

Faculty	Health and Behavioural Sciences
School	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Activity	Online tutorials
Lead	Ms Anne-Maree Caine
Course	Occupational Therapy Clinical Practice and Clinical Reasoning OCTY3208
Average no. of students	100 (Up to 28 in each tutorial trialled)

### The course

- This course is a ten week, full-time professional practice placement (Work Integrated Learning).
- Students are provided with opportunities to build upon their earlier clinical coursework experiences and to expand their professional skills while learning to implement the roles and responsibilities of an occupational therapist within contemporary practice settings.
- Student professional practice placements will reflect the diversity of Occupational Therapy professional practice; students may work with people of various ages and stages of development across the life span.

### Flexible and Active elements

- A trial of online placement support tutorials were run by the Clinical Education Liaison Manager (CELM) using Adobe Connect Pro through Blackboard. This enabled students to log in from placement settings or elsewhere without the need to drive to campus on a Friday afternoon.
- Tutorials were compulsory; the use of online tutorials demonstrated flexibility and an effort to meet student needs such as reducing travel, allowing more personal opportunities for contribution etc.
- This mode is particularly valuable for including students who are on a regionally-based placement.

### Learning outcomes

- Students avoided long commutes at end of the week, were able to provide comments in their own time, evidently contributed in greater volumes as all could “speak” (type) at the same time, and benefited from reading other student comments.
- Students felt more confident sharing their thoughts and experiences in an online format. Feedback indicated they liked and appreciated that they had time to think before contributing, and that they could read other students’ contributions. Avoiding travel after a long week at placement, was also a genuine positive impact for the students. If given the choice most said they would choose the online format.

### “ What the students say

I think overall the online tutorials were run incredibly well by Anne-Maree. She was supportive, discussed each of our responses and I felt more comfortable and confident in contributing then I would in a face to face environment. It also allowed for everyone to contribute, unlike in a face to face setting where it would usually be the same one or two people contributing in a tutorial.

I enjoyed debriefing and catching up with my fellow colleagues online every Friday afternoon and enjoyed the convenience of not having to travel all the way into uni.

More people were comfortable to contribute therefore a more interesting/ in-depth discussion occurred compared to a face-to-face tutorial.

The tutorials definitely exceeded my expectations in regards to how easy it was set up, amount of features (live typing, video quality and speed) and interesting and relevant content. I really enjoyed how we could share our experiences of our own pracs in such a supportive environment.

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