



PMSC11001 *Foundations of Paramedic Science*

Term 1 - 2018

Profile information current as at 03/05/2024 12:28 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC11001 have been officially approved by CQUUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit will provide you with an introduction to Australian and International ambulance services and systems. Throughout this unit you will explore various aspects of professionalism, teamwork and the impacts of a career in the emergency service; this will allow you to develop strategies to enhance your personal safety, emotional well being and longevity in the paramedic field while ensuring patient management priorities are met. As part of this unit there will be an introduction to Indigenous health and culture as well as the legal and ethical frameworks of paramedicine to provide you with a solid foundation for future clinical practice. ***PLEASE NOTE* YOU MUST HAVE A CURRENT CERTIFIED FIRST AID CERTIFICATE (with current CPR) IN ORDER TO PROGRESS TO THE NEXT UNIT - PMSC11002 Foundations of Paramedic Clinical Practice.**

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 1*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2018

- Cairns
- Distance
- Rockhampton
- Townsville

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 60%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

More information is required on assessment items. Clear guidelines are required on how to set out the assessment items and what is required, for example format, font etc. Possible quizzes to allow students to consolidate what they are learning throughout the weeks instead of only two assessment items.

Recommendation

Assessment items to be improved with clear marking rubrics. Weekly or fortnightly quizzes to be added to the unit as per feedback.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Students identify that the unit is a great way to get a good look at different ambulance services and that being taught by lecturers who are still paramedics makes it very engaging and relevant.

Recommendation

Continue to use lecturers that are still involved /employed by Ambulance Services.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Continual reminders and instructions from the very passionate lecturers were very helpful and appreciated throughout the term.

Recommendation

Continue to Nudge students and give and receive feedback as necessary.

Feedback from Students Feedback

Feedback

Student's forum posts were not responded to in a timely manner and sometime not at all. It would be a good idea for staff to check forum posts twice a day and reply to all comments.

Recommendation

Response to forum posts were conducted in a timely manner by all staff members. If the question had been answered in another forum post students were directed to said post and response. More diligence in checking and responding to forum posts by all staff required so that it is not left to only the unit coordinator as it is a first year/first term unit and students have many questions.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Analyse the differences between Australian and international ambulance services
2. Discuss the potential health impacts of emergency work on paramedics
3. Explain the legal and ethical obligations of paramedic practice
4. Show consideration for Indigenous health and cultural impacts on paramedic practice.

The new learning outcomes align with the Council of Ambulance Authorities accreditation (CAA) standards of:

3.1.4 Collaboration with the ambulance sector.

3.1.5 Collaboration with the profession.

3.1.6 Interaction with other sectors.

The new learning outcomes also aligns with the CAA Paramedic Professional Competency Standards:

- professional expectations of a paramedic.
- makes informed and reasonable decisions.
- demonstrates professional autonomy and accountability.
- develops and maintains professional relationships.
- demonstrates the knowledge, understanding and skills required for practice.
- operates within a safe practice environment.
- identifies and assesses health and social needs in the context of the environment.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•			
2 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•	•	•	•
3 - Written Assessment - 60%		•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication		•	•	
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•	•
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•		•	•
5 - Team Work		•		

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
6 - Information Technology Competence	•			
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•	•		•
8 - Ethical practice			•	•
9 - Social Innovation				
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•	•	•							
2 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•	•	•		•		•	•		
3 - Written Assessment - 60%	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PMSC11001

Prescribed

Applied Paramedic Law and Ethics

(2012)

Authors: Townsend, R

Elsevier Australia

Sydney , NSW , Australia

ISBN: 9780729541343

Binding: Other

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Headset with working microphone

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Joelene Gott Unit Coordinator
j.gott@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 05 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Welcome to Higher Education	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture

Week 2 - 12 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
History of the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) & Other Australian Ambulance Services	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture and pre-recorded lecture

Week 3 - 19 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Rural & Remote Paramedic Practice	Moodle Readings	Pre-recorded lecture

Week 4 - 26 Mar 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paramedic Registration & International EMS	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture and pre-recorded lecture
Weeks 1 - 4 Due: Week 4 Friday (30 Mar 2018) 11:55 pm AEST		

Week 5 - 02 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Looking After Yourself	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture

Vacation Week - 09 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Vacation Week.	Vacation Week.	Free study time

Week 6 - 16 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Health Impacts: Part 1	Applied Paramedic Law & Ethics: Chapter 2 Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture

Week 7 - 23 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Health Impacts: Part 2	Applied Paramedic Law & Ethics: Chapters 11 & 12 Moodle Readings	pre-recorded lecture

Week 8 - 30 Apr 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Legal & Ethical: Part 1	Applied Paramedic Law & Ethics: Chapters 7, 10, & 12	Pre-recorded lecture
Weeks 5 - 8 Due: Week 8 Friday (4 May 2018) 12:00 am AEST		

Week 9 - 07 May 2018

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Legal & Ethical: Part 2	Applied Paramedic Law & Ethics Chapter 6 & 8	Pre-recorded lecture
Week 10 - 14 May 2018		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Indigenous Healthcare & Cultural Sensitivity: Part 1	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture Written Assessment Due: Week 10 Friday (18 May 2018) 11:55 pm AEST
Week 11 - 21 May 2018		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Indigenous Healthcare & Cultural Sensitivity: Part 2	Moodle Readings	On-campus recorded lecture
Week 12 - 28 May 2018		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Study Week		Assignment preparation time

Assessment Tasks

1 Weeks 1 - 4

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

You will be required to complete two (2) online quizzes; the first will close at the end of Week 4; the second at the end of Week 8. The quizzes will open on the Friday of the preceding week to when the quiz is due, and each will have a specific time limit imposed.

