements. Placement: 12 full days, i.e., 1 day per week for 12 weeks.

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: Recognise and adopt ethical behaviours required for clinical practice in speech pathology.

ULO2: Demonstrate on COMPASS Novice Level Behaviours in Professional Competency of Reasoning, and on CBOS Competencies 1 (Assessment), 2 (Analysis and Interpretation), 3 (Planning evidence-based speech pathology practices), and 4

(Implementation of speech pathology practice).

ULO3: Demonstrate on COMPASS Above Novice Level Behaviours on Professional Competencies of Communication, Learning, and Professionalism, and on CBOS Competency 7 (Lifelong learning and reflective practice).

General Assessment Information

- SPTH8831 is subject to the Fitness to Practice Procedure. Please refer to the [Academic Progression Policy](#) for information about Fitness to Practice or click the relevant link in the "Policies and Procedures" section below.
- To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and pass each of the assessments, *all of which are hurdle tasks*.
- SPTH8831 is ungraded. Students will receive an "S" grade upon satisfactory completion.
- The assessment weightings entered below are a function of this Unit Guides system's requirements. Please consult the SPTH8831 iLearn site and MSLP Placement Handbook for full assessment information, rules, and requirements.
- Absences from SPTH8831 placement days are subject to the [Special Consideration Policy](#). Please refer to the MSLP Placement Handbook, SPTH8831 iLearn site, or contact the unit convenor for more information about absences from SPTH8832 placement.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Ethics quiz	0%	Yes	Week 3
Case presentation, discussion and self - evaluation	0%	Yes	Week 12-13
COMPASS assessment	100%	Yes	Week 13-14

Ethics quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 1 hours

Due: **Week 3**

Weighting: **0%**

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

In this assessment, students will complete an unweighted in - class hurdle quiz focused on the

Speech Pathology Australia Code of Ethics. Quiz questions will address key concepts, their meanings, and their application to professional scenarios. Students must achieve a mark of 80% in order to meet the requirements of this Unit, and engage in a clinical placement.

This hurdle assessment task assures competency in speech pathology practice, as required for the external accreditation of the Master of Speech and Language Pathology course. It is unweighted.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and adopt ethical behaviours required for clinical practice in speech pathology.

Case presentation, discussion and self - evaluation

Assessment Type ¹: Viva/oral examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 2 hours

Due: **Week 12-13**

Weighting: **0%**

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

Students will report, evaluate, and discuss their progress with development of clinical competencies over the course of SPTH8831. Students will link this progress to specific CBOS and COMPASS Competencies, and discuss their development with MSLP course staff. Reflective reports will be delivered in two formats: a written report, and a viva examination.

This hurdle assessment task assures competency in speech pathology practice, as required for the external accreditation of the Master of Speech and Language Pathology course. It is unweighted.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and adopt ethical behaviours required for clinical practice in speech pathology.
- Demonstrate on COMPASS Novice Level Behaviours in Professional Competency of Reasoning, and on CBOS Competencies 1 (Assessment), 2 (Analysis and Interpretation), 3 (Planning evidence-based speech pathology practices), and 4 (Implementation of speech pathology practice).
- Demonstrate on COMPASS Above Novice Level Behaviours on Professional Competencies of Communication, Learning, and Professionalism, and on CBOS

Competency 7 (Lifelong learning and reflective practice).

COMPASS assessment

Assessment Type ¹: Clinical performance evaluation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 2 hours

Due: **Week 13-14**

Weighting: **100%**

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

Students will be assessed using the COMPASS competency-based assessment tool, which includes self-evaluation components at the midpoint, and at the end of the placement.

This hurdle assessment task assures competency in speech pathology practice, as required for the external accreditation of the Master of Speech and Language Pathology course. It is unweighted.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and adopt ethical behaviours required for clinical practice in speech pathology.
- Demonstrate on COMPASS Novice Level Behaviours in Professional Competency of Reasoning, and on CBOS Competencies 1 (Assessment), 2 (Analysis and Interpretation), 3 (Planning evidence-based speech pathology practices), and 4 (Implementation of speech pathology practice).
- Demonstrate on COMPASS Above Novice Level Behaviours on Professional Competencies of Communication, Learning, and Professionalism, and on CBOS Competency 7 (Lifelong learning and reflective practice).

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

In this unit, classes will introduce students to speech pathology professional standards, reflective

practice, foundational clinical skills, and advanced communication skills. Students will attend clinical placements and engage in clinical observation, speech pathology practice, and case discussions with clients, families and relevant professionals. Placements will provide learning experiences with a range of child and adult communication and swallowing disorders.

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of independent and collaborative learning activities. In particular, students will participate in 3 hour seminar classes blending teaching-fronted delivery with small group activities. Students will be expected to engage with learning materials and activities before attending and participating in weekly classes, and then to complete learning activities following class.

All scheduled learning activities will take place over the standard 13 weeks of the session, with the exception of placement. Classes will be oriented towards supporting learning in clinical placement. Full details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own laptop computer may borrow one from the university library.

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 connect.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/>

Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) 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 Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), 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.

Inclusion and Diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including clinical, practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all

learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
16/02/2025	Editorial changes only.

Unit information based on version 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)