

HLT102

Introduction to Prosthetic and Orthotic Practice

School: School of Health - Public Health

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This introductory course will build your awareness prosthetic and orthotic practice through topics ranging from terminology, scope of practice, and material science concepts related to prosthetic and orthotic design. Practical exposure to the technical skills is done through a series of projects that will familiarise you to the tools and methods used in practice that will be used in future coursework. This course will start to develop your sense of professionalism and understanding of the scope of practice of a prosthetist/orthotist.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Independent structured learning materials	3hrs	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Tutorial/Workshop	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Laboratory 1 – Laboratory	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Module 1: The profession of Prosthetics and Orthotics

Module 2: Materials and Work Health Safety

Module 3: Orthotic management of the foot and ankle

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Competencies from multiple Professional Bodies (see below) *
1 Identify safety procedures and demonstrate technical skills through the safe use of hand tools, power tool, and personal protective equipment (PPE) within the discipline workplace.	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.4.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 4.3.2, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2.2, 5.3.2
2 Describe characteristics of common musculoskeletal aetiologies and discuss common orthotic and related treatment strategies.	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 6.1.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.3, 16.1
3 Discuss, using evidence and examples, the fundamental principles and components in prosthetics and orthotics.	Knowledgeable	1.3.2, 2.3.6, 3.1.2
4 Explain the main properties of materials, both basic engineering principles (stress, strain, deformation, etc.) and properties of common materials used in prosthetics and orthotics and their impact on clinical care.	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.3.6, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2
5 Critically reflect on the AOPA professional scope of practice and competency standards and how you may apply this scope to develop clients, providers, and your own understanding of the profession and its role in healthcare.	Empowered	1.1.7, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 2.3.5, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
THE AUSTRALIAN ORTHOTIC PROSTHETIC ASSOCIATION	
1.3.2	Provides relevant information in order to facilitate client access to care
1.1.7	Provides prompt, accurate and comprehensive information in clear terms to enable the client and/or carer to make an informed decision
1.2.2	Respects, acknowledges and utilises the expertise of other health professionals
1.2.3	Establishes and maintains effective working relationships with other health professionals to enhance collaborative practice and client access to care
1.2.4	Actively participates within the health professional team and seeks opportunities to demonstrate professional excellence
2.4.2	Uses appropriate techniques to ensure optimal fit and function of the orthosis/prosthesis
2.1.1	Identifies subjective and objective information to enable development of an appropriate orthotic/prosthetic care plan
2.2.1	Accesses and utilises evidence to guide clinical decisions
2.4.1	Considers all relevant characteristics of the client during orthosis/prosthesis fitting and review processes
2.3.6	Determines and justifies the design details of the orthosis/prosthesis prescription
2.3.5	Identifies clients who require collaborative care and liaises with the health professional team to ensure integrates care planning
3.1.1	Utilises appropriate casting, measuring and/or cast modification techniques to facilitate fabrication
3.1.2	Fabricates and/or coordinates the optimal fabrication of orthoses/prostheses

CODE	COMPETENCY
3.1.3	Performs and/or coordinates requires modifications of orthoses/prostheses
3.2.1	Assesses the orthosis/prosthesis for structural safety at appropriate intervals
3.2.2	Ensures the orthosis/prosthesis is compliant with manufacturer guidelines and standards
4.3.2	Participates in audit processes and quality improvement initiative
5.1.1	Adheres to legislation and workplace guidelines relating to safety
5.1.2	Identifies workplace hazards and acts to eliminate or reduce risks
5.2.2	Complies with relevant laws, regulations, policies and guidelines
5.3.2	Seeks assistance or refers on when beyond own level of competence
5.2.1	Recognises the responsibility to do no harm
5.3.1	Works within professional scope of practice, consent of client and/or carer and authority of employer
5.3.3	Recognises where further training is required to conduct competent practice
6.1.1	Undertakes independent learning to further own knowledge and skills on a continuous basis
6.2.2	Demonstrates a systematic approach to analysis and decision making
6.2.3	Integrates evidence and new learning into practice to improve health outcomes for clients
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK	
16.1	Social determinants (Advocacy) - Discuss the concept of social determinants and the impacts on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health (N)

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in Program SC307 Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

In week 4, you will complete a summative component of Task1.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Artefact - Creative, and Oral	Group	30%	8-minute oral presentation with supporting flyer or poster. Written piece to be 500 words (+/- 10%) with Vancouver referencing.	Week 6	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	2	Quiz/zes	Individual	30%	45 minutes each.	Refer to Format	Online Test (Quiz)
All	3	Portfolio	Individual	40%	1300 words, plus pictures and 5 minute interactive oral critique	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Oral and written

GOAL:	This oral and written assignment will provide an opportunity to explore and understand workplace health and safety requirements within the context of the prosthetic and orthotic workplace.		
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Oral		
FORMAT:	The oral presentation will be presented in class and will be supported by a poster or flyer. Peers and Tutor will have the opportunity to ask questions after the presentation.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Discussion of workplace health and safety requirements within a P&O setting.	1
	2	Communication skills to a professional audience.	5
	3	Application of risk assessment and hazard management in line with industry standards.	1 5
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 2: Online quizzes

GOAL:	The purpose of the quizzes is to provide feedback on the theoretical knowledge related to the prosthetic and orthotic profession, industry materials, profession work health and safety, and orthotic management of the foot and related theory.		
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes		
FORMAT:	Three quizzes are to be completed individually on Canvas. These quizzes will consist of 20-30 randomized questions per quiz. There will be a mixture of multiple choice, multiple selection and true/false questions. The quizzes will be weeks 5 & 11.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Description of common musculoskeletal aetiologies, fundamental principles of P&O theory	2 3
	2	Explanation of material properties in P&O	4
	3	Description of treatment strategies and components in P&O	2 3
	4	Identification of safety procedures within the workshop	1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 3: Technical Competency Portfolio

GOAL:	The goal of the portfolio to is assess your development of understanding of industry work health and safety practices, tools, techniques, materials and basic P&O components through main technical competency areas.		
PRODUCT:	Portfolio		
FORMAT:	The portfolio, completed in Canvas, will consist of modules containing activities of knowledge-based questions, safe work practices, P&O principles, tutor-based assessments of skill, and reflection on performance. The activities required to complete the portfolio will be completed in the on-campus lab sessions each week. You will have to reflect on the performance of your skill/experience/AOPA competencies based on the 'capstone' piece that combines the competencies above into a final device.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Presentation of evidence and examples of P&O components	3
	2	Critical reflection and planning as to the impact of applied material fabrication techniques and the impact to clinical care	4 5
	3	Critical reflection of performance pertaining to scope of practice, competency standards and your role in healthcare.	5
	4	Demonstration of safety procedures working with common P&O materials and tools	1 4
	5	Demonstration of safe technical skills	1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Organisation, Applying technologies		

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Kevin C. Chui, Sheng-Che Yen, Milagros Jorge, Michelle M. Lusardi	2019	Orthotics and Prosthetics in Rehabilitation	n/a	Saunders

8.2. Specific requirements

You will be required to purchase Personal Protective Equipment and may be required to purchase some personal tools to use during the workshop. The list will be provided to you at the beginning of the trimester. These tools would be used throughout the program and can be used in clinical practice after graduation.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Risk assessments have been performed for all laboratory classes and a moderate level of health and safety risk exists. Moderate risks are those associated with laboratory work such as working with chemicals and hazardous substances. You will be required to undertake laboratory induction training and it is also your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au