



Course Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Course Title:	COMPLEX SPINE AND PAIN PRESENTATIONS
Course ID:	NHPPS3115
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(NHPPS4001) OR (NHPPS4101 and NHPPS4817)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	061701

Description of the Course:

This course builds on the knowledge and skills acquired from the previous musculoskeletal courses. Musculoskeletal cases involving advanced spine and pain scenarios will be considered within the framework of evidence based patient-centred management. More advanced manual therapy techniques will be developed. Safety considerations and the evidence base for physiotherapy interventions will be emphasised.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

Not wholly work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry or student is undertaking work experience in industry where learning and performance is directed by the provider.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks.

Program Level:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	■	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	✓	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:**Knowledge:**

- K1.** Describe the key pathophysiological components of selected spinal pathologies
- K2.** Explain the key pathophysiological components of headache, jaw and whiplash presentations
- K3.** Describe the pathophysiology of pain concerning both peripheral and central components
- K4.** Detail an understanding of the methods and rationale behind select advanced manual handling techniques
- K5.** Explain the physiological rationale for the application of selected physiotherapy pain treatment techniques

Skills:

- S1.** Competently assess and treat a variety of spinal presentations using advanced manual therapy techniques
- S2.** Competently apply advanced treatment techniques in the presentation of a chronic pain scenario
- S3.** Understand and make use of components of cognitive behavioural therapy and motivational interviewing in the assessment and treatment of a complex pain scenario

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Articulate and express an in-depth analysis involving sound clinical reasoning in the presentation of an advanced spinal pathology
- A2.** Apply advanced effective communication skills, taking into consideration the various biopsychosocial components, in the management of a complex pain presentation
- A3.** Apply the components of pain physiology and a biopsychosocial assessment in order to justify a clinically reasoned treatment plan of an advanced pain scenario

Course Content:

Topics May Include

- Introduction to complex spine and pain,
- Advanced spinal mobilisations,
- Introduction to nociceptive pain,
- Neurodynamics,
- Neurological assessment,
- Introduction to central pain, pain within mental health,
- Advanced lumbar spine presentations,
- Advanced thoracic spine presentations,
- Sacro-iliac joint presentations,
- Cervical spine presentations,
- Whiplash,
- Headaches,
- TMJ,
- Clinical reasoning,
- Cognitive behavioural therapy and motivational interviewing,
- Explain pain,
- Graded motor imager/mirror therapy,
- Medical management of chronic pain

Graduate Attributes

Federation graduate attributes statement. To have graduates with knowledge, skills and competence that enable them to stand out as critical, creative and enquiring learners who are capable, flexible and work ready, and responsible, ethical and engaged citizens.

Students will be equipped with advanced level knowledge of the determinants of health, health determinants and the skills, motivation and confidence to engage in continuous learning to meet the personal, professional and vocational challenges of an ever changing world;

Graduate attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of GAs in the course	
		Learning outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S2, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	K5, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K3, K4, K5, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K3, K4, K5, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K4, K5, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Practical assessment of concepts and skills from laboratory sessions	Practical Exams	15-35%
K1, K2, K3, A2, A3	Essay on content from classroom and laboratory sessions	Assignment	20-30%
K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, S1, S2, A1, A2, A3	Content from classroom and laboratory sessions	Written Final Examination	35-55%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)