



PMSC20001 Advanced Clinical Assessment and Decision Making

Term 1 - 2021

Profile information current as at 26/04/2024 03:50 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC20001 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 introduce you to advanced clinical assessment, combining the skills of clinical history taking with those for physical examination, whilst incorporating knowledge of cultural and linguistically diverse populations. You will synthesise clinical information while integrating underpinning knowledge of common pathologies and pathophysiology in the critical care context. You will be able to formulate an appropriate clinical management plan to treat the critically ill or injured and employ reflective practice principles to effectively revise ongoing management plans as required. You will also critically reflect upon the leadership skills required at a critical care level.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 8*

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 - 2021

- Online

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 Postgraduate 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: 40%

2. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Portfolio**

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 Have your say

Feedback

The unit focused strongly on hospital interventions. There was a revision feel to the unit and gaps around what the newest assessment techniques are in the prehospital area, e.g. ultrasound, point of care.

Recommendation

All of the interventions discussed in this unit are either presently within the scope of practice for an Intensive Care/Critical Care Paramedic (CCP) in one or more states across Australia; are used internationally and may become part of the CCP scope in the near future; or are fundamental to understand the tertiary management/intervention to best inform prehospital management. Regarding point-of-care and ultrasound, these areas are covered in great detail in the diagnostics unit PMSC20005. PMSC20001 only introduces these assessment tools. In future offerings, this will be made more explicit to further assist with the students' expectations of the unit.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Undertake a comprehensive clinical assessment, including history taking and physical examination whilst incorporating knowledge of culturally and linguistically diverse populations
2. Synthesise clinical information while integrating underpinning knowledge of common pathologies and pathophysiology in the critical care context
3. Formulate an appropriate clinical management plan based on clinical assessment findings, underpinning knowledge and evidence based medicine
4. Engage reflective practice principles to revise ongoing management of the critical care patient
5. Critically reflect upon leadership skills at a critical care level within a clinical team environment.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 20%	•	•			
2 - Written Assessment - 40%			•	•	•
3 - Portfolio - 40%	•	•	•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PMSC20001

Prescribed

Clinical Examination - A systematic guide to physical diagnosis

Edition: 8th (2018)

Authors: Talley, N & O'Connor, S

Elsevier

Chatswood, NSW, Australia

ISBN: 9780729542593

Binding: Paperback

PMSC20001

Prescribed

Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine

Edition: 5th (2020)

Authors: Cameron, P., Little, M., Biswadev, M. & Deasy C.

Elsevier

Edinburgh, Scotland

ISBN: 9780702076244

Binding: Paperback

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: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Natalee Williams-Claassen Unit Coordinator

n.williams-claassen@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Clinical Decision Making, Neuro and Mental Health		

Week 2 - 15 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Clinical Decision Making, Neuro and Mental Health		

Week 3 - 22 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

Respiratory Emergencies

Week 4 - 29 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Respiratory Emergencies		

Week 5 - 05 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Cardiovascular Emergencies		

Vacation Week - 12 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Break week		

Week 6 - 19 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Cardiovascular Emergencies		

Week 7 - 26 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Acid base balance and Sepsis		

Week 8 - 03 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Endocrinology and the GIT		Presentation Due: Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 11:00 pm AEST

Week 9 - 10 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paediatrics		The online quiz will be available on the 10th May 2021 (Monday, Week 9) at 08:00 AEST

Week 10 - 17 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Paediatrics		Online Quiz Due: Week 10 Monday (17 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 11 - 24 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Obstetrics and Geriatrics		

Week 12 - 31 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Cancer, Multiculturalism and Underserved populations		Portfolio Due: Week 12 Monday (31 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 07 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Exam Week - 14 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Presentation

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

Preamble

In the critical care context, you will formulate an appropriate clinical management plan based on clinical assessment findings, underpinning knowledge, and evidence-based medicine. You will be required to engage in reflective practice principles to revise ongoing management of the critical care patient and develop leadership skills at a critical care level within a clinical team environment.

Task Description

In this assessment, you will need to create a case presentation of a patient who was assessed and treated during your experience as a clinician and required or received prehospital management at a critical care level.

