



PMSC13013 *Transition to Paramedic Practice and Professionalism*

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 15/07/2025 06:07 am

All details in this unit profile for PMSC13013 have been officially approved by CQUUniversity 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

Throughout the Transition to Paramedic Practice and Professionalism unit, you will acquire the requisite knowledge and skills to assist with your evolution to beginner practitioner and a Registered Paramedic. This unit will explore the requirements for registration, and continuing professional development, as a paramedic in Australia. You will explore and further develop your professional and therapeutic communication skills with a focus on receiving and delivering constructive feedback, in preparation for a graduate internship and future mentoring opportunities. Additionally, you will explore and enhance positive professional habits to strengthen individual resilience while promoting good physical and psychological health, integral to an effective career in paramedicine.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 3*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Co-requisite: PMSC13010 Consolidated Paramedic Practice
Pre-requisite: PMSC13002 Clinical Practice 2 and PMSC13012 Paramedic Medical Emergencies 3

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

- Online

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 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 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. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

2. **Portfolio**

Weighting: 40%

3. **Case Study**

Weighting: 30%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

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](#).

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Appraise the requirements to practice as a paramedic in Australia, with a particular focus on professional registration obligations
2. Review and combine the principles and techniques underlying effective, sensitive and clear communication skills in the health care setting
3. Formulate and display sensitive and appropriate communication strategies for giving and receiving feedback in the clinical setting
4. Integrate strategies for self-care and self-awareness to enhance individual resilience, physical and psychological fitness into professional practice

The learning outcomes for this unit align with the Professional Capabilities for registered Paramedics as adopted by the Paramedicine Board of Australia, which describe the minimum knowledge, skills and professional attributes necessary for practice as a paramedic in Australia.

Unit Learning Outcome 1 aligns with Professional Capabilities Domain 1 and 3

Unit Learning Outcome 2 aligns with Professional Capabilities Domain 2, 4 and 5

Unit Learning Outcome 3 aligns with Professional Capabilities Domain 2 and 4

Unit Learning Outcome 4 aligns with Professional Capabilities Domain 1 and 3

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
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Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Written Assessment - 30%	•			
2 - Portfolio - 40%		•	•	
3 - Case Study - 30%				•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving				
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy		•	•	•
5 - Team Work		•	•	
6 - Information Technology Competence				
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•	•	•	
8 - Ethical practice	•	•	•	•
9 - Social Innovation		•		•
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

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)
- Zoom (both microphone and webcam capability)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Carl Legros Unit Coordinator

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Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONALISM	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	

Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOMAINS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	

Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PROFESSIONALISM & YOUR VALUES	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	

Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PROFESSIONALISM IN PRACTICE- WHEN THINGS GO WRONG	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	

Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION CONSIDERATIONS	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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BREAK WEEK	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment One (1) - Written Assessment Opens: Monday, 12 August 2024, 9:00 AM
Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DIFFICULT WORKPLACE CONVERSATIONS	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment One (1) Written Assessment Due: Week 6 Monday (19 Aug 2024) 9:00 am AEST
Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
COACHING, MENTORING & PRECEPTORSHIP	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment Two (2) - Portfolio Opens: Monday, 26 August 2024, 9:00 AM
Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
THE POWER OF FEEDBACK	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment Two (2) Portfolio Due: Week 8 Monday (2 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST
Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PSYCHOSOCIAL SAFETY & WORKPLACE WELLBEING	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	
Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
WELLBEING AND PHYSICAL HEALTH	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	
Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
STRATEGIES FOR WELLBEING	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment Three (3) - Case Study Opens: Monday, 23rd September 2024, 9:00 AM
Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
INTEGRATION INTO PARAMEDIC PRACTICE	Nil prescribed textbook chapters	Assessment Three (3) Case Study Due: Week 12 Monday (30 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST
Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Assessment One (1) Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

In this assessment, you will identify and summarise the key requirements for practicing as a Paramedic in Australia, with

a special focus on the professional registration obligations. You must outline a plan for maintaining these registration elements through continuous professional development, demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory frameworks involved.

Word Limit: 1500 words (+/- 10%)

Weight: 30% of total unit grade

Submission Format:

Font: Calibri, Size 12

Spacing: Double line spacing

Alignment: Left justified text

The submission must include a reference list on a separate page. All references must be current (from 2014 onwards), excluding Wikipedia and (if any) course-prescribed texts.

