



PMSC11004 Paramedic Medical Emergencies 1

Term 2 - 2020

Profile information current as at 20/04/2024 08:22 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC11004 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

In this unit, you will develop the skills to recognise, diagnose and manage patients with commonly encountered acute and life-threatening disease processes, throughout the life span. You will integrate your developing knowledge of anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology and pharmacology with patient assessment, diagnostic evaluations and clinical history taking to formulate a provisional diagnosis. You will use this information to design and implement the most appropriate clinical management in line with contemporary professional guidelines and protocols, and emerging evidence-based practices. Case-based learning combined with high fidelity simulation will contextualise your essential clinical skills, clinical decision making and problem-solving abilities.

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

Pre-requisite - BMSC11001 Human Body Systems 1
Pre-requisite - PMSC11002 Foundations of Paramedic Clinical Practice
Co-requisite - PMSC12001 Procedures & Skills in Paramedic Care

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 2 - 2020

- Cairns
- Mixed Mode
- 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).

Residential Schools

This unit has a Compulsory Residential School for distance mode students and the details are:

Click here to see your [Residential School Timetable](#).

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. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 60%

2. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 40%

3. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

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](#).

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Evaluate patients systematically and comprehensively, including clinical history and assessment data, to formulate a provisional diagnosis
2. Formulate the provisional diagnosis by applying knowledge of underpinning foundational pathophysiology of disease processes
3. Demonstrate appropriate clinical management including the use of basic pharmacology through comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of best-practice clinical interventions.

The introduction of this unit has been driven by industry feedback and the changing landscape of paramedic practice in Australia. By increasing the paramedic specific focus of the course our graduates will be better prepared for independent practice during graduate paramedic internships. The Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA) now requires national registration for paramedics. This requires graduates to hold an accredited qualification for the purposes of registration. The development of this unit, and enclosed learning outcomes will ensure positive and prompt responsiveness to current and future requirements for registration and accreditation of the course.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Written Assessment - 60%		•	
2 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40%	•	•	
3 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•		•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

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

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
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 - Written Assessment - 60%	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		
2 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40%	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		
3 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PMSC11004

Prescribed

Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine

Edition: Fifth (2020)

Authors: Peter Cameron; Mark Little, Biswadev Mitra, Conor Deasy

Elsevier

Chatswood , NSW , Australia

ISBN: 9780702076244

Binding: Paperback

Additional Textbook Information

If you prefer to study with a paper copy, they are available at the CQUni Bookshop here: <http://bookshop.cqu.edu.au> (search on the Unit code). eBooks are available at the publisher's website.

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Andrew Hodgetts Unit Coordinator

a.hodgetts@cqu.edu.au

Lorraine Holmes Unit Coordinator

l.t.holmes@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 13 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Shock <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology of ShockStages of ShockTypes of ShockInterventions Used in Primary Health Care	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 2.4 Shock Overview : pages 35 - 43	

Week 2 - 20 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Systemic Medical Emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review Basic Anatomy and PhysiologyNausea and VomitingPainInterventions Used in Primary Health Care	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 5.1 Chest Pain : pages 193 -198 Section 22.1 Pain Relief : pages 661 - 677	

Week 3 - 27 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Common Respiratory Medical Emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review Basic Anatomy and PhysiologyDyspnoeaHyper/Hypo ventilationAirway Obstruction/ ChokingAsthmaChronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)Chest InfectionsInterventions Used in Primary Health Care	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 2.2 Airway and Ventilation Management : pages 12 - 20 Section 2.2 Oxygen Therapy : pages 21 - 29 Section 6.2 Asthma: pages 267 - 271 Section 6.2 Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: pages 285- 290 Section 6.3 Community-Acquired Pneumonia: pages 272 - 281 Section 6.4 Influenza and Emerging Respiratory Infections: pages 282 - 284	

Week 4 - 03 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Cardiovascular Emergencies - Brief Introduction

- Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology
- Acute Pulmonary Oedema (APO)
- Acute Coronary Syndrome
- Introduction to ECGs
- Interventions Used in Primary Health Care

Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine

Section 5.2 Acute Coronary Syndromes : pages 199-204
 Section 5.3 Assessment and Management of Acute Pulmonary Oedema: pages 205 - 208
 Section 5.4 Arrhythmias: pages 209 - 222
 Section 5.8 Peripheral Vascular Disease: pages 245 - 249
 Section 5.9 Hypertension 250 - 253