Your presentation must include the following information:

- A brief introduction to the case.
- The clinical assessment findings of the case.
- The Clinical Management Plan (CMP) that was implemented.
- Reflection on the management provided to this patient.
- Discussion on the patient assessment required at a critical care level and a revised CMP for this patient at a critical care level, including ongoing management, justified by the inclusion of evidence-based medicine.
- Reflection on the leadership traits that were demonstrated in the management of this patient and the identification of the leadership skills required to treat this patient at a critical care level.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 11:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 10 Tuesday (18 May 2021)

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The presentation will be assessed in accordance with the rubric and information provided on the unit's Moodle page. The following criteria are key points to be included:

- The preferred presentation program is PowerPoint.
- Recorded narration is required and you can use the Notes section to detail your thinking.
- The presentation must address each of the main topic tasks as detailed in the task description.
- Avoid superficial points or comments.

As this is a presentation, you should include images where appropriate, but these must be referenced.

The presentation has no specified length regarding the number of slides used but the recorded presentation should be approximately fifteen (15) minutes.

This presentation is worth 40% of your overall unit mark.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Formulate an appropriate clinical management plan based on clinical assessment findings, underpinning knowledge and evidence based medicine
- Engage reflective practice principles to revise ongoing management of the critical care patient
- Critically reflect upon leadership skills at a critical care level within a clinical team environment.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management

- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

2 Online Quiz

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

In this assessment, you will complete one (1) online quiz. The quiz will consist of multiple-choice questions exploring content included in the unit (such as but not limited to lecture materials, online modules, links & required readings). Content for the quiz is based on previous weeks' topics (Week 1 - Week 8) and will test your ability to articulate what is required in the undertaking of a comprehensive clinical assessment, including history taking and physical examination and synthesising clinical information while integrating underpinning knowledge of common pathologies and pathophysiology in the critical care context.

The quiz will be available on the 10th May 2021 (Monday, Week 9) at 08:00 AEST and is due on the 17th May 2021 (Monday, Week 10) at 23:45 AEST.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Monday (17 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

The quiz will be available on the 10th May 2021 (Monday, Week 9) at 08:00 AEST and is due on the 17th May 2021 (Monday, Week 10) at 23:45 AEST.

Return Date to Students

Week 10 Monday (17 May 2021)

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The quiz is worth 20%. Marks are awarded if the multiple-choice question is answered correctly and the total marks are tallied after the quiz has been attempted.

The quiz is open book, so the use of Clinical Practice Guidelines, book chapters, and journal articles, etc. are allowed.

There will be 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.

Non-attempts will score a zero mark. The quiz may not be reattempted.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Undertake a comprehensive clinical assessment, including history taking and physical examination whilst incorporating knowledge of culturally and linguistically diverse populations
- Synthesise clinical information while integrating underpinning knowledge of common pathologies and pathophysiology in the critical care context

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Leadership

3 Portfolio

Assessment Type

Portfolio

Task Description

In this assessment, you will need to complete a clinical portfolio of a minimum of three (3) patients, who were assessed and treated during your recent experience as a clinician. The format of your portfolio can be self-determined; however, it must include the following for each case:

- The patient's clinical presentation, history, assessment, and clinical findings
- Deliberation on the possible differential diagnoses for the patient.
- Examination of the connection between the patient's clinical presentation and assessment findings with the pathophysiology of the most likely definitive diagnosis.
- Reflection on the Clinical Management Plan used in the treatment of this patient.
- Discussion and reflection on what further assessment and management could have been undertaken at a critical care level and the leadership skills that would have been required at a critical care level in the treatment of this patient.

All medical practices discussed must be justified with presented evidence (This does not include your service's Drug Therapy Protocols and Clinical Practice Manuals, though they should still be included if applicable.).

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Monday (31 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Tuesday (15 June 2021)

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The portfolio will be assessed in accordance with the rubric and information provided on the unit's Moodle page. The following criteria are key points to be included:

- The portfolio should be presented in an essay format.
- The portfolio must address each of the main topic tasks as detailed in the task description.
- Avoid superficial points or comments and be clear and concise.
- As this is a written assessment, you must include in-text referencing and a reference list.

There is a minimum word count of 1500 words per case (minimum of 4500 words in total) and a maximum of 2000 words per case (a maximum of 6000 words in total).

This portfolio is worth 40% of your overall unit mark.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Undertake a comprehensive clinical assessment, including history taking and physical examination whilst incorporating knowledge of culturally and linguistically diverse populations
- Synthesise clinical information while integrating underpinning knowledge of common pathologies and pathophysiology in the critical care context
- Formulate an appropriate clinical management plan based on clinical assessment findings, underpinning knowledge and evidence based medicine
- Engage reflective practice principles to revise ongoing management of the critical care patient
- Critically reflect upon leadership skills at a critical care level within a clinical team environment.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

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