The APA 7th edition referencing style is required.

Include a cover page with your name, student number, unit ID, due date, and word count (excluding references).

Criteria for Success:

Identification and succinct summary of the five critical requirements for practicing as a paramedic in Australia.

A detailed plan for ongoing professional development, including strategies for comprehensive record-keeping of activities related to professional registration.

Critical engagement with contemporary literature and resources relevant to paramedic registration and professional development.

Assessment Due Date

Week 6 Monday (19 Aug 2024) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 9 Monday (9 Sept 2024)

Weighting

30%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria for this unit are in the form of a detailed rubric, which is available from the Moodle site. However, broadly you will be assessed on:

Identification and Succinct Summary of the Five Critical Requirements for Practicing as a Paramedic in Australia:

You must identify and succinctly summarise the five critical requirements for practicing as a paramedic in Australia.

These requirements encompass registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), adherence to the Paramedicine Board of Australia's standards, completion of a recognised qualification in paramedicine, demonstration of continuing professional development (CPD), and compliance with the relevant legislative and ethical guidelines.

A Detailed Plan for Ongoing Professional Development

You will develop a comprehensive plan for your ongoing professional development, emphasising the importance of continuous learning and growth in your paramedic practice. This plan should include strategies for staying current with industry advancements, attending professional workshops and conferences, and participating in relevant training programs. Additionally, you will outline methods for maintaining detailed records of all activities related to your professional registration, ensuring that you meet the CPD requirements set by AHPRA. Your plan will be evaluated based on its thoroughness, feasibility, and alignment with professional standards.

Critical Engagement with Contemporary Literature and Resources

You will be assessed on your ability to critically engage with contemporary literature and resources relevant to paramedic registration and professional development. You will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of current research, best practices, and emerging trends in paramedicine. Your engagement with these materials should reflect a critical analysis of their implications for your practice and professional growth. This criterion will measure your proficiency in integrating scholarly resources into your reflective practice and ongoing professional development efforts.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submitted via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Appraise the requirements to practice as a paramedic in Australia, with a particular focus on professional registration obligations

2 Assessment Two (2) Portfolio

Assessment Type

Portfolio

Task Description

ASSESSMENT TWO (2) - PORTFOLIO

You must submit a portfolio comprising three (3) main items:

1. VIA Character Strength Assessment:

Submit a copy of your VIA Character Strength Assessment, highlighting your top five strengths at a minimum. This assessment is accessible via Moodle content.

2. SCARF Model Feedback:

Provide a copy of your SCARF model feedback, which is accessible through Moodle content. Both assessments' reference links are available in the Week 3 unit tile.

3. Recorded Presentation:

Create a three (3) to five (5) minute recorded audio-visual presentation. (Microsoft PowerPoint is recommended for recording this presentation). An appropriately referenced PDF version of your presentation is to be included in your submission.

Activity Instructions:

- Submit your VIA Character Strength Assessment, highlighting your top five strengths at a minimum.
- Submit your SCARF Model Feedback.
- Submit your three (3) to five (5)-minute recorded presentation addressing the presentation questions below.
- An appropriately referenced PDF version of your presentation is to be included in your submission.

Presentation Questions:

Part A:

How can understanding your personal values and character strengths, assessed through the VIA Character Strength Assessment, combined with insights from David Rock's SCARF model, enhance communication effectiveness within healthcare settings?

Part B:

How do you envision leveraging these identified qualities and traits when giving and receiving feedback in healthcare contexts, and how might this contribute to professional growth and improvement?

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Monday (2 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 11 Monday (23 Sept 2024)

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria for this unit are in the form of a detailed rubric, which is available from the Moodle site. However, broadly you will be assessed on:

Completion of VIA Character Strength Assessment:

Submission of the VIA Character Strength Assessment, including the identification of at least your top five strengths.

Completion of SCARF Self-Assessment:

Submission of the SCARF model feedback.

Understanding and Application of Character Strengths and Values:

Demonstrate a clear understanding of your character strengths and values identified through the VIA Character Strength Assessment and their relevance to effective communication in healthcare settings. Articulate specific character strengths and values and link them to communication practices.

Integration of SCARF Model:

Effectively integrate insights from David Rock's SCARF model into your discussion on communication effectiveness.