Week 5 - 10 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Endocrine Emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology • Diabetes • Diabetic Hypoglycemia • Diabetic Ketoacidosis • Diabetic Complications • Interventions Used in Primary Health Care 	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 11 Endocrine Emergencies : page 472 - 483	Conceptual Understanding Written Assessment Due: Week 5 Friday (14 Aug 2020) 11:59 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 17 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 6 - 24 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Immune and lymphatic system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology • Types of Infections • Sites of Infections • At Risk Populations • Septicaemia/Septic Shock/SIRS/MODS • Interventions Used in Primary Health Care 	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 2.5 Sepsis and Septic Shock: pages 43 -47 Section 9.4 Urinary Tract Infections: pages 402 - 408 Section 6.3 Community-Acquired Pneumonia: pages 272 - 281 Section 6.4 Influenza and Emerging Respiratory Infections: pages 282 - 284 Section 9.5 Skin and Soft Tissue Infections: pages 409 - 415 Section 9.9 Antibiotics in the Emergency Department: pages 433 - 443	Assessment One Due : Tuesday 25/08/2020 1600 hours

Week 7 - 31 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Allergies and Anaphylaxis Abdominal Pain Medical Emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review basic Anatomy and Physiology • Abdominal Sections • Differential Diagnosis of Abdominal Pain • Interventions Used in Primary Health Care 	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 2.8 Anaphylaxis: pages 59-66 Section 7.2 Approach to Abdominal Pain: pages 302 -309 Section 7.3 Bowel Obstruction : pages 309 - 311 Section 7.4 Hernia : pages 312 -313 Section 7.5 Gastroenteritis : pages 314 -318	

Week 8 - 07 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Nervous System and Neurological Emergencies

- Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology
- Altered Conscious State
- Seizures
- Interventions Used in Primary Health Care

Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine

Section 8.4 Altered Conscious State : pages 368 - 373
Section 8.5 Seizures : pages 374 -378

Week 9 - 14 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Nervous System and Neurological Emergencies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Basic Anatomy and Physiology• Brief Headaches Overview• TIA's• Ischemic Stroke• Intracranial Bleed• Interventions Used in Primary Health Care	Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine Section 8.1 Headache: pages 352 -355 Section 8.2 Stroke and Transient Ischaemic Attack: pages 356 - 364 Section 8.3 Subarachnoid Haemorrhage: pages 364 - 368	

Week 10 - 21 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Revision of course material Weeks 1 - 4 Q & A		

Week 11 - 28 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Revision of course material Weeks 5 - 9 Q & A		

Week 12 - 05 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Review/Exam Week - 12 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 19 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
All topics included from weeks 1-9 are examinable.		

Term Specific Information

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this unit will be delivered via the Distance Mode only.

Locations and dates for residential schools will be made available once approved by the University.

You will be required to attend a compulsory residential school. You must nominate your preferred residential school location through MyCQU, under My Timetable in the My Units tab. Numbers at residential schools are capped and a position at your preferred residential school is not guaranteed. Geographical proximity to and/or previous attendance at a residential school location does not guarantee placement at your preferred residential school location.

Attendance at residential schools is compulsory. If for any reason you cannot attend a day at residential school you must provide appropriate evidence, as per Assessment Policy and Procedure, to justify your absence. You will be responsible for making arrangements, with the unit coordinator, to make up for the missed learning and teaching.

Assessment Tasks

1 Conceptual Understanding Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

For this assessment, you are required to answer a series of questions that will explore your knowledge and understanding of concepts discussed in weeks 1-4 of this unit.

The ability to explain complex medical and pathophysiological concepts to your patient and their family is an important skill as a paramedic. For this assessment, you will need to develop your answers to convey the information in a manner your patient, or their family will understand, whilst still remaining professional and scientifically accurate. Furthermore, the questions will assess your ability to search for appropriate material to answer the questions and reference it accordingly.

The questions will be made available in a document on the Moodle Page under the Assessment Information tab.

Assessment Due Date

Week 5 Friday (14 Aug 2020) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 7 Friday (4 Sept 2020)

Weighting

60%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Please write your assessment using the following style and format and upload it to the PMSC11004 Moodle page under the Conceptual Understanding link in the Assessment Tab.

Your assessment should be formatted to Arial font and size set to 14 point, and line spacing should be set to 1.5.

Only submissions in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx) will be accepted.

· Cover Page includes the following information:

- PMSC11004 Paramedic Emergencies 1
- Conceptual Understanding Written Assessment
- Academic Lecturers: Andrew Hodgetts and Lorraine Holmes
- Student Number
- Full Name
- Word count

The word limit is between 150-200 words per question (total word count between 1500-2000) not including headings and references.

The assessment will be marked against a rubric which will be available on the Moodle page.

Minimum of 2 references per question from either a textbook or peer-reviewed journal from the last 10 years.

The assessment must be referenced using the [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](http://www.cqu.edu.au/?a=58413) <http://www.cqu.edu.au/?a=58413>

In the absence of an approved extension, a penalty of 5% of the total marks for the assessment

will be deducted for each full or part calendar day the assessment is overdue, in accordance with Assessment Policy and Procedure.

The pass mark for this assessment is 50%

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Formulate the provisional diagnosis by applying knowledge of underpinning foundational pathophysiology of disease processes

Graduate Attributes

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

2 Online Quiz

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

You will be required to complete an Online Quiz which will be scheduled during the Exam period for Term 2.

