Instructor: Dr. Steve Oshrin  
Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences  
118 College Drive #5092  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406


Course Requirements:

This course utilizes online media that requires high-speed internet access (cable or DSL). Videos for the class are best viewed on laptop computers or tablets; cell phone screens will not provide the clarity or resolution for appreciating the content of the videos.

Although there are no set meetings or chat requirements for this class, you must be willing to access the class at least once from Monday-Thursday to view videos and modules. You must also be willing to access the class at least once from Friday-Sunday to take the weekly quiz. If you cannot meet these meeting requirements, you should take the regular lecture version of this class.

**Instructional objectives:**

Students in this class will: learn about anatomical nomenclature

- learn about the form and function of structures in the outer, middle and inner ear  
- learn about the form and function of the central auditory pathways  
- learn about the prenatal development of the auditory system  
- learn about the pathological conditions that affect the auditory system  
- learn to use internet resources to obtain information related to the auditory system

**Instructional outcomes assessment:**

Meeting the objectives noted above will be determined by your performance on:

- the completion of online quizzes  
- the completion of online assignments  
- grades from a midterm and final examination

**Remediation:** Quizzes provide a formative assessment of your progress in this class. Students who are not progressing satisfactorily may be required to participate in additional activities designed to give them the opportunity to complete this class.
Bulletin Board, Chat and E-mail: There will be occasional postings on the class bulletin board. Please check the bulletin board frequently to make sure you don't miss any important information about the course. Periodic chat sessions may be held to clarify information from the lessons and to ask questions of the instructor. The chat sessions are optional; you do not have to attend. You can ask questions via the private mail feature or by posting them on the bulletin board.

Quizzes: The course is comprised of lessons or "modules" on different topics. Each module concludes with a quiz on the material contained in the module and on any readings associated with the module. The dates that quizzes become available will be noted on the course calendar. Quizzes will be available for three days only; make sure that you check the calendar to determine when quizzes are available. Make sure to complete each quiz within that time frame - please don't ask for extensions for any reason. If you don't complete the quiz by the deadline, you won't receive any points for that quiz. You should take notes and study the material in each module carefully before taking the quiz. There is a time limit for each quiz, so you must know the material before taking the quiz (you won't have time to re-read your notes while you're taking the quiz). You may only take the quiz once. If you encounter technical problems with a quiz, please send me a message via Canvas private email, telling me which quiz you had difficulties with and describing the problems you encountered. I will review the online logs of your activities and, if appropriate, make accommodations. If you have not viewed the videos you will not be allowed to take the quiz. If an extension is warranted, I will allow you to access the quiz for a limited time period (usually one day), so be sure to log on to Canvas before that time period passes. You will only have one "do-over". Students who have excessive technical difficulties in completing quizzes will be required to take the quizzes at on-campus or at a more reliable internet access site. The "do-over" allowance pertains only to technical difficulties; there is no do-over if you decide to skip the quiz to take the weekend off. Make sure you have access to a computer during the quiz time-periods. Excuses like "I took a three-day weekend, "my best friend got married on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday", and "I was tailgating for 3 days" won't be accepted.

Presentation Format: The modules in this class consist of information presented via standard web pages and on videos presented in mp4 format. Most computers and tablets can play mp4 format. Although the videos are produced in a format that provides efficient internet downloading, if you have a slow connection it may take 5-10 minutes for the videos to download. If you have DSL or cable modem connection to the internet, files will download very rapidly. Modules will become available on Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m. and will be available to you until the following Thursday at midnight. The quiz on that module will be available from Friday at 8:00 a.m. until Sunday at midnight. You must take the quiz during that time period.

Checking the Calendar: The calendar lists the dates that each lesson module becomes available. It also lists the dates of availability for each quiz. Modules will appear on the date indicated on the calendar. If you don't have access to a module or a quiz when it should be available, send me an email immediately. Remember, it is your responsibility to check the calendar and to notify the instructor promptly if you do not have access to a module or a quiz.

Exams: The midterm and final examination will be given at the University of Southern Mississippi in room 111 of the Speech and Hearing Building. Information regarding the time and place will be posted on the bulletin board. If you do not live within driving distance of the campus, you may take the exam using a proctor at an approved testing site. Check the Learning Enhancement Center website regarding deadlines for applying for a proctored examination (https://lec.usm.edu/proctoring/). For additional information about proctored examinations, click on the link on the homepage.

