



UNSW Course Outline

MATS3199 Materials Science Work Placement 1 - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : MATS3199

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Science

Academic Unit : School of Materials Science & Engineering

Delivery Mode : Multimodal

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course enables science students studying majors in the School of Materials Science and Engineering to apply their disciplinary knowledge and transferable skills in a professional context, through a work placement experience at an organisation external to UNSW. Students will

have the opportunity to develop key professional skills that align with their career goals and contextualise their field of study in a professional workplace setting.

The main component of the course is a minimum 105-hour work placement related to the students field of study. The placement can be paid or unpaid. This supervised workplace experience is supported by professional development and discipline-specific modules that students can select from, in line with their individual career goals.

MATS3199 will count as a science or free elective and is graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

The course is available to domestic and international students. If a domestic or international student wishes to undertake an overseas work placement, extra conditions will apply before the placement and enrolment into the course is approved.

Eligibility and Enrolment

Enrolment is subject to approval and completion of required pre-requisites.

Permission to enrol will only be granted if the student:

- is completing a Materials Science major in a Science program;
- and has completed the required pre-requisites (48 units of credit, minimum 65 WAM, passed pre-requisite Preparation for WIL modules)
- has secured a supervised work placement compatible to their major of study, which has been reviewed and approved by the School;

Please note:

- The course is only available to students who are commencing a new work placement compatible to their major of study.
- Students seeking to enrol with paid or unpaid work they are already undertaking outside their studies will not be considered.
- Students are required to engage in recruitment activities and secure a relevant placement prior to seeking approval for enrolment.
- Further details on how to find and secure a work placement, the application and approval process, course content and assessments, can be found at: <https://unsw.sharepoint.com/sites/Science-Student-Opportunities>
- It is the student's responsibility to check if they have space in their program for this elective. This course cannot be taken during an Honours year.

Course Aims

The course aims to:

- Increase students' understanding of how scientific thinking is applied in a professional context.
- Enable students to apply disciplinary knowledge in a workplace setting.
- Provide an environment where students can develop their abilities in professional and reflective learning.
- Enhance student employability through the development of desirable workplace skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Integrate theory with professional practice by applying disciplinary knowledge in a workplace setting.
CLO2 : Identify and apply professional skills and capabilities within a scientific workplace.
CLO3 : Operate effectively in the workplace, in line with organisational expectations.
CLO4 : Evaluate personal professional performance in a workplace through critical self-inquiry and reflective learning.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Integrate theory with professional practice by applying disciplinary knowledge in a workplace setting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Placement Preparation • Work Placement e-portfolio
CLO2 : Identify and apply professional skills and capabilities within a scientific workplace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor's Report • Work Placement Preparation • Work Placement e-portfolio
CLO3 : Operate effectively in the workplace, in line with organisational expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor's Report • Work Placement e-portfolio
CLO4 : Evaluate personal professional performance in a workplace through critical self-inquiry and reflective learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work Placement Preparation • Work Placement e-portfolio

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Zoom

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Work Placement Preparation Assessment Format: Individual	30%	
Work Placement e-portfolio Assessment Format: Individual	50%	
Supervisor's Report Assessment Format: Individual	20%	

Assessment Details

Work Placement Preparation

Assessment Overview

Placement Plan (15%) Due Week 1 of placement.

You will create a professional development plan for your placement. Using a template and in collaboration with your workplace supervisor, you will clarify the main goals and activities of your placement. You will identify key technical and transferrable skills that you aim to develop during the placement experience. These skills should align with your graduate career aspirations.

WIL Modules x3 (15%). Due end of Week 3.

You will complete 3 online WIL modules of 90-120 minutes duration each. You must complete one School (discipline-specific) module, and choose 2 professional development modules to complete from the collection of modules available. You will do a summative quiz at the end of each module, each worth 5%. Automated online feedback will be provided.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Integrate theory with professional practice by applying disciplinary knowledge in a workplace setting.
- CL02 : Identify and apply professional skills and capabilities within a scientific workplace.
- CL04 : Evaluate personal professional performance in a workplace through critical self-inquiry and reflective learning.

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Placement Plan: you may use standard editing and referencing software, but not generative AI. You are permitted to use the full capabilities of the standard software to answer the question (e.g. Microsoft Office suite, Grammarly.). If the use of generative AI such as ChatGPT is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include FL, suspension and exclusion.

Work Placement e-portfolio

Assessment Overview

You will complete four parts in the Work Placement Portfolio. These tasks will guide you to practice essential workplace and employability skills, including problem solving, self-reflection, job application proficiency and interview techniques.

Parts 1 and 2 will be completed during your placement, and Parts 3 and 4 will be completed after your placement. Further guidelines and instructions for all tasks will be provided in Week 1.

