



PMSC12003 *Special Populations in Paramedic Practice*

Term 2 - 2021

Profile information current as at 27/04/2024 01:58 pm

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

In this unit you will develop the capacity to engage with, assess, and manage the population subgroups of pregnant women, paediatrics, and people with disabilities. Upon completion of this unit you will be able to draw upon your knowledge of pathophysiology, epidemiology, and aetiology to create effective treatment pathways for the management of these populations.

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 - PMSC11004 Paramedic Emergencies 1 and 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 - 2021

- 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

The written assessment expectations were too broad for some students and expectations were not clear

Recommendation

More specific detail should be included in the assessment information to help those students who require clear direction to understand the expectations for the assessment.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Some of the questions in the quizzes were too easy

Recommendation

Adjust quiz questions to provide a challenge for the students and encourage critical thinking.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Some students did not feel the lectures were particularly helpful due to different learning styles

Recommendation

Include some further learning materials to assist students with different learning styles.

Feedback from Self and peer feedback

Feedback

The weighting of the long case Objective Structured Clinical Examination was too large, meaning that if a critical error was performed and a zero mark was received for the long case, it was not possible for the students to still pass with the results of their short case and VIVA VOCE.

Recommendation

Weighting and rubric of long case will be reviewed and adjusted appropriately to either lower the weighting of the long case, or make each of the practical assessment pieces pass/fail, with the opportunity for one resit in the case of one failure. Further discussion will occur between unit coordinator and peers and Head of Course prior to 2021 delivery of the unit.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Summarise the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and birth and their clinical relevance
2. Discuss the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric patients and their clinical relevance
3. Explain the underlying physiology of common disabilities and their clinical relevance
4. Demonstrate effective assessment and management of obstetric, paediatric, or patients with disabilities in a safe and competent manner.

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) - 60%	•	•	•	
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%				•
3 - Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	•	•

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				•
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) - 60%	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•	•	•		•	•	•	•		
3 - Written Assessment - 40%	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PMSC12003

Supplementary

Emergency and Trauma Care for Nurses and Paramedics

Edition: 3rd (2019)

Authors: Curtis & Ramsden

Elsevier

Sydney , NSW , Australia

ISBN: 9780729542982

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

Additional Textbook Information

It is not essential to have these textbooks, as important chapters will be included in the eReading List on the Moodle page.

If you prefer to study with a paper text, you can purchase one at the CQUni Bookshop here:

<http://bookshop.cqu.edu.au> (search on the Unit code).

[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

Ashley Denham Unit Coordinator

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Shelley Burston Unit Coordinator

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Schedule

Week 1 - 12 Jul 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Normal Pregnancy Normal Childbirth Care of the Normal Newborn	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 3 and Extract 5 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 34 pp. 913 - 915	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures
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Week 2 - 19 Jul 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Complications of Pregnancy Resuscitation of the Pregnant Patient Trauma in Pregnancy	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 4 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 34 pp. 907 - 927	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 3 - 26 Jul 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Complications of Childbirth Neonatal resuscitation	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 4 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 34 pp. 915 - 918	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 4 - 02 Aug 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Special Considerations in Neonatology	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 2 Extract 7	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures
Communication with parents during pregnancy, child birth and loss		
Death and Dying in a Child	Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 20 pp. 492	

Week 5 - 09 Aug 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Paediatrics Assessment of a Stable Child The Critically Ill Child Paediatric Resuscitation	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 8 and Extract 9 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 35 pp 934 - 957	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures Quiz 1 Due Friday 13 August 2021 2355hrs

Vacation Week - 16 Aug 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Week 6 - 23 Aug 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paediatric Medical Emergencies Vaccinations/Immunisations	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 10 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 35 pp 946 - 992	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures

Week 7 - 30 Aug 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paediatric Trauma Emergencies Submersion Emergencies	PMSC12003 Special Populations Text Book - Part 3 Extract 11 Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 28 pp. 749 - 750	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures
Child Abuse and Neglect	Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 35 pp. 993 - 1007 & Chapter 39 pp. 1098 - 1102	

