

VISN5521 Course Outline

O&M Techniques

*School of Optometry and Vision Science
Faculty of Medicine & Health*

UNSW Sydney

Term 3, 2021

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr Lisa Dillon	Lisa.dillon1@unsw.edu.au	Lisa.dillon1@unsw.edu.au School of Optometry and Vision Science, Level 3, North Wing, Rupert Myers Building
Co-Convenors	Dr Sharon Oberstein	s.oberstein@unsw.edu.au	s.oberstein@unsw.edu.au UNSW Optometry Clinic, School of Optometry and Vision Science, Ground Floor, North Wing, Rupert Myers Building
	A/Prof Sieu Khuu	s.khuu@unsw.edu.au	s.khuu@unsw.edu.au School of Optometry and Vision Science, Level 3, North Wing, Rupert Myers Building
Tutor	Dr Bronwen Scott		TBA
Tutor	Dr Lil Deverell		TBA

2. Course information

Units of credit: **6**

Pre-requisite(s): **VISN5511, VISN5512, VISN5513**

Teaching times and locations: Online and scheduled practical exercises (please refer to course Moodle site for up-to-date information) and a 1-hour online tutorial per week.

2.1 Course summary

This course provides students with opportunities to learn, demonstrate and apply techniques, strategies and teaching while critically analysing them as tools for intervention design in orientation and mobility.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to examine the techniques, strategies and teaching of specific skills used in Orientation and Mobility intervention.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course you (the student) should be able to:

1. Apply visual and non-visual orientation strategies in practice
2. Identify and demonstrate the blind mobility skill set and visual strategies by analysing the mechanics of teaching them
3. Critically appraise practical sessions and devise ways to improve their outcomes
4. Critically analyse travel environments and apply appropriate techniques and strategies for those environments

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

Course Learning Outcome (CLO)	LO Statement	Program Learning Outcome (PLO)	Related Tasks & Assessment
CLO 1	Apply visual and non-visual orientation strategies in practice	PLO1 PLO2 PLO3	Assessment 1 Assessment 2 Assessment 3
CLO 2	Identify and demonstrate the blind mobility skill set and visual strategies by analysing the mechanics of teaching them	PLO1 PLO2	Assessment 1 Assessment 2 Assessment 3
CLO 3	Critically appraise practical sessions and devise ways to improve their outcomes	PLO2 PLO4 PLO5 PLO6	Assessment 1 Assessment 2 Assessment 3
CLO 4	Critically analyse travel environments and apply appropriate techniques and strategies for those environments	PLO2 PLO4 PLO6	Assessment 1 Assessment 2 Assessment 3

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course will be delivered across one term of study and will be delivered online with a face to face practical component (subject to Covid-19 restrictions). It will comprise of a series of pre-recorded skill demonstration videos that will be delivered on a regular basis through the teaching term. Skill demonstration videos will be supported by online tutorials in which you are able to reinforce your learning of the skills and further develop your understanding. The face to face practical component will involve supervised activities where industry partner provides an opportunity for students to embody simulation of travel for people who are blind or have low vision. Students will also have an opportunity to receive further instructions for skill acquisition, demonstration and teaching practice. The online component will allow students to engage in research, case studies and activities that expands their understanding of available intervention techniques and strategies.

4. Course schedule and structure

See Moodle for a detailed schedule.

UNSW Term	O&M practical skills blocks	Key techniques & threshold concepts	Learning resources & activities	Assessments
0 week	Introduction to VISN5521	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course overview Course rules, essential docs Course site tour Student/staff introduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course outline Moodle resources 	
Wk1	Introduction to VISN5521	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the course Overview of O&M skills, techniques and their applications How to prepare for practical competencies assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tutorial 	
Wk1&2	Independent travel skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ninety degree turns Self-protection techniques Squaring off Stairs technique Straight line travel skills Closed doors Dropped objects Echolocation Exploring and room self orientation Social engagement during independent travel Squaring off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-accessed short videos Tutorial Supervised activities 	
Wk3	Assessing, teaching & learning O&M skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing travel skills - V-O Travel aids - primary & secondary Choosing venues - O&M ECS Route travel - 6 Step Method Teaching/learning strategies Increasing independence Managing risks and limitations Problem solving & what ifs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-accessed short videos Tutorial Supervised activities 	ATI: Practical Competencies start (On-going, 60%)
Wk4	Long cane - Introduction & basic techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measuring & managing the cane Grips, goals and guidelines Diagonal technique Walking up to obstacles Clearing techniques Squaring off with the cane Stairs Doors & doorways Long cane with independent travel skills Long cane with a guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-accessed short videos Tutorial Supervised activities 	
Wk5	Long cane - block travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Touch technique Touch and drag Shorelining Touch and slide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-accessed short videos Tutorial 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiating parked cars & obstacles • Turning corners x 4 • Constant contact/continuous touch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised activities 	
Wk6	<i>Flexible week</i>			
Wk7	Long cane - road crossings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long cane routine for road crossings • Mid-block crossings • Orientation to intersections • Corner crossings • Crossing parallel to busy traffic • Indented crossings • Correcting a veer - into traffic, away from traffic • Three-point touch technique • Traffic light crossings • Pedestrian (zebra) crossings & sliplanes • Designated crossings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-accessed short videos • Tutorial • Supervised activities 	
Wk8	Long cane - public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessing services, timetables, apps • Orientation to the vehicle • Maintain orientation • Buses, Trains, trams & light rail • Taxis/Uber • Airports, planes, ferries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-accessed short videos • Tutorial • Supervised activities 	
Wk9	Long cane - city and rural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self opening & Revolving doors • Barriers & turnstyles • Escalators • Lifts • Challenging & changing conditions • Rural travel, rough ground, cane tips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-accessed short videos • Tutorial • Supervised activities 	
Wk10	Vision-assisted travel & travel aids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VROOM Ax • LV runs • Identity/passing • Mobility aids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-accessed short videos • Tutorial • Supervised activities 	AT2: ePortfolio -10% AT3: Assignment - 30%
Wk11	Study week			
	Exam weeks			

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks and criteria

There are three assessment tasks in this course designed to enable you to demonstrate that you have achieved the course learning outcomes. Completion and submission of all assessment tasks by the due date are necessary to receive a final mark in the course. Late submissions without approved Special Considerations will be subject to a 10% penalty of the assessment task weighting per day. See:

<https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/study/undergraduate-degrees/important-information-and-policies>

	ASSESSMENT TASKS (ATs)	DUE DATE	WEIGHTING	CLO(s)	FEEDBACK	
					TYPE	DATE
1	AT1: Practical Competencies	On-going (Wk3-Wk9)*	60%	1,2, 3, 4.	Feedback on student performance of the skills	A minimum of 1 week after the submission of the skill assessment
2	AT2: ePortfolio	Week 10	10%	1,2, 3, 4.	Written	During grade release period
3	AT3: Written Assignment - Case Studies	Week 10	30%	1,2, 3, 4.	Written	During grade release period

*Subject to Covid-19 restrictions and availability of the ACVREP Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists

Further information

UNSW grading system: student.unsw.edu.au/grades

UNSW assessment policy: [Assessment Policy](#)

UNSW assessment information: student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Assignment Submissions	<p>Assignments should be submitted via Moodle (electronic submission).</p> <p>This includes the ePortfolio which can be scanned/photographed and submitted via Moodle.</p>
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	https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/study/undergraduate-deerees/important-information-and-policies
<p>Assessment Procedures</p> <p>UNSW Assessment Policy¹</p>	<p>SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY AND VISION SCIENCE, UNSW</p> <p>SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION INFORMATION, 2021</p> <p>SPECIAL CONSIDERATION On some occasions, sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may prevent you from completing a course requirement, such as attending a formal end of semester examination. In these cases you may apply for Special Consideration. UNSW operates under a Fit to Sit/ Submit rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to submit an application for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/ submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so. The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services > Online Services > Special Consideration and attach student's supporting documentation (such as a medical certificate).</p> <p>CHRONIC ISSUES AND PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS</p> <p>If you have chronic issues and pre-existing conditions, we recommend you apply for Educational adjustments for disability support through Disability Services. Register for Equitable Learning Support (formerly Disability Support Services) at https://student.unsw.edu.au/els/register</p> <p>Absence from a final examination is a serious matter, normally resulting in a Fail (FL) grade. If you are medically unfit to attend an examination, YOU MUST CONTACT THE SCHOOL DIRECTLY ON THE DAY OF THE EXAMINATION TO ADVISE OF THIS (telephone 02 9385 4639, email: optometry@unsw.edu.au). You must also submit a Request for Special Consideration application as detailed on the UNSW website: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration</p>

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at student.unsw.edu.au/referencing

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.² At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism, and
- The *ELISE* training site subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: student.unsw.edu.au/conduct.

international Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

7. Readings and resources

Diane L. Fazzi and Janet M. Barlow. 2017. *Orientation and Mobility Techniques: A Guide for the Practitioner*. Edition 2. American Foundation for the Blind Press

8. Administrative matters

School of Optometry and Vision Science
UNSW, Sydney
SYDNEY UNSW NSW 2052, AUSTRALIA
<https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/>

Work Health and Safety³	A copy of the Induction booklet distributed at this training is available from the School of Optometry and Vision Science office (RMB3.003) and the School website at: https://www.optometry.unsw.edu.au/about/information-and-policies/work-health-and-safety
	Those students who have a disability or are dealing with personal circumstances that affect their study that requires some adjustment in their teaching or learning

Equity and Diversity	<p>environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course Convenor prior to, or at the commencement of, their course, or with the Equity Officer (Disability) in the Equitable Learning Services (formerly Disability Support Services) at +61 2 8374 9201 or https://student.unsw.edu.au/els</p> <p>Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional exam and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.</p>		
Student Complaint Procedure⁴	School Contact	Faculty Contact	University Contact
	<p>Dr Alex Hui alex.hui@unsw.edu.au Tel: 9385 9228</p>	<p>Professor Gary Velan Senior Vice Dean, Education Tel: 9385 1278</p> <p>Or</p> <p>A/Prof Adrienne Torda Associate Dean, Education & Innovation Tel: 9398 2200</p>	<p>Student Conduct and Integrity Unit Telephone 02 9385 8515, Email: studentconduct@unsw.edu.au</p>
University Counselling and Psychological Services⁵	<p>Information on Counselling and Psychological Services [CAPS] is available at: https://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au/ Tel: 9385 5418</p>		

²myExperience process: <https://teaching.unsw.edu.au/myexperience>

³[UNSW OHS Home page](#)

⁴[Student Complaint Procedure](#)

⁵[University Counselling and Psychological Services](#)

9. Additional support for students

- The *Current Students Gateway*: student.unsw.edu.au
- Academic Skills and Support: student.unsw.edu.au/skills
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing
- Equitable Learning Services (formerly Disability Support Services): <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/>