The quizzes will be made up of multiple choice and short answer questions exploring content based upon the previous weeks (including lecture materials, online modules, links & required readings). Quizzes are cumulative and content will aggregate across the term.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Assessment Due Date

Week 4 Friday (30 Mar 2018) 11:55 pm AEST

Without an approved extension from the Unit Coordinator no late submissions will be accepted.

Return Date to Students

Week 6 Friday (20 Apr 2018)

Two weeks post due date

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50% - Students are reminded to attain a passing grade in this unit you are required to attain a minimum mark of 50% for each assessment task.

Assessment Criteria

You will be required to answer each question to receive the marks allocated to that question. Non-attempts will score a zero mark. Quizzes may not be reattempted. This is an individual assessment with no collaboration allowed.

Each quiz is worth 20% of your overall mark for this unit. The first quiz must be completed by 2355hrs on the Friday of Week 4; the second quiz must be completed by 2355hrs AEST on the Friday of Week 8. In the absence of an approved extension, there will be no opportunity to complete the task after this date, and there will be no opportunity to apply a late penalty of five percent per day.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse the differences between Australian and international ambulance services

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking

2 Weeks 5 - 8

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

You will be required to complete two (2) online quizzes; the first will close at the end of Week 4; the second at the end of Week 8. The quizzes will open on the Friday of the preceding week to when the quiz is due, and each will have a specific time limit imposed.

The quizzes will be made up of multiple choice and short answer questions exploring content based upon the previous weeks of content (including lecture materials, online modules, links & required readings). Quizzes are cumulative and content will aggregate across the term.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes**Assessment Due Date**

Week 8 Friday (4 May 2018) 12:00 am AEST

Without an approved extension from the Unit Coordinator no late submissions will be accepted.

Return Date to Students

Week 10 Friday (18 May 2018)

Two weeks post due date

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50% - Students are reminded to attain a passing grade in this unit you are required to attain a minimum mark of 50% for each assessment task.

Assessment Criteria

You will be required to answer each question to receive the marks allocated to that question. Non-attempts will score a zero mark. Quizzes may not be reattempted. This is an individual assessment with no collaboration allowed.

Each quiz is worth 20% of your overall mark for this unit. The first quiz must be completed by 2355hrs on the Friday of Week 4; the second quiz must be completed by 2355hrs AEST on the Friday of Week 8. In the absence of an approved extension, there will be no opportunity to complete the task after this date, and there will be no opportunity to apply a late penalty of five percent per day.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse the differences between Australian and international ambulance services
- Discuss the potential health impacts of emergency work on paramedics
- Explain the legal and ethical obligations of paramedic practice
- Show consideration for Indigenous health and cultural impacts on paramedic practice.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking

- Team Work
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You are working in a rural Aboriginal Community as the local ACP. It is 2200 hours on a Saturday evening and you are dispatched code 2 to disturbance at a party.

As you arrive on scene, you notice there are several cars parked in the front yard of the property. You decide to park the vehicle in front of the neighbors house facing out as to have ease of egress.

As you approach the scene, you hear loud shouting coming from the backyard. You continue towards the house when an Indigenous Elder meets you, he states they have just had a relative die and have the entire family here for support. As you look around the scene, you identify at least 30 family members. He states that one of the family members (young male) is not dealing with the death very well and advises you he is in the backyard with other family members.

The Indigenous Elder directs you to the backyard where there is a young male sitting on a chair. As you approach the male, you notice he has self-harm marks on both his inner forearms that does not appear to be an uncontrolled hemorrhage. The patient smells strongly of alcoholic beverages and a family member states they have been drinking alcohol since approximately 1600 hours that afternoon.

On talking with the young male he states to you that 'his family would be better off without him and that he is better off dead' and that 'next time he will make sure he does it when no one is around, that way they won't find him until its done'.

The scene is safe as the knife used to self-harm has been removed by one of the Elders. Queensland Police Service (QPS) are also on scene if you require their assistance in any way.

You are to write an essay (word limit 2000 words) addressing the following components:

1. What cultural consideration would you need to be aware of in this situation?
2. How will manage this patient?
3. What are the ethical and legal obligations you have as an ACP?
4. The male patient states he does not want to go to hospital and just wants you to dress his wounds. What do you do? Please explain the reason why you have chosen the path you have. Make sure you use and refer to all documentation that is relevant in your decision making including any policies, procedures or ACTs

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Friday (18 May 2018) 11:55 pm AEST

Without an approved extension from the Unit Coordinator no late submissions will be accepted.

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Friday (1 June 2018)

Two weeks post due date

Weighting

60%

Minimum mark or grade

50% - Students are reminded to attain a passing grade in this unit you are required to attain a minimum mark of 50% for each assessment task.

Assessment Criteria

This assessment is worth 60% of your overall mark for this unit. The written assessment will be assessed using the rubric provided on the unit Moodle page, covering the following areas:

- Presentation & layout – presentation of material, word count etc
- Content – based upon the set questions & use of supportive material
- Grammar & Spelling
- Referencing – use of APA in text referencing and reference list

You must achieve a minimum mark of 50% to pass this assessment piece.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Discuss the potential health impacts of emergency work on paramedics
- Explain the legal and ethical obligations of paramedic practice
- Show consideration for Indigenous health and cultural impacts on paramedic practice.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem