

# HLTH 1014 EVIDENCE IN HEALTH (WSTC)

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 700315

**Coordinator** Ryan Sidoti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan Sidoti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan%20Sidoti/))

**Description** This subject will introduce skills for finding and using the best available evidence in health. This begins with understanding thinking systems, biases and why we often don't accept, or respond, to facts, science and evidence. Students will learn the evidence-based practice process to formulate questions and find appropriate and relevant evidence from the unending amount of information available. The subject covers key concepts in how to read and understand a research paper. Students will develop skills for communicating evidence to strengthen arguments in academic writing and professional practice.

**School** Health Sciences

**Discipline** Health, Not Elsewhere Classified.

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 2 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 1 subject

**Equivalent Subjects** HLTH 1002 Foundations of Research and Evidence-Based Practice (UWSC)

HLTH 1001 Foundations of Research and Evidence-Based Practice  
HLTH 1012 Evidence in Health

## Restrictions

Students must be enrolled at The College. Students in Extended programs (7142, 7143) need to have passed 40 CPs of preparatory subjects in order to enrol in this subject. Students in Integrated programs (6000, 7018, 6001, 7088) need to have passed or be enrolled in the preparatory subjects in these programs in order to enrol in this subject.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Recognise personal thinking styles and associated biases
2. Describe the reasons for the 5 steps of evidence-based practice
3. Design a sensitive and specific PICO search strategy to find best available evidence
4. Identify type, level and key research concepts in journal articles
5. Integrate strength and relevance of evidence findings into academic writing

## Subject Content

1. Critical thinking
  - a. Introduction to epistemology
  - b. System 1 and 2 thinking
  - c. Heuristics, biases and certainty
  - d. Why we don't believe the facts?
  - e. Ethics and evidence
  - f. Reflective practice
2. Evidence-based Practice (EBP) Process

- a. 5-step EBP process
- b. Step 1 Formulating questions
- c. Step 2 Sources of evidence
  - i. Search strategies
  - ii. Information literacy
  - iii. Reader bias
3. How to read a paper
  - a. Article sections
  - b. Types of research
  - c. Levels of evidence
  - d. Key research concepts (e.g. measurement, reliability, valid

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Quiz	20 questions/30 minutes each	10	N	Individual	N
Report	500 words plus search	20	N	Individual	N
Report	750 words	25	N	Individual	N
Final Exam	2 hours	35	N	Individual	N
Participation	10 weeks	10	N	Individual	N

## Prescribed Texts

- Hoffman, T., Bennett, S., & Del Mar, C. (2017). Evidence-based practice across the health professions (3rd ed.). Sydney, New South Wales: Churchill Livingstone.

## Teaching Periods

## Term 1 (2025)

### Nirimba Education Precinct

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Ryan Sidoti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan Sidoti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan%20Sidoti/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=HLTH1014\\_25-T1\\_BL\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HLTH1014_25-T1_BL_1#subjects))

## Term 2 (2025)

### Campbelltown

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Ryan Sidoti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan Sidoti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Ryan%20Sidoti/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=HLTH1014\\_25-T2\\_CA\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=HLTH1014_25-T2_CA_1#subjects))