

HLT208 Clinical Skills in Prosthetics and Orthotics

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 course introduces the foundations of orthotic and prosthetic management of foot and lower limb pathologies and conditions, relating skills to models of behaviour and social theories of healthcare. You will develop clinical assessment skills, utilise current evidenced-based treatment practices, and develop critical communication strategies to advance client centred care. Practical activities involve fabrication and delivery of orthotic and prosthetic interventions in addressing complex foot pathologies and lower limb conditions.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Interactive self-directed learning	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Laboratory 1 – On campus laboratory	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

1. Structure and skills of an appointment
2. Acute/Subacute Orthotic Management
3. Acute/Subacute Prosthetic Management

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

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 Describe common acute/subacute musculoskeletal aetiologies and clinically justify strategies to appropriately manage the impairment	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered	1.3.1, 1.3.2, 2.2.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.6
2 Communicate effectively with clients and professional colleagues along the treatment pathway, including the creation of client centred goals.	Ethical Engaged	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.1.6, 1.1.7, 1.1.8, 2.3.1, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 2.3.7, 2.4.4, 2.4.5, 2.4.6, 5.2, 6.1
3 Demonstrate safe clinical skills and technical skills in the provision of acute and subacute Prosthetic and Orthotic Management	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.3.8, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.2
4 Develop reflective practice of clinical skills in Prosthetic and Orthotic intervention.	Empowered Engaged	4.3.2, 4.1, 6.1.1, 6.1.3, 6.2.5
5 Demonstrate ethical, respectful and professional Prosthetic and Orthotic practice within client, professional and multidisciplinary interactions.	Knowledgeable Ethical	1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 2.3.5, 2.5.3, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 6.1.2, 6.1.5
6 Applies legislative and policy frameworks in the development of all documentation, handover, and care plans involved in the care pathway.	Empowered Ethical	1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.7, 1.1.8, 1.2.1, 1.2.4, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 2.1.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.5, 2.3.7, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 5.1.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 6.1.2, 6.1.5

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
THE AUSTRALIAN ORTHOTIC PROSTHETIC ASSOCIATION	
1.3.1	Provides clinical justification for prescribed orthotic/prosthetic client treatment
1.3.2	Provides relevant information in order to facilitate client access to care
1.1.1	Ensures all interactions with the client and/or carer demonstrate respect, honesty, empathy and dignity and are conducted in a culturally appropriate manner
1.1.2	Ensures the client is the focus of the care pathway
1.1.3	Ensures the client and/or carer is aware of their rights and responsibilities
1.1.4	Obtains informed consent from the client and/or carer prior to the provision of care
1.1.5	Listens effectively to the client and/or carer
1.1.6	Encourages the client and/or carer to participate and provide feedback
1.1.7	Provides prompt, accurate and comprehensive information in clear terms to enable the client and/or carer to make an informed decision
1.1.8	Uses all available resources to enhance communication
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

CODE	COMPETENCY
1.2.1	Receives and develops client referrals, professional handovers health professional team reports and care plans
2.2.1	Accesses and utilises evidence to guide clinical decisions
2.3.2	Considers the information obtained, the client and/or carer's goals and evidence when formulating treatment options
2.3.6	Determines and justifies the design details of the orthosis/prosthesis prescription
2.3.1	Facilitates client and/or carer to establish personal goals
2.3.3	Discusses treatment options with the client and/or carer to support client centred care and informed choice
2.3.4	Discusses short and long term treatment goals with the client and/or carer
2.3.7	Includes client, carer and/or health professional team education and follow-up when planning treatment
2.4.4	Evaluates and monitors treatment outcomes using patient feedback and/or outcome measures
2.4.5	Modifies treatment to ensure best possible outcomes are maintained
2.4.6	Discusses progress toward goals with the client and/or carer
2.1.1	Identifies subjective and objective information to enable development of an appropriate orthotic/prosthetic care plan
2.1.2	Selects assessment techniques, outcome measures and other tools/instruments based on evidence, which are relevant to the client's presentation
2.1.3	Performs assessment professionally, safely and effectively
2.3.8	Selects appropriate outcome measures
2.4.1	Considers all relevant characteristics of the client during orthosis/prosthesis fitting and review processes
2.4.2	Uses appropriate techniques to ensure optimal fit and function of the orthosis/prosthesis
2.5.1	Adheres to legislative and organisational requirements for all documentation
2.5.2	Maintains legible, concise and accurate documentation using contemporary methods
2.3.5	Identifies clients who require collaborative care and liaises with the health professional team to ensure integrates care planning
2.5.3	Safely and securely stores information and acts to maintain confidentiality whilst ensuring availability of information to other health professionals involved in the care pathway
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
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
5.2.1	Recognises the responsibility to do no harm
5.2.2	Complies with relevant laws, regulations, policies and guidelines
5.2.3	Abides by applicable codes of ethics and conduct
5.2.4	Recognises and responds appropriately if client is at risk
5.1.1	Adheres to legislation and workplace guidelines relating to safety
6.1.1	Undertakes independent learning to further own knowledge and skills on a continuous basis
6.1.3	Participates in health professional training and research as opportunities arise

