

Driver Assessment and Rehabilitation Course | 2026

Part 1 Online and Part 2 practical component face to face (best practice education model) in Melbourne (Berwick Campus)

Course Leaders: Professor Carolyn Unsworth and Dr. Hayley Scott | Federation University

Introduction:

The Driver Assessment and Rehabilitation Course trains occupational therapists from all over Australia to work as occupational therapy driver assessors (OTDAs). The course consists of seminars and practical classes and participants learn the practice procedures for off-road and on-road assessments and driver rehabilitation. On-road assessments are conducted in cars with dual controls with simulated patients and driving instructors. Participants from all states and territories can participate in the Course.

Part 1: Theory and practical exercises- completed together, online. Part 2 face-to-face practical component provides course participants with the opportunity to consolidate learning from Part 1. This includes practicing all components off and on road assessment under direct supervision of experienced OTDA, and with driving instructors and simulated clients.

Participants from all states and territories can participate in the Course.

For Victorian participants, only occupational therapists who have completed a driver assessment training course can have their reports and recommendation recognised by VicRoads.

This course has been running continually since 1986 and is one of the oldest in the world. It is also a very popular course given the intensive opportunity to develop and practice skills on-road with simulated clients and an expert supervisor.

Course aims: Participants who successfully complete the course will:

- Be qualified to conduct assessments of functionally impaired drivers nationally,
- Be equipped with the skills to establish a driver assessment program,
- Be able to maximise the potential for independent vehicle mobility for a person with a disability, and
- Have an understanding of their role and responsibilities **in this area of practice**

Course Educators: Our team of expert educators includes licensing authority staff, police, vision specialists and occupational therapy driver assessors:

**Carolyn Unsworth, Judy Shepherd, Kay Russell, Di Cooper Nolan, Dr. Hayley Scott,
Megan Coulter, Kate Young and Janene Strahan**

Dates 2026	Summer Course: 5 days online: Thursdays- 15,22,29 January and 12 February 6 days on campus: Friday 13- Friday 20 February, FedUni in Berwick Spring Course: 5 days online: Thursdays- 1, 8,15,22,29 October 6 days on campus: Friday 6- Friday 13 November, FedUni in Berwick
Venue	Melbourne -Berwick Federation University, Clyde Road Berwick easily accessed by car with paid parking available

- Participants can download Teams and require a quiet space from which to join the class
- Participants pay for own accommodation

Admission requirements for all courses:

Participants attend via Teams for the first 5 days. Attendance is in person for the final 6 days.

Course participants must:

- be occupational therapists with a minimum of two years' practice experience (Australian participants must be registered as occupational therapists with AHPRA) and
- be an experienced and current driver; and if an Australian resident- drive a motor vehicle and have the appropriate current permit for state/ territory of practice.

Fees 2026| \$4000.00 Inc GST (Course \$3,600.00 plus \$400.00GST)

This all-inclusive fee covers tuition, on and off-road training sessions, manuals, and all equipment and resources required to practice. An additional cost (time with a driving instructor) will be incurred by participants for Part 1 (approx. \$80 - \$100).

Refund Policy: Please note that we can provide a full refund only up until 12 weeks before the course commences. After that time we have booked all the driving instructors, simulated patients and OT driver assessor supervisors for your tuition, and cannot provide a refund.

Registrations for Both Courses Open Soon- Please email to be placed on the list to receive updates: c.unsworth@federation.edu.au

More Information related to course content please contact either:

Prof. Carolyn Unsworth

c.unsworth@federation.edu.au

ph.: 03 5122 6174