The quiz will consist of multiple-choice, short answer and long answer formats.

The online quiz will assess your knowledge and understanding of the content covered throughout this unit, including lecture material, supplementary study notes and required readings.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

The Online Quiz will be scheduled during the Exam Period, dates for the Online Quiz are yet to be finalised. Please refer to the Moodle page for updates.

Return Date to Students

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The quiz will be accessed through the Assessment tab on the Moodle page.

This is an individual assessment with no collaboration allowed.

In the absence of an approved extension, there will be no opportunity to complete the tasks after the specified dates, and there will be no opportunity to apply a late penalty of five percent per day.

You will only receive 1 attempt at the quiz.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Evaluate patients systematically and comprehensively, including clinical history and assessment data, to formulate a provisional diagnosis
- Formulate the provisional diagnosis by applying knowledge of underpinning foundational pathophysiology of disease processes

Graduate Attributes

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

3 Practical Assessment

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

You will be required to attend a compulsory residential school for the practical assessment for this unit. Your assessment tasks will consist of three (3) Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs). The format of the OSCEs will include a Long Case Management Exercise, a Clinical Discussion and Reflection, and a Clinical Handover and Documentation Exercise.

All assessment tasks align with the learning outcomes for this unit, as described in the Unit Profile.

The Case Management Exercise (CME) will take the format of clinical scenarios designed to assess your knowledge and understanding of the material covered throughout the unit, by means of a structured, simulated patient interaction. Furthermore, the CMEs are designed to assess your ability to perform a thorough and accurate patient assessment and use this information to formulate a provisional diagnosis. In combination with your patient assessment and provisional diagnosis, you will be required to implement appropriate and timely clinical interventions, procedures and/or skills commensurate with your current scope of practice. Scene management and effective communication skills will also be assessed.

The Clinical Discussion and Reflection will assess your ability to explain the underlying pathophysiology behind your provisional diagnosis of the patient in the CME, and rationalising your management by explaining your knowledge of appropriate pharmacological and clinical interventions. You will also critically reflect upon your practice with a particular focus on patient assessment, provisional diagnosis, communication and team work.

The Clinical Handover and Documentation Exercise will assess your ability to deliver a clinical handover to a senior clinician (i.e. CCP/ICP/MICA) or other health care professional and document this information on an Ambulance Report Form. You will use the clinical information gathered from your Long Case Management Exercise to provide an accurate and informative handover highlighting your patient information, clinical assessments, provisional diagnosis and patient management. You will then document this information on an Ambulance Report Form.

Assessment Due Date

Assessments will be undertaken during residential school. Due to COVID-19 restrictions residential school scheduling has not been finalised, please refer to the Moodle page for updates.

Return Date to Students

Feedback will be provided to students within two weeks after the assessments take place.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The practical assessment is a pass/fail assessment. You must achieve a cumulative mark of greater than 50% across all three (3) OSCEs to pass this assessment.

The Long CME will be worth 40% of the overall marks and the Clinical Discussion and Reflection, and Clinical Handover and Documentation Exercise are worth 30% each of the overall marks.

Multiple scoring tools/rubrics will be utilised, based on the format of the OSCE. The scoring tools/rubrics for each assessment are validated and reliable.

Assessments will be moderated by the Unit Coordinator and therefore feedback will not be made available at the completion of your residential school.

Critical errors in this unit will be classed as anything, by act or omission that: causes immediate harm or has the potential to cause harm to yourself, partner, patient or bystanders and/or any procedure/skill or pharmacology administered, that is performed outside your scope of practice.

During any form of assessment, if any of the following critical errors are witnessed the assessment will continue and be moderated. Upon review and confirmation of a critical error, no marks will be awarded for that assessment item. Furthermore, any critical error discovered on review or moderation will result in no marks being awarded for that assessment item.

Critical errors are as follows:

- Unsafe defibrillation
- Incorrect joules delivered during defibrillation
- Defibrillation of a non-shockable rhythm
- Failure to recognise a cardiac arrest within one (1) minute
- Failure to defibrillate a shockable rhythm within two (2) minutes
- Failure to perform a complete drug check, including determining indications and all contraindications
- Incorrect sharps disposal or unsafe practice with a sharp
- Performing a skill or procedure outside your scope of practice taught to you in PMSC11002, PMSC12001 or this unit
- Administering pharmacology outside your scope of practice, or administering an incorrect drug or drug dose
- Any grossly unsafe practice, as determined by the assessing academic

If you do not understand any of the above, please clarify with your unit coordinator.

Failure to attempt/undertake an assessment task will result in a fail for this assessment.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Offline

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Evaluate patients systematically and comprehensively, including clinical history and assessment data, to formulate a provisional diagnosis
- Demonstrate appropriate clinical management including the use of basic pharmacology through comprehensive knowledge and demonstration of best-practice clinical interventions.

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