



PHTY8304

Advanced Clinical Physiotherapy Placement I

Session 2, In person-placement, On location 2026

School of Health Sciences and Nursing

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	4
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	5
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	9
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	10
<u>Artificial Intelligence Tools</u>	12
<u>Inclusion and Diversity</u>	12
<u>Professionalism</u>	13

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General Information

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

PHTY8200 and PHTY8201 and PHTY8202 and PHTY8301 and PHTY8308

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This is the fourth five-week full time clinical placement where you will be a member of a healthcare team working with individuals or groups with a variety of health conditions, including complex case presentations. This placement provides an opportunity to further consolidate your knowledge, skills and experiences. In this unit you will deliver person-centred health care under supervision. You will build upon your previous clinical experience, along with your advanced knowledge and skills, to deliver evidence-based physiotherapy intervention. You will strengthen your understanding of healthcare systems and the impact of biopsychosocial factors on health and wellbeing, whilst enhancing your skills in the provision of socially and culturally respectful healthcare. You will be expected to demonstrate standards of professionalism, ethical behaviour and safety consistent with expectations of the physiotherapy profession. You will be required to demonstrate the development of the Macquarie DPT Graduate Capabilities: Scientist and Scholar, Clinical Practitioner, Engaged Global Citizen and Professional, and the Physiotherapy practice thresholds in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

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:** Use advanced skills to clearly, accurately, sensitively and effectively communicate with clients, carers and other professionals, including verbal and non-verbal forms, to support the development of trust and rapport. (Clinical Practitioner)
- ULO2:** Plan and implement an efficient, effective, culturally responsive and client centred physiotherapy assessment with complex client populations. (Clinical Practitioner)
- ULO3:** Plan and implement an appropriate intervention for individuals with complex presentations based on interpretation of assessment findings, using evidence-based practice, and client centred principles to inform decision making. (Clinical Practitioner)
- ULO4:** Implement safe practices by identifying adverse events and near misses, and by minimising risk associated with physiotherapy practice, including recognition of situations that are outside the scope of expertise and/or competence, and by taking appropriate and timely action in the clinical setting (Clinical Practitioner)
- ULO5:** Demonstrate professional behaviour and appropriate communication in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care when interacting with clients, clinical educators, other health professionals and the host organisation.

(Professional)

ULO6: Accurately evaluate and communicate your own knowledge and performance including strengths and areas for improvement, using relevant professional benchmarks.

(Professional)

General Assessment Information

Grading of Assessments

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the [Macquarie University Assessment Policy](#).

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#). The final grade awarded is not necessarily a summation of the individual assessment components.

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

If there is a lack of sufficient evidence demonstrating you have met the required level of achievement in all learning outcomes you will be awarded a Fail grading with an assigned mark of 49 or less.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

You will receive a grade for each assessment within this unit. The grades awarded will reflect a holistic evaluation of the work against the criteria outlined within the corresponding assessment rubric.

Submission of an assessment task that is deemed by the unit convenor to be incomplete, or not a serious attempt may result in the Fail (F) grade to be awarded a numerical grade below 40%.

Clinical Placement Logbook Assessment

The Clinical Placement Logbook is a hurdle assessment. A hurdle assessment is defined as an assessment task mandating a minimum level of performance as a condition of passing the unit in which it occurs. You must obtain a pass grade in this assessment as a minimum requirement for passing the unit. Should you fail to obtain a pass grade upon your initial attempt, one supplementary opportunity will be provided to demonstrate that you meet the minimum requirements for this assessment. Should you still not meet a pass standard a Fail (Hurdle) grade will be awarded, as indicated by a FH grade upon your transcript.

