



PMSC12003 *Special Populations in Paramedic Practice*

Term 2 - 2019

Profile information current as at 27/04/2024 06:46 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC12003 have been officially approved by CQU University 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

You will develop an understanding of the need to adapt paramedic practice for special populations. At the completion of this unit you will be able to effectively integrate pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to manage the treatment of the obstetric, neonate, paediatric, and elderly patients. Knowledge and skills will be developed through a series of coursework and practical exercises.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Pre-requisite - PMSC12001 Procedures and Skills in Paramedic Care & PMSC12004 Advanced Electrophysiology and Coronary 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 - 2019

- Mixed Mode

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. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 60%

2. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 40%

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

Expert on-road paramedic experiences could be included in lectures.

Recommendation

Update lectures to include experiences of on-road paramedic staff.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

There did not seem to be enough material on geriatrics as this cohort of patients makes up the majority of pre-hospital workload.

Recommendation

Update geriatric material to be more in-depth.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Part B of Assessment 2 was confusing, especially being part of the same Assessment Item as the OSCEs, when they were not connected.

Recommendation

Add a third assessment item to have the Scenario Report as a separate Assessment Item. More information provided to students with some exemplars to assist students' understanding of requirements.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

A 3 day residential school is too short, especially since 1 day is dedicated to assessments.

Recommendation

Work towards increasing Residential School length to 4 days.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Quiz time frames were too short.

Recommendation

Increase time frame to 45 minutes to allow for short answer question responses.

Feedback from Student Feedback and Personal Observation

Feedback

Some of the quiz questions were confusing and ambiguous.

Recommendation

Quiz questions will be revised and adjusted as needed.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and their clinical relevance
2. Explain the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric and geriatric patients and their clinical relevance
3. Function safely and competently, drawing on theoretical and technical knowledge for the management and care of obstetric, paediatric and geriatric patients

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3 - Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PMSC12003

Supplementary

Emergency and Trauma Care for Nurses and Paramedics

Edition: 2nd (2015)

Authors: Curtis & Ramsden

Elsevier

Sydney , NSW , Australia

Binding: Paperback

PMSC12003

Supplementary

PMSC12003 Special Populations in Paramedic Practice

Edition: 1st (2012)

Authors: Richard Beebe and Jeffrey C. Myers

Cengage Learning Australia

New York , USA

Binding: Paperback

[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 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Ashley Denham Unit Coordinator

a.denham@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 15 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Normal Pregnancy Normal Childbirth	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 3 and Extract 5 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 35	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 2 - 22 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Complications of Pregnancy Complications of Childbirth	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 4	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 3 - 29 Jul 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Care of the Normal Newborn Special Considerations in Neonatology Death and Dying in a Child	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 6 and Extract 7 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 53 pp 1384	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 4 - 05 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Paediatrics Assessment of a Stable Child The Critically Ill Child	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 8 and Extract 9 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 36 pp 861 - 880	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 5 - 12 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paediatric Medical Emergencies	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 10 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 36 pp 881 - 921	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures QUIZ 1: Due 16th August 11:55pm

Vacation Week - 19 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 6 - 26 Aug 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Trauma and Child Abuse or Neglect	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 11 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 36 pp 922 - 931 and Chapter 40 pp. 1024 - 1028	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 7 - 02 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Geriatrics	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 4 Extract 12 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 39	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 8 - 09 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Geriatrics Death and Dying Elder Abuse	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 4 Extract 12 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 39, Chapter 40 pp 1034 - 1036 and Chapter 53 pp 1412 - 1419	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures QUIZ 2: Due 13th September 11:55pm

Week 9 - 16 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Patients with Special Challenges Death and Dying	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 4 Extract 13 Curtis and Ramsden Chapter 53 pp. 1382 - 1384	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 10 - 23 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Revision

QUIZ 3: Due 27th September
11:55pm

Week 11 - 30 Sep 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Residential Schools		

Week 12 - 07 Oct 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		WRITTEN ASSESSMENT: Due 11th October 11:55pm
		Written Assessment Due: Week 12 Friday (11 Oct 2019) 11:55 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 14 Oct 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 21 Oct 2019

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Assessment Tasks

1 Online Quizzes

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

You will complete three (3) separate online quizzes. Each quiz may consist of multiple choice questions, True/False, Sequence questions and/or Short Answer questions, exploring content included in the unit (such as, but not limited to, lecture materials, online modules, links and required readings).

Content for the quizzes is based on previous weeks' topics (as detailed in the schedule) and will test your ability to explain the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and their clinical relevance; and explain the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric and geriatric patients and their clinical relevance. You may also be required to explain specific medical conditions relating to these special populations.

