

OCC222 Neurological Causes of Occupational Dysfunction

School: School of Health - Occupational Therapy

2026 | Trimester 2

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 unisc.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 is designed for you to consolidate and apply neuroscience and occupational science knowledge to a variety of clinical conditions. Applying this knowledge will support you to understand how neurological conditions can impact body structure and function and influence occupational performance.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – online interactive workshop (recorded)	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 2 – on-campus interactive workshop (not recorded)	2hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Structures and systems:
 - The brain and cortical areas
 - Brain stem and cerebellum
 - The nervous system
 - The spinal cord and peripheral nerves
 - Autonomic nervous system, neural pathways
 - Sensation and the limbic system
 - Motor control
- Conditions:
 - Multiple sclerosis
 - Cerebrovascular accident
 - Spinal cord injury
 - Traumatic brain injury
 - Parkinson's disease
 - Motor Neurone Disease
 - Cerebral palsy
 - Spina bifida
 - Neurocognitive disorders
 - Substance addiction.

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...	Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Ltd
1 Demonstrates knowledge of neuroscience.	Knowledgeable	2.1, 2.6
2 Demonstrates knowledge of key neurological conditions.	Knowledgeable	2.1, 2.6
3 Demonstrates knowledge of the impact of neurological conditions on occupational performance.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker	2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2
4 Identifies client-centred occupational goals	Knowledgeable Empowered	3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.10
5 Explains the role of the occupational therapist in enhancing occupational performance.	Knowledgeable Empowered	1.3, 1.7, 1.10, 2.2, 3.1, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA LTD	
1.3	Maintains professional boundaries in all client and professional relationships
1.7	Collaborates and consults ethically and responsibly for effective client-centred and interprofessional practice.
1.10	Practices within limits of her/his own level of competence and expertise.
2.1	Applies current and evidence informed knowledge of occupational therapy and other appropriate and relevant theory in practice.
2.2	Applies theory and frameworks of occupation to professional practice and decision-making.
2.6	Maintains and improves currency of knowledge, skills and new evidence for practice by adhering to the requirements for continuing professional development.
3.1	Addresses occupational performance and participation of clients, identifying the enablers and barriers to engagement.
3.2	Performs appropriate information gathering and assessment while identifying a client's status and functioning, strengths, occupational performance and goals.
3.3	Collaborates with the client and relevant others to determine the priorities and occupational therapy goals.
3.4	Develops a plan with the client and relevant others to meet identified occupational therapy goals.
3.5	Selects and implements culturally responsive and safe practice strategies to suit occupational therapy goals and environment of the client.
3.7	Reflects on practice to inform and communicate professional reasoning and decision-making.
3.10	Reviews, evaluates and modifies plans, goals and interventions with the client and relevant others to enhance or achieve client outcomes.

CODE	COMPETENCY
4.1	Communicates openly, respectfully and effectively.
4.2	Adapts written, verbal and non-verbal communication appropriate to the client and practice context.

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

OCC102 and PSY203 and LFS103 and LFS112 and LFS122 and SPX201 and enrolled in Program SC440

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

5.5. Microcredential Information

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

You will undertake weekly formative Kahoot-style quizzes (from weeks 1-8 and 10-12) in order to determine your knowledge of neuroscience and the impact of conditions on occupational performance. Each week that you do the quiz will provide you with immediate feedback to reflect on your current understanding of the Course topics which in turn may be used to enhance the outcomes of subsequent assessment tasks, your short answer and oral exams.

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	Quiz/zes	Individual	0%	15 minutes	Refer to Format	In Class
All	2	Examination - not Centrally Scheduled	Individual	50%	90 minutes	Week 9	Online Submission
All	3	Oral	Individual	50%	15-minutes	Exam Period	Exam Venue

All - Assessment Task 1: Quizzes

GOAL:	Demonstrate your knowledge of neuroscience and the impact of conditions on occupational performance.		
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes		
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:			
FORMAT:	Weekly Kahoot-style quizzes (from weeks 1-8 and 10-12) in class time		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrates knowledge of neuroscience.	1 2
	2	Demonstrates the impact of neurological conditions on occupational performance.	3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Applying technologies, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 2: Short Answer Exam

GOAL:	Demonstrate your knowledge of neuroscience and the impact of neurological conditions on occupational performance.		
PRODUCT:	Examination - not Centrally Scheduled		
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:			
FORMAT:	Short answer questions, held during class time.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrate your knowledge of the impact of neurological conditions on occupational performance.	2 3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Information literacy		

All - Assessment Task 3: Viva

GOAL:	Demonstrate your knowledge of neuroscience, the occupational impact of neurological conditions, and the role of occupational therapy.		
PRODUCT:	Oral		
AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT:			
FORMAT:	Oral exam answering short answer questions. See Canvas for details and schedule.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrates knowledge of the impact of health conditions on occupational performance.	1 2 3
	2	Demonstrates knowledge of the role of occupational therapy in working with clients with neurological conditions.	4 5
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, 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

You need regular access to the resource(s) below. Many texts are available as ebooks through the [Library](#) at no additional cost.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Atchison & Dirette	2022	Conditions in Occupat Therapy	6th edition	LWW
Required	Gutman	2016	Quick Reference Neuroscience for Rehabilitation Professionals	3rd edition	Slack

8.2. Specific requirements

Students should access Canvas for all course requirements. Queries regarding assessment will be addressed on Canvas discussion pages instead of email. Other issues can be discussed with your course coordinator via appointment during designated contact hours as specified on Canvas. Students will be expected to wear their UniSC Occupational Therapy uniform for in-class presentations and practice education activities throughout their degree.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. 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

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

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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. 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>

10.5. 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.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- [UniSC Student Central](#)
- [UniSC Adelaide Student Central](#)