Extensions for Assessment Tasks

Applications for assessment task extensions may be considered for short-term, unexpected, serious, and unavoidable circumstances affecting assessment. Applications must be submitted via [Service Connect | Macquarie University](#). For further details please refer to the [Special Consideration Policy](#).

erations Policy. You can also find out more on the MQ Student Portal at the following link: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>

Should you encounter any personal issues or concerns in regard to health and wellbeing during your studies you can also gain personal support and advice on campus. Please see the following link for further information: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/personal>

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

To pass this unit, you must have attempted all assessment tasks and demonstrated sufficient evidence of achievement of all unit learning outcomes.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Mid Unit Assessment	0%	No	Week 3 of placement	Individual	No	Observed
End Unit Assessment	70%	No	Week 5 (end) of placement	Individual	No	Observed
Clinical Placement Log book	0%	Yes	11:55pm Sunday after placement concludes	Individual	No	Open

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Simulated Job Application	30%	No	14.10.2026	Individual	No	Open

Mid Unit Assessment

Assessment Type ¹: Experiential task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 1 hours

Due: **Week 3 of placement**

Weighting: **0%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The national standardised tool, the Assessment of Physiotherapy Practice (APP), will be completed by yourself and your primary Clinical Educator to provide feedback on your performance and behaviour in the clinical setting at the midpoint of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use advanced skills to clearly, accurately, sensitively and effectively communicate with clients, carers and other professionals, including verbal and non-verbal forms, to support the development of trust and rapport. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Plan and implement an efficient, effective, culturally responsive and client centred physiotherapy assessment with complex client populations. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Plan and implement an appropriate intervention for individuals with complex presentations based on interpretation of assessment findings, using evidence-based practice, and client centred principles to inform decision making. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Implement safe practices by identifying adverse events and near misses, and by minimising risk associated with physiotherapy practice, including recognition of situations that are outside the scope of expertise and/or competence, and by taking appropriate and timely action in the clinical setting (Clinical Practitioner)
- Demonstrate professional behaviour and appropriate communication in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care when interacting with clients, clinical educators, other health professionals and the host organisation. (Professional)
- Accurately evaluate and communicate your own knowledge and performance including strengths and areas for improvement, using relevant professional benchmarks. (Professional)

End Unit Assessment

Assessment Type ¹: Experiential task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 1 hours

Due: **Week 5 (end) of placement**

Weighting: **70%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Observed

The national standardised tool, the Assessment of Physiotherapy Practice (APP), will be completed by yourself and your primary Clinical Educator to provide feedback on your performance and behaviour in the clinical setting at the end point of the unit.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use advanced skills to clearly, accurately, sensitively and effectively communicate with clients, carers and other professionals, including verbal and non-verbal forms, to support the development of trust and rapport. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Plan and implement an efficient, effective, culturally responsive and client centred physiotherapy assessment with complex client populations. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Plan and implement an appropriate intervention for individuals with complex presentations based on interpretation of assessment findings, using evidence-based practice, and client centred principles to inform decision making. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Implement safe practices by identifying adverse events and near misses, and by minimising risk associated with physiotherapy practice, including recognition of situations that are outside the scope of expertise and/or competence, and by taking appropriate and timely action in the clinical setting (Clinical Practitioner)
- Demonstrate professional behaviour and appropriate communication in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care when interacting with clients, clinical educators, other health professionals and the host organisation. (Professional)
- Accurately evaluate and communicate your own knowledge and performance including strengths and areas for improvement, using relevant professional benchmarks. (Professional)

Clinical Placement Log book

Assessment Type ¹: Reflection task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 3 hours

Due: **11:55pm Sunday after placement concludes**

Weighting: **0%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

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

You will submit a Clinical Placement Logbook along with a Logbook Summary at the completion of this clinical placement. The logbook is a documentation of clinical education that is sufficient to produce a graduate competent to practice across the lifespan in a range of environments and settings for the assurance of physiotherapy practice registration.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use advanced skills to clearly, accurately, sensitively and effectively communicate with clients, carers and other professionals, including verbal and non-verbal forms, to support the development of trust and rapport. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Demonstrate professional behaviour and appropriate communication in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care when interacting with clients, clinical educators, other health professionals and the host organisation. (Professional)
- Accurately evaluate and communicate your own knowledge and performance including strengths and areas for improvement, using relevant professional benchmarks.
(Professional)

