

Swallowing Physiology

This document gives a range of useful information for this course including general information, a course schedule, assessment information and how to get help. Ready to enrol? Take the next step at uonline.ac.nz/online-courses/swallowing-physiology.

General Information

Item	Description
Course Length	The course runs over 8 weeks plus a 2-week period of assessment feedback and review.
Course Description	Swallowing anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology, focuses on the key structures, processes and disorders involved in human swallowing. This course includes modules on structural and muscular anatomy, peripheral and central neuroanatomy, and differentiating biomechanics from underlying pathology.
Learning Outcomes	Learning Outcome 1: Distinguish the anatomical, physiological and developmental mechanisms that underlay normal and disordered deglutition. Learning Outcome 2: Categorise major structures of the upper aerodigestive tract and evaluate their purpose for swallowing-related functions. Learning Outcome 3: Identify the role of nervous system structures for sensorimotor control of swallowing processes.
Learning Impact	The course will equip learners with a strong foundation in normal swallowing function, which will enable them to recognise deviations from normal function in patients with swallowing disorders.
Delivery	All UC (University of Canterbury) Online courses are fully online. You can learn anywhere, any time, and you won't need to visit a campus. This course is instructor paced which means you will need to work through the course materials and assignments in the relevant weeks as outlined below. Therefore, you will need to complete assignments each week, you can work at your own pace but there are specific submission dates each week.
Estimated hours per week	We estimate your engagement will be about 6 - 7 hours a week over 8 weeks.
Qualification	Microcredential: This is a standalone course that recognises the achievement of specific skills, experience, or knowledge. If you successfully complete this course, your results may be recorded on an academic transcript and be recognised through a digital badge you can add to your LinkedIn profile or online CV.
Academic points	Each course has a points value that reflects the workload for the course. Successful completion from this course will result in you being awarded 6 points at NZQF Level 8.

Recommended prior learning	There are no prerequisites for this course, but a basic understanding of anatomy and physiology will help you understand the more technical terminology. This course is for anyone interested in learning more about the anatomy and physiology of swallowing.
Who is this course for?	This course is ideal for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health professionals, especially those who have interest in swallowing disorders (e.g., speech-language therapists) • People with a professional interest in learning more about the anatomy of swallowing.
Technology Requirements	We recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We recommend a laptop or desktop computer and a reliable internet connection. • Word processing software (like Microsoft Word or Google Docs) to complete your assignments.
How the course works	You'll need to work through this course sequentially. It's divided into 7 modules that run over eight weeks. Use the navigation block on the left of screen to move from one module to another. Each module includes the following material: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific learning objectives and module introduction. • Topic content using a range of media. • Activities to apply what you've learnt and/or discuss with your peers and facilitator. • Q&A Sessions (live) with the course instructors. • A 'temperature check' survey to seek your feedback about your experience as a learner. <p>You will have access to each module's content at the start of the course, but you won't be able to submit your assignment if you haven't gone through the course content in each module.</p>
Assessment	To receive a passing grade for this course, you need to have attempted all activities and to have received an overall grade of at least 50%. For more details see the assessment schedule below.
Pricing	Domestic learners: \$1000 incl. GST International learners: \$2000 incl. GST Note: GST is only applicable for learners living in New Zealand during their study.

Course schedule

Week	Module	Assessment
0-1	Getting started	
	Introduction	
1	Module 1: Structures of swallowing	Online quiz - as a summative check of your understanding of the material for module 1

2	Module 2: Muscles of swallowing	Online quiz - as a summative check of your understanding of the material for module 2
3	Module 3: Neuroanatomy	Online quiz - as a summative check of your understanding of the material for module 3
4	Module 4: Prenatal development	Online quiz - as a summative check of your understanding of the material for module 4
5	Module 5: Swallowing biomechanics	Online quiz - as a summative check of your understanding of the material for module 5
8	Course Conclusion	

Assessment

There are 5 assessments in this course:

Assessment	Name	Weight	Due date	Feedback
1	Quiz 1	10%	Week 2	You will receive grading from your facilitator within one week of the due date.
2	Quiz 2	25%	Week 3	You will receive grading from your facilitator within one week of the due date.
3	Quiz 3	10%	Week 5	You will receive grading from your facilitator within one week of the due date.
4	Quiz 4	10%	Week 6	You will receive grading from your facilitator within one week of the due date.
5	Quiz 5	45%	Week 7	You will receive grading from your facilitator within one week of the due date.

Your course total grade is calculated based on the weighting of each assessment. To pass the course you need a course total of over 50 out of 100.

You may attempt each assignment up to two times. You do not need a passing grade for each assignment, but they all work sequentially, so you must consider the facilitator's feedback in each assignment to pass the course successfully.

You will find more information about each assessment, including instructions and submission links in the UC Online course (use the navigation block on the left to access the Assessment section).

How to get help

- For general help on how to use the UC Online learning environment, select Help at the top of the course screen.
- If can't find the answer that you are looking for please email UC Online Learner Support: support@uonline.ac.nz.