

**Proposal for Academic Development
Notification of faculty variation or approval**

Faculty/Board of Studies: Health Sciences

Contact person: Dr Andrew Campbell
School of Behavioural & Community Health Sciences

1. Name of award course

Graduate Certificate of Health Science (Behavioural Science)
Graduate Certificate of Health Science (Education)
Graduate Diploma of Health Science (Education)
Master of Health Science (Behavioural Science)
Master of Health Science (Child and Adolescent)
Master of Health Science (Education)
Master of Health Science (Gerontology)
Master of Occupational Therapy
Master of Orthoptics
PG Coursework Exchange

2. Purpose of proposal

To amend the description for BACH 5338: Cyberpsychology and Online Health.

3. Details of amendment

BACH 5338: Cyberpsychology and Online Health, to be taught for the first time in 2nd Semester 2006, needed to provide a clearer description of its relationship and research-led basis for postgraduate allied health students across the Faculty. An improvement on the original description was required to better demonstrate the subject's application of technology to improving and conducting research within various health areas.

The proposed description change (see below) will have no impact on the original assessments or running of the Unit of Study.

BACH 5338 Cyberpsychology and Online Health

6 credit points. Grad Cert Hlth Sc (Beh Sc), Grad Cert Hlth Sc (Education), Grad Dip Hlth Sc (Ed), M Hlth Sc (Beh Sc), M Hlth Sc (Chld Adol Hlth), M Hlth Sc (Ed), M Hlth Sc (Gerot), M O T, M Orth, PG Coursework Exchange. Dr Andrew Campbell. **Session:** Semester 2. **Classes:** On-campus 2 hours per week. ~~Assessment: 1000 words on reviewing existing Online Health Services (25%); 1000 words on the benefits/problems of online Mental Health provision (25%); 2000 words on the ethics and improvement of online Health and/or Mental Health resources and services (50%)~~ Assignments and Exam.

~~This elective is delivered to encompass the broader scope of Health topics online and how Information Technology impacts on behaviour and health.~~

Cyberpsychology and Online Health aims to educate those seeking careers in allied health on how societal and individual health is both affected and addressed by the Internet. The unit of study will be based on current research and policy guidelines set by the Australian and American Medical Associations, the American Psychological Association and Australian Psychological Society for the use of Information Technology in the following areas:

- ~~Allied Health e-training~~ Informing allied health professionals of online resources for their profession.
- ~~Ethics and practice of online pharmacies~~ How types of ICT functions may affect the behaviour of youth and the elderly.
- ~~Telemedicine~~ Ethics and viability of delivering general health and mental health resources online.
- ~~Provision of psychological therapy over the Internet~~ The evolution of Telemedicine and Cyber-pharmacology practices.
- ~~Online psychological testing and research~~ Provision of psychological therapy over the Internet.
- ~~Online health and psychological resources and quality control of such resources~~ General health and mental health research and testing online.

~~7. Future directions focused on improving health and mental health resources using Information Technology. Quality control and assessment of general and specific online health resources.~~

8. Future directions of Information Technology and its application to health.

Textbooks

No set textbook, but recommended reading will be provided.

4. Transitional arrangements

None applicable.

5. Other relevant information

An eCDAM was called on 4 May 2006 with a request for comments to be provided by 12 May 2006. No comments were received so this was interpreted as there being no objections to the proposed changes.

6. Signature of Dean's Delegate

**Associate Professor Martin Thompson
Associate Dean (Graduate Coursework) and
Chair, Graduate Coursework Committee
Faculty of Health Sciences
8 June 2006**