QUIZ ONE: Available from 5th August 2019. DUE Friday 16th August 2019 2355hrs

QUIZ TWO: Available from 2nd September 2019. DUE Friday 13th September 2019 2355hrs

QUIZ THREE: Available from 16th September 2019. DUE Friday 27th September 2019 2355hrs

Number of Quizzes

3

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Quiz One: DUE 16/08/19; Quiz Two: DUE 13/09/19; Quiz Three; DUE 27/09/19

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Friday (11 Oct 2019)

Students will receive feedback via the Moodle Website within 2 weeks post due date.

Weighting

60%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

There are three (3) quizzes and each quiz is worth 20% of the total mark for the unit. Marks are awarded if a question is answered correctly and the total marks are tallied after each quiz has been attempted. Non-attempts will score a zero mark.

Quizzes are open-book, so the use of Clinical Practice Guidelines, book chapters, journal articles etc are allowed. Please

take note that this is an individual assessment. Collaboration is not allowed and may lead to disciplinary action.

Each quiz will have a specific time limit imposed to complete the quiz.

In the absence of an approved extension, there will be no opportunity to complete the task after the due date, and there will be no opportunity to apply a late penalty of five percent per day. Quizzes may not be re-attempted.

You are required to achieve an overall mark of at least 50% to pass this assessment item.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Explain the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and their clinical relevance
- Explain the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric and geriatric patients and their clinical relevance

Graduate Attributes

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

2 OSCE

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

This assessment is a Pass/Fail Assessment.

This is an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), which will be conducted at the Residential School. There will be three (3) OSCE stations, each designed to assess your knowledge and practical skills acquired during this unit.

There will be two (2) short case OSCE stations. You will be allocated 10 minutes per station, with a mix of station types and competencies tested.

Some examples of these stations are:

- Voice Viva
- Fill in the blanks
- Quiz
- Mini Scenario

There will also be one (1) long case OSCE station. You will be allocated 20 minutes to complete the assessment. The long case OSCE will be delivered in the format of a structured scenario, looking at the following areas:

- Patient assessment and history taking.
- Evidence gathering and patient treatment.
- Implementation of interventions, procedures and skills.
- Overall patient and scene management.

Assessment Due Date

The Practical Assessment will take place during the Residential School

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Friday (25 Oct 2019)

2 weeks post Residential School

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

The Assessment Rubric will be provided on the unit Moodle page. The result from each OSCE will be added together to

form a cumulative mark to determine the pass/fail result. You will be required to achieve an overall score of 50% to achieve a pass mark.

Critical errors in this unit will be classed as anything that causes immediate harm to self, partner, patient or bystanders and/or any procedure that is performed outside the students' scope of practice.

During any form of practical assessment, if any of the following critical errors are witnessed the assessment will immediately cease and no marks will be given for that item:

- Unsafe defibrillation.
- Incorrect joules delivered during defibrillation.
- Defibrillation of a non-shockable rhythm.
- Failure to recognise a cardiac arrest within 1 minute.
- Failure to defibrillate a shockable rhythm within 2 minutes.
- Failure to perform a complete drug check.
- Incorrect sharps disposal or unsafe practice with a sharp.
- Performing a skill and/or procedure outside the scope of practice taught in PMSC11002, PMSC12001, PMSC12004 and PMSC12003.
- Any grossly unsafe practice, as determined by the assessing academic.

If you do not understand any of the above, please do not hesitate to 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 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

No submission method provided.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Function safely and competently, drawing on theoretical and technical knowledge for the management and care of obstetric, paediatric and geriatric patients

Graduate Attributes

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

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

Often the phrase "A child is not a small adult" is heard in the medical professions. Your task is to research current literature, learning materials or peer-reviewed sources to discuss this phrase. In this essay you should review the above statement and explain the pathophysiological, anatomical and physiological concepts behind this. You should also relate your findings to paramedic clinical practice.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (11 Oct 2019) 11:55 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Friday (25 Oct 2019)

Students will receive feedback via the Moodle Website within 2 weeks post due date.

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Your essay should contain at least the following:

- Title Page
- Contents Page
- Introduction
- Body - logically presented and divided into relevant paragraphs
- Conclusion
- References

Please note the following details:

- The length of your essay should be 2000 words (+/- 10%) excluding references.
- Text should be word-processed, with appropriate layout and use of headings/sub-headings.
- Diagrams can be used if relevant - please ensure you cite/reference all sources appropriately.
- Referencing should be in APA format and a complete Reference List should be included at the end of the essay.
- You should locate and use relevant primary peer-reviewed source material published within the last 10 years.
- Please save/upload your file in either Word Format (.doc or .docx) or PDF format.
- Further guidance is provided using the marking rubric provided on the Moodle page.

This essay will be worth 40% towards the total percentage mark for this unit.

You are required to complete and achieve a mark of at least 50% for this assessment item to pass the unit.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please upload file as Word Format or PDF format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Explain the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and their clinical relevance
- Explain the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric and geriatric patients and their clinical relevance
- Function safely and competently, drawing on theoretical and technical knowledge for the management and care of obstetric, paediatric and geriatric patients

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