Simulated Job Application

Assessment Type ¹: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **14.10.2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: No

AI Approach: Open

You will complete a job application in which you will answer questions based on a simulated job advertisement.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Use advanced skills to clearly, accurately, sensitively and effectively communicate with clients, carers and other professionals, including verbal and non-verbal forms, to support the development of trust and rapport. (Clinical Practitioner)
- Accurately evaluate and communicate your own knowledge and performance including strengths and areas for improvement, using relevant professional benchmarks.
(Professional)

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of face-to-face learning activities while on clinical placement. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Assumed knowledge

This unit builds upon your learning across the previous semesters of the Doctor of Physiotherapy course, and assumes you have a sound basic knowledge on all core areas of physiotherapy including pre- requisite knowledge areas such as musculoskeletal anatomy.

Learning and teaching strategy

In this unit you will spend time on placement as a member of a healthcare team working with individuals or groups with a variety of health conditions, including complex case presentations. The placement will be in a setting relevant to the delivery of physiotherapy, including clinical settings, such as a hospital or private practice, or other relevant setting, such as a corporate or sporting organisation.

Unit organisation

This is a ten credit point unit run as a full-time clinical placement, conducted as a 5-week block. Further information is available via the DPTClinical iLearn site for your cohort. See <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>.

Attendance

Individual clinic descriptors and clinical calendars should be used to confirm dates and times of attendance for your clinical placement. This information is available via the DPTClinical iLearn site for your cohort. See <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

Unit materials and readings

Resources used across the Doctor of Physiotherapy may be useful when completing this unit. You are encouraged to review any relevant unit iLearn sites before commencing your placement. In addition, resources specific to clinical education and to specific areas of clinical physiotherapy are available on the DPTClinical iLearn site.

Technology and equipment

Clinical sites will provide access to technology and equipment on-site as required. iPads, laptops and other patient/education-related equipment may be available to borrow from the Department of Health Sciences or the university library if required.

Transport and costs

You will need to arrange your own transport to clinical placements and will be responsible for covering all costs associated with attending placements such as vaccinations, parking, public transport and accommodation (where necessary).

Consultation with staff

All staff will be available for individual consultation. See iLearn for contact details.

Policies and Procedures

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

[du.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.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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.

Artificial Intelligence Tools

Macquarie University recognises that artificial intelligence (AI), especially generative AI, is rapidly reshaping education and the modern workplace. As AI becomes increasingly accessible, the University and your teaching staff are committed to preparing you to use these tools effectively, ethically, and with strong professional judgment. Rather than restricting technology, the emphasis is on helping you understand when and how AI can be used to enhance productivity, support learning, and reflect real-world professional practice. Across your degree, we will support you to develop the critical thinking, adaptability, and values-based decision-making skills required to navigate evolving AI tools responsibly, including acknowledging their use appropriately. You should always appropriately acknowledge when you have used AI tools within assessment tasks, including which AI tools you have used and how you have used them.

To provide clarity, Macquarie University uses a simple, two-tiered approach to AI in assessment:

AI Open assessments allow you to fully incorporate AI, reflecting authentic tasks where AI would normally be used in professional settings.

Observed with AI Optional assessments involve tasks where you either demonstrate essential knowledge without technology or show how you apply AI under supervision.

Across both categories, the goal is to ensure you build foundational knowledge, exercise sound judgement, and engage with AI in ways that uphold ethical, cultural, and university values.

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, and a representative of Macquarie University while on clinical placement, 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 clinical learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

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

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all clinical placement days and engage in learning activities outside placement hours (eg revision of material, preparing for treatment sessions). 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 created 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 both Macquarie University and external clinical educator staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them appropriately and in a timely fashion.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for others. Please arrive to clinical placements on time, and contribute to the healthcare team appropriately. Please treat all patients, other members of the healthcare team, and your fellow students with the utmost respect.

Unit information based on version 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)