

HLT321 Developing Professional Practice in Prosthetics & Orthotics

School: School of Health - Public Health

2026 | Session 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 will heighten students' awareness of systematic aspects impacting orthotic and prosthetic professional practice and provide the opportunity to understand the impact of this information within the work integrated learning environment. Students will explore the legal and ethical nature of funding, documentation, legislation, and policies that affect clinical practice. Work integrated learning will occur in role-emerging areas, simulated scenarios, and related fields and students will develop their professional identity, collaboration and communication skills and ethical reasoning.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Independent structured learning materials	3hrs	Week 1	8 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Tutorials, covering P&O theory complimentary to your placement and simulated clinical education sessions - Weeks 1, 2, 4 & 6	3hrs	Week 1	4 times
Fieldwork – You will complete as part of the course a minimum 80-hour placement in an allied health setting.	80hrs	Week 2	Once Only
Tutorial/Workshop 2 – 4 x 4-hourly on-campus simulated clinical education sessions providing opportunities to develop and consolidate relevant clinical skills. Weeks 3, 5, 7 & 8	4hrs	Week 3	4 times

1.3. Course Topics

Module 1: Clinical Documentation for P&O; Types of documentation; Legislation, policy and ethical considerations affecting P&O practice in Australia; Ethical and Legal Responsibilities in P&O Practice

Module 2: Clinical Justification; Developing Problem Lists and Goals; Client-centred versus Treatment Goals; Planning

Module 3: Funding and Quotations; Healthcare funding of P&O in Australia

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth 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...	The Australian Orthotic Prosthetic Association
1 Critically evaluate upon the way in which legislation, policy and funding models impact ethical and sustainable prosthetic and orthotic practice.	Ethical Sustainability-focused	4.2.3, 4.2.4, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.3.1, 6.1.1, 6.2.5
2 Communicate effectively, using standardised formats, client information from a basic initial assessment.	Engaged	1.3.2, 2.1.1, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3
3 Formulate clear and relevant long-term goals that informs client-centred orthotic and prosthetic treatment outcomes.	Creative and critical thinker	1.1.5, 1.1.6, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.4, 2.3.6, 2.3.8, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.3
4 Apply professional and ethical attitudes, knowledge and skills that demonstrates responsibility for your own learning within contemporary healthcare settings.	Ethical Sustainability-focused	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.1.6, 1.1.7, 1.1.8, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 2.5.3, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 6.1.1, 6.1.4, 6.1.5

* 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
1.1.5	Listens effectively to the client and/or carer
1.1.6	Encourages the client and/or carer to participate and provide feedback
1.1.1	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
1.1.7	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

CODE	COMPETENCY
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| 1.2.4 | Actively participates within the health professional team and seeks opportunities to demonstrate professional excellence |
| 2.1.1 | Identifies subjective and objective information to enable development of an appropriate orthotic/prosthetic care plan |
| 2.5.1 | Adheres to legislative and organisational requirements for all documentation |
| 2.5.2 | Maintains legible, concise and accurate documentation using contemporary methods |
| 2.5.3 | Safely and securely stores information and acts to maintain confidentiality whilst ensuring availability of information to other health professionals involved in the care pathway |
| 2.2.1 | Accesses and utilises evidence to guide clinical decisions |
| 2.3.1 | Facilitates client and/or carer to establish personal goals |
| 2.3.2 | Considers the information obtained, the client and/or carer's goals and evidence when formulating treatment options |
| 2.3.4 | Discusses short and long term treatment goals with the client and/or carer |
| 2.3.6 | Determines and justifies the design details of the orthosis/prosthesis prescription |
| 2.3.8 | Selects appropriate outcome measures |
| 4.2.3 | Prescribes and designs orthosis/prosthesis to achieve optimal outcomes within the approved budget for client treatment |
| 4.2.4 | Understands and conforms to funding arrangements, budget allocations, statistical reporting and financial transaction requirements relevant to the work place |
| 4.2.1 | Determines available funding for prescribed care plan |
| 4.2.2 | Prepares and/or coordinates submission of client funding documentation as required |
| 4.1.2 | Demonstrates an ability to triage individual client case load within broader facility requirements for client care |
| 4.1.3 | Facilitates appropriate completion of all supportive activities |
| 5.2.2 | Complies with relevant laws, regulations, policies and guidelines |
| 5.2.3 | Abides by applicable codes of ethics and conduct |
| 5.3.1 | Works within professional scope of practice, consent of client and/or carer and authority of employer |
| 5.2.1 | Recognises the responsibility to do no harm |
| 5.3.2 | Seeks assistance or refers on when beyond own level of competence |
| 6.1.1 | Undertakes independent learning to further own knowledge and skills on a continuous basis |
| 6.2.5 | Critically and continuously evaluates practice |
| 6.2.1 | Assesses and critically analyses sources of evidence |
| 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 |
| 6.1.4 | Seeks out leaders within the profession for advice and mentoring |
| 6.1.5 | Offers constructive feedback and assistance to other health professionals |

