



PMSC29004 Retrieval Medicine

Term 1 - 2023

Profile information current as at 07/05/2024 10:11 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC29004 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

This unit will offer you a comprehensive introduction to retrieval medicine relevant to critical care paramedic practice. You will explore the basic principles of aviation as they relate to the clinical retrieval of unwell patients. You will gain an understanding of the safety considerations associated with both rotary and fixed-wing retrieval platforms. You will evaluate the impact of flight on normal and altered physiology to enable you to optimise care in this environment. Furthermore, this unit will assist you to distinguish the non-technical skills used to complement technical skills utilised in aeromedical retrieval, as well as develop knowledge surrounding the identification and mitigation of retrieval challenges.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

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 - 2023

- 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. **Case Study**

Weighting: 30%

2. **Case Study**

Weighting: 30%

3. **Essay**

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 UC reflection

Feedback

No feedback was received from students who participated in this unit.

Recommendation

No feedback was received from students for this unit. However, the UC believes that the unit benefited from the lived experience of the subject matter expert, who contributed to the unit's content. In the future, students participating in this unit can look forward to ongoing external subject matter expert input.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain the basic principles of aviation as they relate to the clinical retrieval of unwell patients
2. Identify and discuss safety considerations associated with both rotary and fixed-wing retrieval platforms
3. Evaluate the impact of flight on normal and altered physiology
4. Distinguish the non-technical skills relevant to aeromedical retrieval that are used to complement technical skills
5. Identify and mitigate retrieval challenges.

n/a

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 - Case Study - 30%	•		•		
2 - Case Study - 30%		•			•
3 - Essay - 40%				•	

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Knowledge	○	○	○	○	○
2 - Communication	○	○		○	

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	○	○	○	○	○
4 - Research	○		○		○
5 - Self-management		○		○	
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility	○	○		○	○
7 - Leadership		○		○	○
8 - 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
1 - Case Study - 30%	○	○	○	○		○		
2 - Case Study - 30%	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	
3 - Essay - 40%	○	○	○		○	○	○	

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

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

Gavin Cousens Unit Coordinator
g.cousens@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 06 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Aeromedical Retrieval. Retrieval systems. Retrieval platforms. Crew composition.		

Week 2 - 13 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Flight physiology. Gas laws.		

Week 3 - 20 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stressors of flight. Internal environmental stressors. External environmental stressors.		

Week 4 - 27 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Overview of CASA regulations.		

Week 5 - 03 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Special considerations. Paediatrics. Pregnancy. Biohazards.		Clinical principles and considerations of retrieval medicine. Due: Week 5 Friday (7 Apr 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Vacation Week - 10 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 6 - 17 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Patient preparation. Pre-flight considerations. Ventilation.		

Week 7 - 24 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Winch Retrieval.		

Week 8 - 01 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Human factors.		Operational retrieval challenges. Due: Week 8 Friday (5 May 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 9 - 08 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Non-Technical skills.		

Week 10 - 15 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Non-Technical skills.		

Week 11 - 22 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Review.		

Week 12 - 29 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Review.		Non-technical skills in aeromedical retrieval. Due: Week 12 Friday (2 June 2023) 11:59 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 05 Jun 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 12 Jun 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Assessment Tasks

1 Clinical principles and considerations of retrieval medicine.

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

This assessment requires an analysis of flight physiology and environmental stressors and their effects on pathophysiology and care related to a hypothetical clinical retrieval. You must answer the following questions based on best international practices and contemporary evidence in retrieval medicine.

- Critically evaluate the key flight physiology that relates to the hypothetical patient.
- Critically evaluate the effects of environmental stressors on your patient and equipment.
- Based on your analysis, determine and rationalise the optimal transport platform for the hypothetical patient.

Assessment Due Date

Week 5 Friday (7 Apr 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 7 Friday (28 Apr 2023)

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

There is a minimum word count of 2000 words (+/- 10%), excluding references for the case study. You will be assessed per the information and rubric on the units Moodle page. Your assignment must be presented in Word format. PDF format is not permitted.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Explain the basic principles of aviation as they relate to the clinical retrieval of unwell patients
- Evaluate the impact of flight on normal and altered physiology

Graduate Attributes

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

2 Operational retrieval challenges.

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

In this assessment, you will be given a hypothetical retrieval scenario. You must select options for access and egress and mitigate against the associated risks of your selected retrieval plan. Additionally, you will be required to identify and minimise clinical retrieval challenges associated with a hypothetical patient. You must answer the following questions based on best international practices and contemporary evidence in retrieval medicine.

- Identify and discuss safety considerations associated with retrieval operations.
- Analyse the risk associated with the retrieval platform.
- Identify and mitigate retrieval and clinical challenges associated with the hypothetical scenario.
- Select appropriate retrieval equipment.
- Provide the appropriate patient safety brief based on the method of access and egress.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Friday (5 May 2023) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 10 Friday (19 May 2023)

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

There is a minimum word count of 2000 words (+/- 10%), excluding references for the case study. You will be assessed per the information and rubric on the units Moodle page. Your assignment must be presented in Word format. PDF format is not permitted.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify and discuss safety considerations associated with both rotary and fixed-wing retrieval platforms
- Identify and mitigate retrieval challenges.

Graduate Attributes

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

3 Non-technical skills in aeromedical retrieval.

Assessment Type

Essay

Task Description

This assessment requires that you investigate the relevance of non-technical aviation skills for aeromedical retrieval. You must distinguish the non-technical skills relevant to aeromedical retrieval used to complement technical skills and then argue for/against their adoption by medical transport specialists.

- Identify and demonstrate understanding of all non-technical skills in the aeromedical retrieval environment.
- Distinguish non-technical skills from technical skills.
- Synthesise arguments for/against non-technical skills training for medical transport specialists based on your understanding of the aeromedical retrieval environment.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (2 June 2023) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Friday (16 June 2023)

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

There is a minimum word count of 2000 words (+/- 10%), excluding references for the case study. You will be assessed per the information and rubric on the units Moodle page. Your assignment must be presented in Word format. PDF format is not permitted.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Distinguish the non-technical skills relevant to aeromedical retrieval that are used to complement technical skills

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- 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