Week 8 - 06 Sep 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Disabilities	Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 37	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures Quiz 2 Due Friday 10 September 2021 2355hrs

Week 9 - 13 Sep 2021		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disabilities Continued	Curtis and Ramsden 2019 Chapter 37	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lectures
Week 10 - 20 Sep 2021		
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 2019 Chapter 20 pp. 490 - 492	Web-based resources. Pre-recorded lecture Quiz 3 Due Friday 24 September 2021 2355hrs
Week 11 - 27 Sep 2021		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		WRITTEN ASSESSMENT Due Friday 1 October 2021 2355hrs Written Assessment Due: Week 11 Friday (1 Oct 2021) 11:55 pm AEST
Week 12 - 04 Oct 2021		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Review/Exam Week - 11 Oct 2021		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Exam Week - 18 Oct 2021		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

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, Long Answer 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 patients with disabilities and their clinical relevance. You may also be required to explain specific medical conditions relating to these special populations.

QUIZ ONE: Available from 2 August 2021. DUE Friday 13 August 2021 2355hrs

QUIZ TWO: Available from 30 August 2021. DUE Friday 10 September 2021 2355hrs

QUIZ THREE: Available from 13 September 2021. DUE Friday 24th September 2021 2355hrs

Number of Quizzes

3

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Quiz One: DUE 13/08/2021; Quiz Two: DUE 10/09/21; Quiz Three; DUE 24/09/21

Return Date to Students

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 across all quizzes of at least 50% to pass this assessment item.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Summarise the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and birth and their clinical relevance
- Discuss the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric patients and their clinical relevance
- Explain the underlying physiology of common disabilities and their clinical relevance

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- 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
- Skill Station
- 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, pharmacology and skills.
- Overall patient and scene management.

Assessment Due Date

The Practical Assessment will take place during the Residential School

Return Date to Students

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. Due to being awarded a cumulative mark, there will be no opportunity for any re-sits. 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, PMSC11004, 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 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

No submission method provided.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Demonstrate effective assessment and management of obstetric, paediatric, or patients with disabilities in a safe and competent manner.

Graduate Attributes

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

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You have 2000 words to choose ONE of the following topics and answer the questions below related to your chosen topic:

Paediatrics: Croup

OR

Asthma

OR

Obstetrics: Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH)

OR

Disabilities: Autonomic Dysreflexia

Once you have selected your topic you must answer the questions below:

- Define and provide a brief overview of the condition (max 200 words)
- Discuss the pathophysiology of the condition (max 500 words)
- How does the pathophysiology relate to the signs and symptoms of the condition and how will these patients present? (max 500 words)
- Discuss the paramedic management of the condition using a systematic approach, including any relevant pharmacology, and link this management to the pathophysiology (max 700 words)

This assignment will improve your understanding of a condition covered in this unit. This will afford you a deeper appreciation of the pathophysiology, how the patient presents and how we can best treat this patient in our role as a registered paramedic. This will assist you in managing these patients, in the future, as an on-road clinician.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Friday (1 Oct 2021) 11:55 pm AEST

Students should submit their assessment via the Moodle Website, following submission to Turnitin

Return Date to Students

Review/Exam Week Friday (15 Oct 2021)

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 addressing each question
- 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.
- Referencing should be in APA format and a complete Reference List should be included at the end of the essay on a separate page.
- You should locate and use contemporary, relevant, primary peer-reviewed 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.

Any late submissions, without a previously approved extension request, will attract a 5% grade deduction per part or whole day late submission.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please upload file as Word Format or PDF format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Summarise the major anatomical and physiological changes that occur during pregnancy and birth and their clinical relevance
- Discuss the anatomical and physiological differences in paediatric patients and their clinical relevance
- Explain the underlying physiology of common disabilities and their clinical relevance
- Demonstrate effective assessment and management of obstetric, paediatric, or patients with disabilities in a safe and competent manner.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- 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