

The University of Southern Mississippi
College of Health, Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences
SHS 621 - Hearing Aids I

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:

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Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00 – 11:00

Drop date: October 4, 2007

Prerequisites: SHS 221 or permission from the instructor

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Course Description: Presents components of electroacoustic characteristics of hearing aids and assistive listening technology

Course Overview: The purpose of this course is to provide the AuD student with the necessary knowledge and skills to fit amplification for adults. The course will give appropriate background information, as well as describe in detail the steps for hearing aid fitting and audiological rehabilitation. Clinical procedures for hearing aid fitting will be demonstrated and the student will be required to show proficiency with these clinical procedures. This course is required for graduate students in the Doctor of Audiology, although this course may be appropriate for related disciplines.

Course Outcomes:

At the end of the semester, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the six stages of hearing aid fitting. [KASA-1 IV-E1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12,13]
2. Determine hearing aid candidacy and propose an appropriate treatment plan. [KASA-1 IV-E2]
3. Describe the acoustical properties of earmolds/earshells. [KASA-1 IV-E8]
4. Recommend an appropriate earmold or earshell based on client's hearing loss and special needs. [KASA-1 IV-E8]
5. Make an acceptable earmold impression. [KASA-1 IV-E8]
6. Describe and perform appropriate hearing aid validation techniques including test box measures and real ear measures. [KASA-1 IV-E7]
7. Describe hearing aid selection process and demonstrate the ability to select amplification with an appropriate prescriptive method. [KASA-1 IV-E8]
8. Describe and administer appropriate outcome measures. [KASA-1 IV-E11]
9. Describe the special hearing aid fitting considerations for fitting children with amplification. [KASA-1 IV-E5]
10. Describe special use hearing aids and identify the appropriate population for these devices. [KASA-1 IV-E8]

Instructional Strategies:

The course will consist of class lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on classroom exercises.

Course Communication:

Course communication will be primarily through e-mail, although students are encouraged to have face to face discussions of classroom issues during office hours or by appointment.

Required Text and Readings:

Text: Dillon, Harvey. (2001) Hearing Aids. Boomerang Press, Thieme, New York, NY. USA.

Class Procedures and Requirements:

Course Outline

Unit I – Introductory Concepts, Hearing Aid Components and Systems

Chapter 1 – Introductory Concepts
Chapter 2 – Hearing Aid Components
Chapter 3 – Hearing Aid Systems

Unit II – Assessing Candidacy for Hearing Aids

Chapter 8 – Assessing Candidacy for Hearing Aids

Exam One

Unit III – Hearing Aid Selection

Chapter 5 – Hearing Aid Earmold, Earshells and Coupling
Demonstration #1 – Making Earmold Impression
Chapter 6 – Compression
Chapter 7 – Advanced Signal Processing
Chapter 9 – Prescribing hearing aid performance
Chapter 10 – Selecting and Adjusting Hearing Aids
Demonstration #2 – Connecting hearing aids to NOAH
Chapter 14 – Binaural and Bilateral Considerations

Exam Two

Unit IV – Verification

Chapter 4 – Electroacoustic performance and measurements
Demonstration #3 – Test box measures
Demonstration #4 – Real Ear measures

Unit V – Orientation

Chapter 12 – Counseling the new hearing aid wearer
Demonstration #5 – Hearing aid orientation and listening check

Unit VI – Validation

Chapter 13 – Assessing the outcomes of hearing rehabilitation
Demonstration #6 – performing outcome measure

Unit VII – Special topics

Chapter 15 – Special hearing aid issues for children

Chapter 16 – CROS, bone-conduction, and implanted hearing aids

Exam III

Demonstrations – Each student will show proficiency in each clinical skill demonstrated in class. The demonstration will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Special Project – Each student will develop a hearing aid fitting protocol based on a fictional client’s case history. Each step of the hearing aid fitting process will be addressed and described in terms of the treatment plan for the client. The purpose of this project is to integrate the knowledge and skills in this class in a “real life” situation.

Class Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis and are required to be active, professional participants in the teaching and learning process. No more than two unexcused absences will be permitted. Further unexcused absences will result in a 5% decrease in the final grade for each absence. Please contact the instructor if you are going to be absent.

Evaluation Criteria:

Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Demonstrations	30 points
Project	100 points

Grading Scale:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Late Assignments or Projects:

Late assignments or projects will not be accepted except in the case of emergency. Please contact the instructor before turning in late assignments or projects.

Academic Honesty:

“When cheating is discovered, the faculty member may give the student and F on the work involved or the course. If further disciplinary action is deemed appropriate, the student should be reported to the Dean of Students. In addition to being a violation of academic honesty, cheating violated the Code of Student Conduct and may be grounds for probation, suspension, and/or expulsion.

Students on disciplinary suspension may not enroll in any courses offered by The University of Southern Mississippi.”

ADA Policy:

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Address:

The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive #8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Voice Telephone: (601) 266-5024 FAX: (601) 266-6035

Individuals with hearing impairment:

Mississippi Relay Service: 1-800-582-2233 (TTY)
E-mail Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu