



ECHO20005 Cardiac Clinical Unit 5

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 29/07/2024 05:16 pm

All details in this unit profile for ECHO20005 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This graduate clinical unit builds on the skills, knowledge and attitudes developed during the Bachelor of Echocardiography and Cardiac Physiology. You will perform diagnostic cardiac ultrasound and other cardiac assessment and analyse the outcomes to meet the professions Competency Standards for the Entry-Level Cardiac Sonographer. You will evaluate clinical findings to formulate a differential diagnosis and initiate further investigation within an ethical framework of best practice and patient safety. You will apply appropriate professional and interpersonal skills to echocardiographic practice in accordance with CQUniversity postgraduate attributes and requirements for external professional accreditation. Critical appraisal of performance will enable you to advance your professional, technical and analytical skills in a work setting under qualified supervision.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Not Applicable*

Credit Points: *18*

Student Contribution Band: *8*

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.375*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisite ECHO20004 Cardiac Clinical Unit 4 ECHO20004 Cardiac Clinical Unit 4 must have been successfully completed within the last nine months. Should this time limit have elapsed the student must successfully complete one (or more) technical skill, professional behaviour and diagnostic knowledge-based assessment (s) (after completion of technical skill / knowledge revision). Details of this will be articulated in a learning contract created by the Head of Course or designate.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Mixed Mode

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 18-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 37.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 450 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Professional Practice Placement**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

2. **Learning logs / diaries / Journal / log books**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

3. **Case Study**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

4. **Performance**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

5. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

6. **Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

Assessment Grading

This is a pass/fail (non-graded) unit. To pass the unit, you must pass all of the individual assessment tasks shown in the table above.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from SUTE and email communications.

Feedback

Students felt supported in their placement experience, with positive feedback given to the unit coordinator, supporting unit coordinator and the WIL team.

Recommendation

Pastoral care will continue to be a focus in future deliveries.

Feedback from Face-to-face and email communications.

Feedback

Students are aware of assessment requirements in other (post-graduate) Echocardiography courses within Australia. The main point of difference, from a student's perspective, is the approach to the final OSCE assessment. Other institutions allow remote recordings of assessments to take place, supervised at the student's placement site.

Recommendation

The viability and academic robustness of a remote OSCE assessment will be explored.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Perform diagnostic echocardiographic scans to meet the Competency Standards for the Entry Level Cardiac Sonographer
2. Evaluate the outcomes of cardiac assessment, using a broad body of knowledge, to solve complex diagnostic problems
3. Behave professionally, using appropriate professional and personal skills to practice as an echocardiographer and cardiac physiologist (cardiac scientist)
4. Analyse, and critically reflect upon, clinical cases involving cardiac ultrasound and other assessment techniques
5. Attend clinical placement as per external accreditation requirements (Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry).

Linked to National and International Standards

1. ASAR Accreditation Standards for Cardiac Sonography - critical practice Unit 8 - Cardiac, Foundation units of competence - 1 - 5.
2. European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging Core Syllabus
3. American Registry for Cardiac Sonography Core Syllabus

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•	•	•		
2 - Performance - 0%			•		

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
3 - Learning logs / diaries / Journal / log books - 0%				•	
4 - Case Study - 0%				•	
5 - Professional Practice Placement - 0%			•		•
6 - Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) - 0%	•	•			

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Knowledge	○	○	○	○	
2 - Communication	○	○	○	○	○
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	○	○		○	
4 - Research				○	
5 - Self-management	○	○	○	○	○
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility	○	○	○	○	○
7 - Leadership		○	○	○	
8 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures					

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 - Practical Assessment - 0%	○	○	○		○	○		
2 - Performance - 0%	○	○			○	○	○	
3 - Learning logs / diaries / Journal / log books - 0%	○				○			
4 - Case Study - 0%	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	
5 - Professional Practice Placement - 0%		○			○	○		
6 - Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) - 0%	○	○	○		○	○	○	

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Vancouver](#)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Tarryn Cremin Unit Coordinator
t.cremin@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Content themes will be grouped and presented in modules on the Moodle site.	See eReading list on the Moodle site.	<p>This work-integrated clinical unit occurs outside of standard university term dates. This unit consists of a standard sixteen (16) week clinical placement block, incorporating a minimum of 640 hours (16 x 40 hours) of clinical attendance.</p> <p>Assessment due dates will depend on individual practicum start dates. Refer to relevant sections of this unit profile to understand assessment details and relevant due dates.</p>

Term Specific Information

The unit coordinator (UC) for ECHO20005 is Tarryn Cremin. Students are encouraged to contact Tarryn via the Moodle Q&A forum, email (t.cremin@cqu.edu.au), or phone (02 9324 5034). Tarryn is based on the Sydney campus and works Monday to Thursday.

Students must consult the 'Bachelor of Echocardiography and Cardiac Physiology Student and Clinical Supervisor Handbook', the 'Work-Integrated Learning Policy and Procedure' and the 'ECHO20005 Student Scope of Practice' documents (available on the unit Moodle site and the CV69 portal) to understand clinical placement requirements and professional performance expectations.

Clinical Placement Attendance

This work integrated learning (WIL) unit necessitates a minimum of 640 hours of clinical placement, to be completed over a standard 16-week period unless otherwise arranged in agreement with the unit coordinator (UC), Head of Course

(HoC), WIL team and the industry clinical supervisor (CS). Students must maintain open and timely communication with the UC, WIL team and CS throughout their placement block, to advise of any unexpected leave in a timely manner and mitigate disruptions to the placement experience.

Note that placement blocks are not automatically extended beyond advised finish dates. Placement extensions require CS, UC and HoC approval, and WIL negotiation. In the absence of timely notification and submission of appropriate documentation, attendance shortfalls may delay student graduation, with outstanding hours requiring completion during an alternative practicum experience.

Assessment Submission Dates

Practicum commencement dates and due dates for assessment items may fall outside of the usual academic calendar, since they are related to individual clinical placement dates. It is the student's responsibility to track assessments and ensure on-time submissions. Students are advised to consult assessment details in the unit profile, to ascertain individual submission dates, and to email the UC for confirmation where necessary. Students who have negotiated placement extensions may be eligible for assessment extension but this must be applied for through the UC.

Students must discuss assessment requirements with their clinical supervisor at the commencement of placement, and arrange an appropriate time for assessment completion in advance. Students should read all assessment information carefully, to understand the criteria against which skills, knowledge and attitude will be evaluated.

Assessment submissions which are not labelled appropriately (lacking student identification) or of suboptimal quality (photographed pages) or not complete (missing signatures or pages) may be returned to the student, causing delays in assessment marking and standard turnaround time for return of assessments to students.

CQUniversity Assessment Policy and Procedure guidelines apply to assessments for work integrated learning units. Since this is a non-graded unit, standard late penalties cannot be applied to assessment submissions. As such, in the absence of approved extension(s), students who do not complete scheduled attempts by due date(s) may receive a FAIL for the assessment. If you are experiencing difficulty meeting unit assessment requirements, please contact the UC in advance of submission dates. Students are advised to refer to the 'Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)' document for additional university guidelines regarding assessments.

The final assessment for ECHO20005, the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) theoretical component, will be scheduled within one month of placement hour completion wherever possible. Students will be kept updated of scheduling via Moodle and/or email where appropriate.

Student Engagement

Students are expected to revise and consider previous CV69 course content and the published American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) guidelines to foster theoretical knowledge, practical performance and professional growth during this clinical unit.

During academic term 2, tutorials will focus on case study discussions of transthoracic, transoesophageal and/or stress echocardiography imaging. Findings, differential diagnoses, additional examinations indicated and likely clinical course will be discussed. Sources of error, technique, guidelines, protocol and examination extension will also be discussed. Resources relevant to tutorial topics will be published under respective tiles on the Moodle site. Moodle forum posts will detail tutorial scheduling throughout the term. Students are encouraged to contact the UC wherever clarification of concepts or deeper discussion would benefit student learning — even outside of tutorial timings.

Students are encouraged to request meetings with the UC at any point during their placement block. These meetings may be used to discuss specific concepts, assessment requirements, or even to detail overall placement experience. Email, phone or Zoom consultation is available throughout the entire ECHO20005 placement block.

Assessment Tasks

1 Clinical Attendance Log

Assessment Type

Professional Practice Placement

Task Description

This assessment is designed to track clinical attendance during the ECHO20005 placement block. All hours dedicated to echocardiography must be documented in this log, including those experienced 'outside of clinical placement' as

approved by the unit coordinator. These hours must be verified by the clinical supervisor or delegate.

Clinical attendance log documents must be submitted every four weeks, to demonstrate satisfactory attendance and mitigate any disruptions to placement blocks due to unexpected leave including absence due to illness. Students must complete a minimum of 640 hours clinical attendance during this unit, to contribute to the mandatory hours of clinical experience as required by the Australian Sonography Accreditation Registry (ASAR).

Students must consult the 'Bachelor of Echocardiography and Cardiac Physiology Student and Clinical Supervisor Handbook' and the 'Work-Integrated Learning Policy and Procedure' documents (available on the unit Moodle site and the CV69 portal) to understand clinical attendance requirements. If disruption to usual attendance occurs, the student must contact the unit coordinator immediately. Where unexpected absences occur and are documented appropriately, the WIL team will endeavour to provide additional scheduled placement time to make up attendance hours. However, this scheduled time may not necessarily follow the original placement dates and may occur at a different placement site. Inappropriate or undocumented absences may not be eligible for WIL negotiation to contracts. In this instance, students may not achieve the minimum requisite hours and may score a fail outcome for this assessment item.

Assessment Due Date

First submission due on the Monday of clinical week 5, at 8pm AEST. Second submission due on the Monday of clinical week 9, at 8pm AEST. Third submission due on the Monday of clinical week 13, at 8pm AEST. The final submission and any 'outside of clinical placement' log is due on the final day of placement, at 8pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

Individual student feedback will be provided only if assessment criteria deficits are identified.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment, students must attend clinical placement for the minimum required hours (640 hours) and log these hours appropriately according to the clinical attendance documents (available on the unit Moodle page).

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

All submissions must be labelled appropriately with student details. Documents must be uploaded to Moodle in pdf format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Behave professionally, using appropriate professional and personal skills to practice as an echocardiographer and cardiac physiologist (cardiac scientist)
- Attend clinical placement as per external accreditation requirements (Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry).

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility

2 Clinical Case Log

Assessment Type

Learning logs / diaries / Journal / log books

Task Description

This assessment is designed to track clinical experience. The clinical case log provides insight into progression of the student's skill development within and across examination types during the ECHO20005 placement block. All observed, partially completed or fully completed echocardiography cases a student is exposed to during ECHO20005 clinical placement attendance must be documented in this log. All log entries must be verified by the clinical supervisor or delegate.

Maintenance of the clinical case log helps to ensure that an acceptable volume of clinical work is achieved, exposure to

a reasonable case variety is obtained, and key practical skills are developing. The clinical case log documentation incorporates:

- The cover page which summates weekly case volume, specific/advanced skills performed (Pedof investigation), and pathological findings (NOT referral indications).
- The spreadsheet which documents weekly case volume and includes (anonymised) details of referral indication/s, type of echocardiogram performed (adult, paediatric, stress, TOE), student level of participation (observed, partially completed or fully completed), and case findings summary.

Clinical case log documents must be submitted every four weeks, to demonstrate satisfactory caseload exposure and optimal clinical experience prior to completion of the clinical placement block. Students must consult the 'ECHO20005 Student Scope of Practice' document (available on the unit Moodle site) to understand caseload expectations. In preparation for 'work readiness' and graduation, it is reasonable to expect that students will be capable of managing a daily caseload of 8-10 scans per day by the end of this clinical placement block. Proficiency and competency development will scaffold throughout the placement experience and each student journey may differ. Actual caseloads will depend on departmental expectations considerate of clinical pathologies encountered. It is recommended that students complete no less than 4 scans per day, excepting exceptional circumstances, to support up skill in a timely manner. If unable to achieve this minimum case exposure, the student must contact the unit coordinator for advice.

Assessment Due Date

First submission due on the Monday of clinical week 5, at 8pm AEST. Second submission due on the Monday of clinical week 9, at 8pm AEST. Third submission due on the Monday of clinical week 13, at 8pm AEST. The final submission and any 'outside of clinical placement' log is due on the final day of placement, at 8pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

Individual student feedback will be provided only if assessment criteria deficits are identified.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment, students must log caseloads appropriately, in accordance with the clinical case log documents (available on the unit Moodle site).

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

All submissions must be labelled appropriately with student details. Each submission must include the cover pages in pdf format and the spreadsheet in excel format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse, and critically reflect upon, clinical cases involving cardiac ultrasound and other assessment techniques

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Self-management

3 Case Studies

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

The purpose of these case study submissions is to provide the unit coordinator with an opportunity to critically evaluate and moderate student technical performance on cases they have performed as part of their clinical workload; to facilitate the continuing development of student clinical reasoning and ensure exposure to a variety of clinical cases; and to encourage student reflection and self-improvement of technical and research skills, pathology knowledge and assessment strategies.

This assessment requires students to submit two (2) echocardiographic examinations, each accompanied by a written

report discussing study details and interpreting findings. Each echocardiographic study must have been completed by the student within this placement block (a limited number of images or measurements may be performed by the clinical supervisor where appropriate, but these images must be labelled or identified accordingly). The case study rubric details criterion that students must demonstrate to pass this assessment task:

- Patient presentation and formulation of differential diagnoses
- Discussion of best practice (assessment strategy and scan limitations)
- Case interpretation and supporting rationale
- Academic standards (referencing and writing standards, including adhering to the 1500-2000 word count limit)
- Echocardiographic scan performance (DICOM imaging)
- Supporting documentation (provisional or final echocardiographic patient report, patient consent where applicable etc.)

To evaluate key areas of sonographic knowledge and skill, students must submit case studies according to the below categories. Students who do not encounter a suitable case in clinical practice should contact the unit coordinator in advance of submission dates.

- Case Study 3a must evaluate aortic stenosis, mitral stenosis or prosthetic valvular replacement, incorporating use of the Pedof probe.
- Case Study 3b must evaluate a congenital anomaly. Appropriate congenital case studies may include those post intervention.

There are two components to this assessment: the written component (case study report) and imaging component (the accompanying DICOM submission). Both components must be passed to pass the case study overall. Case studies that do not achieve a pass grade will be returned to the student with appropriate feedback. Students are permitted one re-submission opportunity for each case study (imaging component and/or written component as required). Any re-submission attempt is required within two (2) weeks of receiving feedback.

Maintenance of patient confidentiality must be adhered to throughout both practical and written components of the case study. If all attempts to de-identify echocardiography images or reports have failed, the student must request permission from the patient to provide their images and/or information to CQUniversity for educational purposes. The patient must provide written consent by completing the form provided on the unit Moodle site and this patient consent form must be submitted with the case study.

Assessment Due Date

First submission is due on the Monday of clinical week 7 at 8pm AEST. Second submission is due on the Monday of clinical week 13 at 8pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

Feedback will be provided within two (2) weeks of each submission due date.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment, students must pass ALL criterion descriptors, in accordance with the unit-specific competency level descriptor. Expected levels of competency are determined by industry standards¹ and are detailed in the case study rubric (available on the unit Moodle site).

¹ Childs, Jessie; Thoires, Kerry; Osborne, Brooke; Halligan, Toni; Stoodley, Paul; Quinton, Ann; et al. (2021): *Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers*. figshare. Online resource. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.17148035.v2>.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

All submissions must be labelled appropriately with student details. Submission must be uploaded as a word document (doc., docx., not write protected) through the Moodle site so it can be processed by Turnitin. De-identified DICOM images must be uploaded to a Google drive folder and shared with the unit coordinator.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Analyse, and critically reflect upon, clinical cases involving cardiac ultrasound and other assessment techniques

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

4 Global Assessment of Professional Attributes (GAPA)

Assessment Type

Performance

Task Description

This Global Assessment of Professional Attributes (GAPA) assessment considers the student's ability to communicate professionally with a diverse audience of patients, staff and the general public, to demonstrate professional respect for all, and to function as a reliable, well-organised member of the health team. Students must consult the 'Bachelor of Echocardiography and Cardiac Physiology Student and Clinical Supervisor Handbook' and the 'Work-Integrated Learning Policy and Procedure' documents (available on the unit Moodle site and the CV69 portal) to understand expected standards for professional behaviour.

The clinical supervisor, or delegate, will be working in the echocardiography lab with the student, directly observing day-to-day performance. Clinical supervisor observations over a span of time (not related to one particular scan type or patient case) will be documented on the GAPA marking tool. Criteria are grouped into three main categories (Applied Knowledge, Psychomotor Skills and Standard of Work, and Professionalism).

This assessment is performed at least twice during the placement block. The first GAPA assessment must take place at the midpoint of the placement block and is formative. Students are expected to use feedback provided after this first GAPA, to reflect on performance and develop a plan to address any areas of performance that are not yet at the target level for this placement. Any significant issues should be brought to the attention of the unit coordinator following completion of the midpoint GAPA (or earlier where appropriate).

The unit coordinator may request performance of a GAPA assessment at any time during the placement block. If the outcome of this GAPA is unsatisfactory and/or the placement site indicates they can no longer host the student due to risks incurred or lack of skill progression, the clinical placement may be terminated and this singular GAPA result may result in a FAIL grade for the clinical unit.

Assessment Due Date

First submission due on the Monday of clinical week 9, at 8pm AEST. Second submission due on the final day of clinical placement, at 8pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

Individual student feedback will be provided only if assessment criteria deficits are identified.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment, students must pass ALL criterion descriptors in the final GAPA, in accordance with the unit-specific competency level descriptor. Expected levels of competency are determined by industry standards¹ and are detailed in the GAPA marking tool (available on the unit Moodle site).

¹ Childs, Jessie; Thoires, Kerry; Osborne, Brooke; Halligan, Toni; Stoodley, Paul; Quinton, Ann; et al. (2021): Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers. figshare. Online resource. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.17148035.v2>.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

All submissions must be labelled appropriately with student details. Each submission of the GAPA marking tool must be uploaded to Moodle in pdf format.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Behave professionally, using appropriate professional and personal skills to practice as an echocardiographer and cardiac physiologist (cardiac scientist)

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

5 Practical Assessment

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

The purpose of this practical assessment is to evaluate student performance when performing an echocardiographic ultrasound examination within the clinical environment, and to evaluate the student's professionalism and attitudes to their echocardiographic practice via submission of a self-reflective written response to the task.

This practical assessment requires students to perform all tasks associated with a standard echocardiographic ultrasound examination and to demonstrate Pedof application (whether deemed necessary for investigation of pathology present or not). This echocardiogram will take place within the clinical placement environment and under supervision of the clinical supervisor or delegate sonographer, unless otherwise arranged in consultation with the clinical supervisor, unit coordinator and Head of Course. The assessor may pose questions to the student prior to, during or after the echocardiographic examination, to clarify understanding of any of the assessment criteria.

The clinical supervisor or delegate will complete section A of the practical assessment marking tool, providing authentic observations and feedback relating to student performance. The preliminary echocardiographic report, DICOM imaging and a video recording of the echocardiographic examination must be submitted as part of this assessment task, unless otherwise arranged with the unit coordinator, clinical supervisor and Head of Course.

Students must provide a written reflection (minimum 200 words) for section B of this assessment task. Further details relating to this section can be found on the practical assessment marking tool and the unit Moodle site.

Section C is completed by the unit coordinator or nominated academic staff member. The practical assessment marking tool details criterion that students must demonstrate to pass this assessment task:

- Pre-examination tasks (including professional behaviour and instrumentation)
- Examination tasks (including scanning technique and protocol, two-dimensional/colour/spectral Doppler optimisation, and measurement technique)
- Post examination tasks (including documentation, interpretation and communication, and professional behaviour and additional tasks)

This assessment task must take place on or before the 10th week of placement, thus allowing sufficient time for improvement before a second attempt (if required) prior to completion of the clinical placement block. Should a student's attempt at this assessment task be deemed unsatisfactory by the unit coordinator, only one re-attempt will be permitted. Students that fail the first attempt at this assessment should discuss their strategy for performance improvement with both their assessor and unit coordinator. The final practical assessment attempt must be scheduled prior to the completion of the clinical placement block and may require supervision from the unit coordinator or nominated representative, in conjunction with the clinical supervisor. In some instances, students may be required to attend their local campus to complete the re-sit attempt.

Maintenance of patient confidentiality must be adhered to throughout all components of this assessment. Video recordings should focus on visualisation of the student's dynamic optimisation attempts and aspects of knobology, and must not show patient identity in any form. Advice on video recordings is available on the unit Moodle site. If all

attempts to de-identify echocardiography images or reports or video recordings have failed, the student must request permission from the patient to provide their images and/or information to CQUniversity for educational purposes. The patient must provide written consent by completing the form provided on the unit Moodle site and this patient consent form must be submitted with the practical assessment.

Assessment Due Date

First submission is due on the Monday of clinical week 12 at 8pm AEST. Re-submission (if required) is due on the final day of clinical placement at 8pm AEST, unless otherwise arranged with the unit coordinator.

Return Date to Students

Clinical supervisors will provide direct feedback at time of assessment, through verbal conversation and return of the completed marking tool. Any student who fails the first attempt will receive prioritised feedback from the unit coordinator.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment, students must pass ALL criterion descriptors, in accordance with the unit-specific competency level descriptor. Expected levels of competency are determined by industry standards¹ and are detailed in the practical assessment marking tool (available on the unit Moodle site).

¹ Childs, Jessie; Thoires, Kerry; Osborne, Brooke; Halligan, Toni; Stoodley, Paul; Quinton, Ann; et al. (2021): *Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers*. figshare. Online resource. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.17148035.v2>.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The practical assessment marking tool and (de-identified) echocardiogram report are to be uploaded through the Moodle assessment tab, in pdf format and labelled appropriately with student details. De-identified DICOM images and video recording of the assessment attempt are to be uploaded to a Google Drive folder, labelled appropriately with student details, and shared with the unit coordinator.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Perform diagnostic echocardiographic scans to meet the Competency Standards for the Entry Level Cardiac Sonographer
- Evaluate the outcomes of cardiac assessment, using a broad body of knowledge, to solve complex diagnostic problems
- Behave professionally, using appropriate professional and personal skills to practice as an echocardiographer and cardiac physiologist (cardiac scientist)

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility

6 Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

Assessment Type

Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)

Task Description

This assessment task is designed to moderate clinical competence, to ensure safe practice upon graduation. The demonstration of echocardiography and cardiac physiology knowledge, skills and attitudes at a graduate level will be assessed using an OSCE— Objective Structured Clinical Examination— format.

The OSCE consists of two (2) components. Together, these tasks simulate clinical practice and evaluate key requirements for an entry-level (accredited) cardiac sonographer. The components of the OSCE assessment are:

- Clinical Decision-Making and Professional Standards (Component A)
- Theory and Interpretation (Component B)

OSCE Component A (Clinical Decision-Making and Professional Standards)

This task component serves as a benchmark to ensure satisfactory performance of key attributes prior to students attending local campus (or designated assessment space) to attempt the final OSCE component B.

- Students will participate in viva discussions with the unit coordinator or nominated academic staff member.
- Students will be presented with mock patient referrals and/or hypothetical clinical scenarios and will be assessed on a variety of aspects of clinical practice, including: professional behaviour and communication, clinical presentations and common pathophysiology, and differential diagnoses.
- Discussions will occur via Zoom and will be recorded for moderation purposes. Video display must be activated at all times.
- This component must be conducted prior to completion of the placement block and will be scheduled in consultation with the student, clinical supervisor and nominated academic staff member.
- It is recommended this task be attempted in week 14 of clinical placement.
- Should students fail the OSCE component part A, they will be afforded two (2) opportunities to re-attempt this component.

OSCE Component B (Theory and Interpretation)

This task component requires students to interpret and evaluate a range of clinical images, encompassing evaluation of key knowledge criteria required for competence as an entry-level (accredited) cardiac sonographer.

- Assessable content is covered in detail within the CV69 Bachelor of Echocardiography and Cardiac Physiology / Graduate Diploma of Echocardiography curriculum.
- Images will be provided in slide deck format, organised into four categories (Ventricular, Valvular, Congenital and Other).
- The question paper will provide space for written responses. Writing implements and a simple (non-programmable) calculator will be required.
- Students will be provided with a paper copy of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) quick reference guide (available on the unit Moodle site), to facilitate interpretation of pathology; this is otherwise a closed book assessment.
- Time allocation for this component is 90 minutes.
- This component will be invigilated on campus, unless otherwise arranged in consultation with the clinical supervisor, unit coordinator and Head of Course.
- Should a student fail this assessment task, only one (1) re-attempt will be permitted.

Assessment Due Date

OSCE component A will be held at any point from week 12 of clinical placement. OSCE component B will be held within one month of clinical attendance completion, wherever possible.

Return Date to Students

Within two weeks of OSCE completion.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

Student performance of criteria will be considered in the context of the required competency level that students must demonstrate in preparation for graduation as an entry-level (accredited) sonographer.

To pass this OSCE assessment, students must demonstrate an appropriate level of competence for ALL major criterion descriptors listed on the OSCE assessment of readiness for professional practice tool. Expected levels of competency are determined by industry standards¹ and are detailed in the OSCE ARPP tool (available on the unit Moodle site).

¹ Childs, Jessie; Thoires, Kerry; Osborne, Brooke; Halligan, Toni; Stoodley, Paul; Quinton, Ann; et al. (2021): Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers. figshare. Online resource. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.17148035.v2>.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Offline

Submission Instructions

Written papers for the OSCE component B to be returned to the invigilator at the time of assessment. Assessor will complete the ARPP tool for components A and B of the OSCE assessment.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Perform diagnostic echocardiographic scans to meet the Competency Standards for the Entry Level Cardiac Sonographer
- Evaluate the outcomes of cardiac assessment, using a broad body of knowledge, to solve complex diagnostic problems

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem