SHS 301: An Introduction to Communication Disorders  
Fall 2017

Instructor: Rachel Powell, PhD, CCC-SLP
Office: 116
Office Hours: M/W/F 8:30-10:00, or by appointment
Phone: 601-266-5745
Email: rachel.powell@usm.edu
Class Time & Location: M/W/F 10:00-10:50


Course Description: Reviews in-depth the latest developments in the contemporary language acquisition literature. Issues of acquisition will be addressed across the core of language. Communication development in infancy and children in the five areas of language, including phonology, semantics, syntax, morphology, and pragmatics will be described. Students will learn theoretical approaches to language acquisition and the biological bases of language.

KASA Standards
- Standard IV-B Demonstrate knowledge of linguistic and cultural bases of communication.
- Standard IV-C Demonstrate knowledge of receptive and expressive language (phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, prelinguistic communication and paralinguistic communication).
- Standard IV-E Demonstrate knowledge of standards of ethical conduct.
  - Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of the principles and rules of the current ASHA Code of Ethics.

Instructional outcomes assessment
Meeting the instructional objectives of the class will be determined as follows:
- Each student will be examined on each instructional objective
- Students are expected to participate in classroom discussions and to ask pertinent questions.

Policies on Attendance, Participation, and Turning in Assignments:
Student attendance and participation in class assignments is expected. All students are expected to attend regularly and arrive punctually. The instructor retains the right to assign negative or positive values for participation that will be applied to the student’s final average. Failing to attend class does not constitute official withdrawal from the class. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are properly registered for the class and that your name appears on the class roll.

In order to facilitate class participation, students should complete each assigned reading prior
to class.

Make up exams will be given only for serious student illness (documented with a written medical excuse), family emergency (such as death of an immediate family member), or official school function. Make up exams may be in a different format that that of the original exam and must be completed within one week of the original exam date. Missed exams will receive a grade of “0” unless excused as indicated above.

**Laptops, Tablets, Cell Phones and Smart Watches**: Cell phones, smart watches, etc. are expected to be off and in the student’s backpacks during class. If you need to keep your phone on silent for a possible emergency call, notify the instructor. Please feel free to leave the room during class to take emergency calls.

The instructor reserves the right to revoke laptop and/or tablet usage in class if abused. Laptops/tablets are only to be used for note-taking or instructor-directed internet sites. Inappropriate use of the laptop/tablet will result in the student losing laptop/tablet privileges for the remainder of the semester. If abuse is prevalent amongst students, then laptop/tablet usage for ALL students will be revoked.

**Academic Integrity**: USM has a policy on academic integrity, found in the online USM Undergraduate Bulletin under General Academic Information. For more information on USM’s Academic Integrity policy, visit [http://catalog.usm.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=962#academic_integrity_policy](http://catalog.usm.edu/content.php?catoid=17&navoid=962#academic_integrity_policy).

It is your responsibility to read information on academic integrity in the USM Bulletin and refrain from acts considered dishonest. Penalties for academic dishonesty are severe: you will receive a zero on the assignment/exam, and face potential expulsion from the program. **You are expected to complete all assignments independently unless otherwise noted.**

Students must also adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics. It is your responsibility to read this policy on the ASHA website, [http://www.asha.org/Code-of-Ethics/](http://www.asha.org/Code-of-Ethics/), or on the SHS website, [https://www.usm.edu/speech-hearing-sciences](https://www.usm.edu/speech-hearing-sciences) (look under A-Z Index).

**Students with Disabilities**: Students with diagnosed disabilities who need accommodations should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for the information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. The phone number is 601-266-5024. Individuals with hearing impairments can contact the ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1-800-527-2233 (TTY), or email [Scott.Dossett@usm.edu](mailto:Scott.Dossett@usm.edu).

**HIPPA Reminder**: The University of Southern Mississippi Speech and Hearing Clinic is compliant with the privacy Rules of Health Insurance and Accountability Act (HIPPA). Students enrolled in this class are expected to adhere to these guidelines.
Email in Canvas: Students are responsible for all correspondence the instructor sends via Email in Canvas. These emails are sent to students’ USM email accounts.

Exams, Assignments, and Grade Calculation:

- **Exams:** This course will consist of four exams worth 100 points each. Exam questions will be in a variety of formats and may include multiple choice, short answer true/false, fill in the blank, and discussion.

Grading Scale:

360-400    A
320-359    B
280-319    C
240-279    D
<240      F
I       Incomplete
WP      Withdraw passing
WF     Withdraw failing

REMEDICATION:

Students who make lower than a “C” on an examination must make an appointment with the instructor to discuss study habits and the reasons for poor performance. Academic encouragement through additional readings and work assignments may be allocated (as necessary) to ensure the acquisition of the requisite skills.

Student Resources:

- Writing Center: [https://www.usm.edu/writing-center](https://www.usm.edu/writing-center)
- Student Counseling: [https://www.usm.edu/student-counseling-services](https://www.usm.edu/student-counseling-services)
- Student Success: [https://www.usm.edu/success](https://www.usm.edu/success)
- Student Retention: [https://www.usm.edu/new-student-retention-programs](https://www.usm.edu/new-student-retention-programs)

Important Dates:

- Aug. 23   Last Day to Drop Classes
- Sep. 4    Labor Day Holiday
- Oct. 19-20 Fall Break
- Oct. 27   Last Day to Withdraw Pass/Fail
- Nov. 22-24 Thanksgiving Break

Course Schedule:
All information is tentative, subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.

**August**

16, 18  Introduction

21-25  Chapter 1: The Territory

28-Sept. 1  Chapter 2: Describing Language

**September**

4, 6  Chapter 3: Neurological Bases of Speech and Language

8  Exam #1

11-15  Chapter 4: Cognitive, Perceptual, and Motor Bases of Early Language and Speech

18  No Class

20-22  Chapter 5: The Social and Communicative Bases of Early Language and Speech

25-29  Chapter 6: Language-Learning and Teaching processes and Young Children

**October**

2  Exam #2

4-6  Chapter 7: First Words and Word Combinations in Toddler Talk

9-13  Chapter 8: Preschool Pragmatic and Semantic Development

16, 18  Chapter 9: Preschool Development of Language Form

20  Fall Break

23-27  Chapter 10: Early School-Age Language Development

**November**

Oct. 30  Exam #3

6  Chapter 10 continued
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-10</td>
<td>No Class – ASHA</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-17</td>
<td>Chapter 11 School-Age Literacy Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Chapter 12 Adolescent and Adult Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-Dec. 1</td>
<td>Chapter 12 continued and other readings as time permits</td>
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**December**

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<tr>
<td>4-8</td>
<td>Finals Week – Follow Final exam schedule</td>
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