CODE	COMPETENCY
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6.2.5	Critically and continuously evaluates practice
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6.1.2	Shares skills and knowledge with health professional colleagues and students
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6.1.5	Offers constructive feedback and assistance to other health professionals
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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK	
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4.1	Humility and Lifelong Learning (Respect) - Articulate the concept of cultural humility as a process of lifelong learning (N)
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5.2	Cultural Safety in health care: terminology and definitions (Communication) - Analyse the strengths and limitations of key terms and definitions in the context of culturally safe health practice (I)
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6.1	Cultural safe communication (Communication) - Describe the impact of effective verbal and non-verbal communication as well as miscommunication and how this links to health outcomes (N)
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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

HLT105 and enrolled in SC307

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

Formative documentation task and feedback week 4 to assist you with task 1.

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	Practical / Laboratory Skills, and Written Piece	Individual	40%	40% 8 min OSCE + 2 page note + 3 min video reflection	Week 7	In Class
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Group	20%	5 minute video and an A4 handout 700 words	Week 11	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	40%	9 min interactive oral assessment and 1,000 word documentation	Exam Period	Exam Venue

All - Assessment Task 1: OSCE clinical scenario

GOAL:	This task will have you demonstrate and communicate via a clinical appointment focussing on safe acute management. This will have you demonstrate and reflect on your growing professional skills and theory.																						
PRODUCT:	Practical / Laboratory Skills, and Written Piece																						
FORMAT:	You will complete an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) scenario involving the treatment pathway of a client, document your scenario, and provide a reflection on performance.																						
CRITERIA:	<table> <tr> <th>No.</th><th></th><th>Learning Outcome assessed</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Communication with clients along the treatment pathway</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Demonstration ethical, respectful and professional practice with a client</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Demonstrate safe clinical/technical skills and knowledge in the provision of acute care</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Description of aetiologies to appropriately manage the impairment</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>Application of legislative frameworks in the development of all documentation</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>Development of reflective practice skills</td><td>4</td></tr> </table>	No.		Learning Outcome assessed	1	Communication with clients along the treatment pathway	2	2	Demonstration ethical, respectful and professional practice with a client	5	3	Demonstrate safe clinical/technical skills and knowledge in the provision of acute care	3	4	Description of aetiologies to appropriately manage the impairment	1	5	Application of legislative frameworks in the development of all documentation	6	6	Development of reflective practice skills	4	
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GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies																						

All - Assessment Task 2: Multi-media presentation

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to provide education on a topic relevant to multi-disciplinary clinical practice.																
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece																
FORMAT:	This multi-media presentation will have you submit an education video as a group, alongside an educational resource																
CRITERIA:	<table> <tr> <th>No.</th><th></th><th>Learning Outcome assessed</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Description of aetiologies to clinically justify appropriate management</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Communication with clients and professional colleagues</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Demonstrate safe clinical skills in the provision of care</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Demonstration of professional practice with client and multidisciplinary interactions</td><td>5</td></tr> </table>	No.		Learning Outcome assessed	1	Description of aetiologies to clinically justify appropriate management	1	2	Communication with clients and professional colleagues	2	3	Demonstrate safe clinical skills in the provision of care	3	4	Demonstration of professional practice with client and multidisciplinary interactions	5	
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3	Demonstrate safe clinical skills in the provision of care	3															
4	Demonstration of professional practice with client and multidisciplinary interactions	5															
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy																

All - Assessment Task 3: Interactive oral exam

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to have you demonstrate all professional skills involved with clinical handover relating to a topic of acute prosthetic and/or orthotic management.		
PRODUCT:	Examination - Centrally Scheduled		
FORMAT:	You will complete an interactive oral assessment relating to a simulation case, answering questions based on the scenario, and submitted any associated clinical documentation.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Description of common acute/subacute musculoskeletal aetiologies to justify strategies to appropriately manage the impairment	1
	2	Communication with colleagues along the treatment pathway, including the creation of client centred goals	2
	3	Demonstration of professional multidisciplinary interactions via handover	5
	4	Application of legislative and policy frameworks in the development of documentation, handover, and care plans involved in the care pathway	6
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Information literacy		

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	4	Saunders

8.2. Specific requirements

You will be required to wear Program polo (available from UniSC Marketing), Student name tag, Student ID, approved pants, and closed toe shoes during client and/or professional encounters.

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

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

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

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

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