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

OCC232 and HLT320 and enrolled in Program SC307 or SC367 and a Prosthetics & Orthotics Extended Major

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

Limited Grading (PNP)

Pass (PU), Fail (UF). All assessment tasks are required to be passed for successful completion of the course.

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Activity feedback will be provided by the end of module 2 to provide formative feedback on student performance in Learner Behaviour and Communication aspects of Task 2.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Code of Conduct	Individual	n/a	Week 1	SONIA
All	2	Activity Participation	Individual and Group	8 -minute group presentation plus a 250 word written submission.	Week 6	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	3	Activity Participation	Individual	1500 words	Week 8	Online ePortfolio Submission

All - Assessment Task 1: Code of Conduct

GOAL:	This series of submissions enables you to become familiar with and apply the code of conduct for your discipline and work within its guidelines during a work integrated learning (WIL) experience.		
PRODUCT:	Code of Conduct		
FORMAT:	Prior to your WIL experience you will submit all relevant mandatories as described on Canvas. During your WIL experience and simulated sessions you are required to complete a total of 96 hours of work and simulated experience, and will gain feedback from these hours.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Behaviour that is in accordance with the discipline code of conduct	4
	2	Adherence to the discipline code of conduct	4
	3	Completion of the required hours	4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Organisation		

All - Assessment Task 2: Interactive Oral

GOAL:	The purpose of this task is to have you use the information presented and discussed during the modules and apply them in an oral that explores a current event/issue within P&O that requires you to examine and debate the professional, legal, funding and/or ethical requirements of a healthcare provider in Australia.		
PRODUCT:	Activity Participation		
FORMAT:	In class and Canvas		
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Identification and explanation of relevant policies, laws, frameworks and/or code of practice	1
	2	Examination of the issue	1
	3	Justification of ethical practice	4
	4	Communicate effectively to relevant stakeholders	2
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 3: Portfolio – Professional Practice and Development

GOAL:	The portfolio has you work through activities to consolidate various skills of professional practice and develop skills in preparing for current and future placements. Performance will be measured using the Evaluation of Foundational Placement Competencies (EFPC)		
PRODUCT:	Activity Participation		
FORMAT:	Clinical skills submissions to Canvas and simulated case performances in class will develop into your professional portfolio.		
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Professional Behaviour	2 4
	2	Learner Behaviour	3 4
	3	Communication	2
	4	Information Gathering	1 3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation		

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

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Professional dress for WILs as specified in the P&O handbook, including the use of your Name Tag. You are also required to meet the minimum requirements for placement, as outlined in the handbook and make sure that information is up-to-date within SONIA, the WILs database.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Risk assessments have been performed for all field activities and low to moderate levels of health and safety risk exists. Moderate risks may include working in an Australian bush setting, working with people, working outside normal office hours for example. It is 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

This course will be graded as Pass in a Limited Grade Course (PU) or Fail in a Limited Grade Course (UF) as per clause 5.1.1.3 and 5.1.1.4 of the Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA) - Academic Policy.

In a course eligible to use Limited Grades, all assessment items in that course are marked on a Pass/Fail basis and all assessment tasks are required to be passed for a student to successfully complete the course. Supplementary assessment is not available in courses using Limited Grades.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

You must contact your Course Coordinator and provide the required documentation if you require an extension or alternate assessment.

Refer to the Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs – Procedures.

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