**Science Ready: An online preparatory short course for successful University transition and academic performance in the Health Sciences**

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Given that unsuccessful transition can incur significant cost to the student and to the institution in which they are studying, an online short course *ScienceReady* was designed to assist in narrowing the gap between high school and university studies to ease the transition for first year health science students. Most Australian Universities offer similar bridging workshops or short courses in a number of the STEM disciplines that introduce the fundamentals of a complex subject. However, *ScienceReady* is unique in that’s its design and instructor intentions are informed by pedagogical research that has identified three key indicators that can be used as predicators of both poor transition and subsequent low academic performance and/or a student being at risk of attrition and aims to address these in the short course. These indicators include the student’s entry level of biological science knowledge and academic literacy, as well as their level of engagement with specific parameters in the online learning environment within the first two weeks of starting their university course. Of those students that have participated in two *ScienceReady* workshops (2020-2021), 91% have successfully completed their first-year program studies. Participants enrolled in the nursing and midwifery program in the 2020 workshop, achieved a 95% pass rate for their compulsory first year nursing and midwifery course (an introduction to Anatomy and Physiology). Additionally, all students participating in the short course’s academic writing skills module successfully passed all written assessments in three of their other major first year compulsory courses. This paper will discuss the short course design, learning effectiveness, access, student & faculty satisfaction, equipment necessary to implement the short course, and scale (cost effectiveness and commitment).