Grading Grades will be assigned on a percentage basis. For example if you obtained 330 out of the possible 390 points during the semester, your percentage score would be 84.6% (B). Letter grades will be given on the following scale:
You can check your grades at any time by clicking on the "My Grades" icon from the main page. It is my policy to round your final average up to the next higher integer. For example, if your final average is 79.4, I will round your average up to 80% and you will receive the grade of B. If your final average is 78.9, I will round it up to 79 and you will receive the grade of C. Please don't ask for extra points, extra credit, extra consideration or extraterrestrial assistance. Students who fail to show up for the final examination will receive the grade of F for the class.

**Grade Grubbing:**

Don't be a grade grubber. The Urban Dictionary defines a grade grubber as "one who does all he or she can to get a point added to their score." Grades are calculated carefully at the end of the semester and I will be glad to meet with you to explain how your grade was determined. In the rare instance where I have made a calculation error, I will be glad to change your grade.

At the end of the semester don't ask to take a quiz you forgot to take seven weeks earlier so you can get a better grade. Don't say "I need an A to get into grad school" or "I am a straight A student" or "Can I do an extra credit assignment." It won't work.

**Drop Date and Drop Policy:**

The drop date for this semester and the current withdrawal policy can be found on the registrar's website:

http://www.usm.edu/registrar

**Knowledge and Skills**

In this course you will acquire knowledge (areas of content that you can recall, relate and use) and skills (the learned capacity to do some task). Your acquisition of knowledge and skills will be assessed during the course of the semester (through formative assessment) and at the end of the semester (through summative assessments). Formative assessments will measure your progress during the course of the semester; the summative assessment will determine if you have acquired the knowledge and skills expected of students completing the course.


**Academic Honesty:** The learning in professional preparation courses like this one directly affects your ability to provide professional services to those entrusted to your care. Anyone caught cheating will be subject to all penalties proscribed by university policy. You are expected to complete all quizzes yourself; having others assist you will be considered a violation of the academic honesty policy. Examinations taken at off-campus sites must be taken under the supervision of a qualified proctor. If, in the opinion of the instructor, it is not possible to verify that the examinations were taken by the student without aid or assistance, those examinations will not be accepted and the student may be required to retake the examination under secure test conditions. The university policy on plagiarism will be enforced.
Office hours: If you are in the Hattiesburg area, feel free to come by my office, located in room 119 of the SRS Building (Speech, Reading and Special Education). I am generally available most of the day; feel free to drop in to see me or call me to make an appointment (601.266.6842).

Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are behaviors that are observable and measurable; at the completion of this course you will be able to:

- describe the acoustic aspects of sound that relate to hearing
- utilize the anatomical terminology related to auditory anatomy and physiology
- describe the anatomical structures of the outer, middle and inner ear
- relate the structures of the ear to their physiological function
- discuss the prenatal development of the auditory system
- describe the endogenous and exogenous factors that can affect the performance of the auditory system

A final word: Most students find the format of this class enjoyable and the class material interesting. There is a perception by some students that online courses are easier than regular lecture-type courses. While that may be true in some cases, student grades in my online course compare well with those of students taking the regular lecture course (good students get good grades; poor students get poor grades). Take the quizzes seriously; try to learn the material and take the quizzes without referring to your notes. This is not a class to take if you're looking for an easy grade. This course demands as much effort as any lecture course. If you do not have the ability for self-motivation you can easily fall behind. If you don't have the time or motivation to do the work, you should consider registering for the traditional lecture-style course.

Online courses require the same effort and time required of traditional lecture-style classes. I recommend that you set aside the same amount of time for this class as you would for any other 3 credit hour course. You should block off three hours per week to view the lessons, watch the videos, read the assignments and complete the quizzes. Devoting less time to an online course than to a regular lecture course will result in poor grades. In the interest of honest disclosure, you should know that Canvas the instructor with a record of your online activities, so if you don't do well in the class, don't try to exaggerate the amount of time you've spend doing the lessons. The Canvas program tracks your access to system and I routinely review how much time a student spends on each lesson. Students who log on the system for only a brief time each week (usually only long enough to take the quiz) usually fail the class.

Good luck in the class - have fun while you learn!

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans 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 or (228) 214-3232 Fax: (601) 266-6035
Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1-800-582-2233 (TTY) or email ODA at oda@usm.edu.

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