Explain how status, certainty, autonomy, relatedness, and fairness influence communication dynamics and align with your character strengths and values.

Reflection and Self-Awareness:

Exhibit a deep reflection on your communication style, strengths, and areas for development. Demonstrate self-awareness in recognising how your personal values and character strengths impact your communication behaviors and interactions.

Communication of Ideas:

Ensure clarity and coherence in your presentation, effectively communicating ideas and insights. Structure your presentation logically, use appropriate language and terminology, and maintain audience engagement.

Application to Feedback:

Illustrate how your self-assessment findings can inform your approach to giving and receiving feedback in the healthcare context. Provide specific examples or scenarios showing how your identified character strengths and values influence feedback interactions and contribute to professional growth and improvement.

Presentation Skills:

Focus on the quality of your audiovisual presentation, including delivery style, use of visual aids (if applicable), and adherence to time limits. Consider clarity of speech, enthusiasm, body language, and effective use of presentation tools to enhance understanding and engagement.

You must submit all items listed in the Activity Instructions to receive a minimum pass mark for this assessment item.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submitted via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Review and combine the principles and techniques underlying effective, sensitive and clear communication skills in the health care setting
- Formulate and display sensitive and appropriate communication strategies for giving and receiving feedback in the clinical setting

3 Assessment Three (3) Case Study

Assessment Type

Case Study

Task Description

ASSESSMENT THREE (3) CASE STUDY

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO INTEGRATE SELF-CARE STRATEGIES AS A PROFESSIONAL PARAMEDIC?

You are presented with a case study of a complex patient-care interaction that may trigger critical incident stress. In this scenario, you arrive at the scene of a horrific road traffic accident involving multiple family members. While providing clinical treatment and psychological support to three surviving family members, you are confronted with the loss of a fourth patient who is entrapped in the vehicle and has sustained injuries incompatible with life.

Despite the trauma, you manage the scene professionally, ensuring all patients receive urgent care and are transported to the hospital promptly. In the days following this incident, you experience symptoms of critical incident stress, including intrusive thoughts, flashbacks, emotional numbness, heightened arousal, concentration difficulties, and sleep disturbances.

This case highlights the importance of developing self-awareness and insight to manage stress and maintain resilience as a professional paramedic.

Assessment Task

Your Assessment Three response will take the form of a poster presentation, like you would see at a conference. A Poster Presentation template has been provided in the Assessment section of the Moodle site. The template is a PowerPoint slide specially set up for developing Poster Presentations. You must include a reference list somewhere on the poster. The Poster Presentation will include three content components:

1. Outline Self-Care Strategies:

Describe the self-care strategies you plan to use to maintain your physical and mental well-being.

2. Include a Short Justification for Each Strategy:

Explain why you believe your chosen strategies will be effective when describing each self-care strategy.

3. Application of your strategies to professional practice

Illustrate how the identified self-care strategies can be integrated into your professional practice as a paramedic.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Monday (30 Sept 2024) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Monday (14 Oct 2024)

Weighting

30%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria for this unit are in the form of a detailed rubric, which is available from the Moodle site.

However, broadly you will be assessed on:

Identification of Self-Care Strategies:

Identify a comprehensive set of self-care strategies to maintain physical and mental health. Strategies should be relevant and applicable to the demands of a professional paramedic's role.

Rationale for Self-Care Strategies:

Provide a succinct and insightful rationale for each self-care strategy. Explain why each strategy is particularly effective for you, taking into account personal experiences and professional requirements.

Understanding of Critical Incident Stress:

Demonstrate a thorough understanding of critical incident stress and its impact on paramedics. Highlight the importance of self-care in managing stress and promoting resilience.

Clarity and Coherence of Presentation:

Ensure the poster presentation is clear, coherent, and visually engaging. The information should be organised logically, focusing on readability and professional presentation standards.

Reflection and Self-Awareness:

Exhibit deep reflection and self-awareness in the selection and description of self-care strategies. Show evidence of insight into personal responses to stress and the importance of proactive self-care.

Application to Professional Practice:

Illustrate how the identified self-care strategies can be integrated into your professional practice as a paramedic.

Use of Visual Aids:

Ensure that any images, charts, and other visual elements support and clarify the content, contributing to the poster's overall impact and understanding.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submitted via Moodle.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Integrate strategies for self-care and self-awareness to enhance individual resilience, physical and psychological fitness into professional practice

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