Part 1: Overcoming Challenges in the Workplace (10%)

Due week 5 of your placement

You will complete a 300-word (maximum) reflection on a challenge you've faced and overcome in the first five weeks of your placement. Using the STAR +R (Situation, Task, Action, Result and Reflection) template provided, you will evidence your ability to solve problems in the workplace and how you applied your knowledge and experiences (e.g., studies and work experiences) to overcome the challenge. This task will help you connect your skills to actions and to evaluate and reflect on your experience.

Part 2: Self-Assessment Report (15%)

Due final day of placement

In the last week of your placement, you will complete a Self-Assessment Report (approximately 650 words) using a provided template. This task provides a structured opportunity to critically reflect on 1) the progress made on the goals set in your Placement and 2) how your placement has influenced your post-graduation plans. To prepare for this task, you are encouraged (but not required) to discuss the questions provided with your supervisor, a mentor, or a trusted friend.

Part 3: Job Application Skills (15%)

Due 2 weeks after your placement end date

This assessment evaluates your ability to navigate the job search process, identify suitable employment opportunities, and effectively communicate your relevant experience in a job application. You will identify two current job listings related to the experience gained in your placement and your previous educational or extra-curricular experience. You will then choose one selection criteria from each job listing (in line with provided guidelines) and write a response in 250 words each (maximum).

Part 4: Mock Interview (10%)

Due 2 weeks after your placement end date

You will complete a timed and recorded mock interview (7-10 minutes) consisting of three questions. You will be provided with interview practice material, a step-by-step guide on how to use the recorded interview platform, and a practice question to help you become familiar with the system. The mock interview task will allow you to practice and refine your oral communication and interview skills, which are crucial for job interviews and future career success.

Feedback

For each part, you will receive feedback on Moodle in the form of a marked rubric and written comments, as applicable, within approximately two weeks after submission.

Hurdle

To receive a satisfactory mark on “Assessment 2: Work Placement Portfolio”, you must achieve a satisfactory mark for all of the 4 activities within the portfolio.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Integrate theory with professional practice by applying disciplinary knowledge in a workplace setting.
- CL02 : Identify and apply professional skills and capabilities within a scientific workplace.
- CL03 : Operate effectively in the workplace, in line with organisational expectations.
- CL04 : Evaluate personal professional performance in a workplace through critical self-inquiry and reflective learning.

Hurdle rules

To receive a satisfactory mark on “Assessment 2: Work Placement Portfolio”, you must achieve a satisfactory mark for all of the 4 activities within the portfolio.

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

We encourage you to use GenAI in the **planning and designing** of your task, prior to the development of your final submission. However, you must consider 1) task-specific guidelines on using GenAI in the relevant assessment instructions and 2) UNSW guidelines on using GenAI.

Supervisor's Report

Assessment Overview

Your workplace supervisor will complete a report addressing your professionalism on the placement. Specifically, the report template asks your workplace supervisor to use a rubric of performance criteria on the following attributes:

- Professionalism
- Motivation and attitude
- Independence and initiative
- Contribution to the workplace

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL02 : Identify and apply professional skills and capabilities within a scientific workplace.
- CL03 : Operate effectively in the workplace, in line with organisational expectations.

Generative AI Permission Level

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

General Assessment Information

Short Extensions:

The School of Materials Science and Engineering has reviewed its range of assignments and projects to determine their suitability for automatic short extensions as set out by the UNSW Short Extension Policy. After consultation with teaching staff and examination of our course offerings, we consider our current deadline structures already accommodate the possibility of unexpected circumstances that may lead students to require additional days for submission. Consequently, the School does not offer the Short Extension provision in its MATS courses but students, if needed, can apply for formal Special Consideration via the usual procedure.

Grading Basis

Satisfactory

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and contact the Course Authority to make alternative arrangements for classes missed.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Pramod Koshy					Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage. At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The [Current Students site](https://student.unsw.edu.au/current-students),
- The [ELISE training site](https://student.unsw.edu.au/elise), and
- The [Use of AI for assessments](https://student.unsw.edu.au/use-of-ai-for-assessments) site.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Penalty for Late Submissions

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Any variations to the above will be explicitly stated in the Course Outline for a given course or assessment task.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Special Consideration

If circumstances prevent you from attending/completing an assessment task, you must officially apply for special consideration, usually within 3 days of the sitting date/due date. You can apply by logging onto myUNSW and following the link in the My Student Profile Tab. Medical documentation or other documentation explaining your absence must be submitted with your application. Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address to be advised of the official outcome and any actions that need to be taken from there. For more information about special consideration, please visit: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- [The Current Students Gateway](#)
- [Student Support](#)
- [Academic Skills and Support](#)
- [Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety](#)
- [Equitable Learning Services](#)
- [UNSW IT Service Centre](#)
- Science EDI Student [Initiatives](#), [Offerings](#) and [Guidelines](#)