SHS 450: Clinical Observation
Fall 2017

Instructor: Rachel Powell, PhD, CCC-SLP
Office: 116
Office Hours: M/W/F 8:30-10:00, or by appointment
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Class Time & Location: M/W 2:00-3:15

Text:

Course Description: Prerequisites: SHS 201, 211, 221, 301, and 431 or 432, or permission of instructor and minimum overall GPA 2.75. Capstone experience integrating skills obtained from prior coursework in the formulation and preparation of professional reports; writing intensive course (WI). This course integrates information necessary for preparing and writing professional reports pertaining to observed evaluation and treatment procedures used with adults and children with communication and hearing disorders.

Instructional outcomes
Students will:
• Understand the concepts of ethical practice and general clinical protocols expected in the field of communication disorders.
• Develop a working knowledge of common terminology utilized in the field of communication disorders.
• Acquire the skills necessary to identify pertinent client background information through interview techniques and case history analysis.
• Demonstrate abilities in identification of therapeutic goals and behavioral objectives for a variety of communication disorders.
• Comprehend procedures involved in identification of treatment sequences, therapeutic activities, client outcomes, and data collection with a variety of communication disorders.
• Develop knowledge in the goals and outcomes necessary for the diagnosis of communication disorders.
• Develop professional writing using Standard English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and communication of thought.

Accreditation Standards:
GEC 07. Writing Intensive: This course satisfies the writing intensive requirement of the General Education Curriculum. Students will write a minimum of 5,000 words (approximately 20 pages of double-spaced typed text) in discipline-specific papers and assignments.
Upon completion of this course, students will have fulfilled the 25 hours of guided observation required by Standard V-C of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s (ASHA) 2014 Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology.

**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/, or on the SHS website, 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.

**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**:
Students must complete 25 hours of clinical observation in both speech-language pathology and audiology. Students should complete at least 5 hours in each field; the remaining 15 hours may be completed in either field. Students are encouraged to complete their observations in a variety of settings, including, but not limited to: USM Speech and Hearing Clinic; DuBard School for Language Disorders; The Children’s Center for Communication and Development; local schools, clinics, and hospitals. Students are responsible for arranging off-campus observations and ensuring that supervisors hold the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in their respective professions. Instructions for scheduling on-campus observations will be provided in class. Clinical supervisors may cancel or limit observations at any time during the semester.

Students will record observation hours on the appropriate form as explained in class. These forms must be signed in pen (blue or black ink) by the supervisor of the observed session.

Students must complete 25 hours of observation for a final grade to be assigned. Failure to complete 25 hours of observation may result in a grade of F or I (incomplete) at the discretion of the instructor.

Students will complete at least ten reports on observed therapy sessions throughout the semester using the format provided by the instructor. One essay will be assigned on the topic of ethics. Students will also be responsible for responding to weekly discussion questions via Canvas Discussion. Additional assignments may be given throughout the semester at the instructor’s discretion. All written assignments should be typed, following the rules of APA Style®, and submitted via Canvas.

The instructor reserves the right to modify course requirements at any time.
Grading Scale:

90-100%   A
80-89%     B
70-79%     C
60-69%     D
<59%       F
I           Incomplete
WP      Withdraw passing
WF      Withdraw failing

Assignment Weighting:
60% Observation Reports
30% Reflections
10% Ethical Dilemma Essay

REMEDIATION:

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
Student Counseling  https://www.usm.edu/student-counseling-services
Student Success  https://www.usm.edu/success
Student Retention  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.

- Professional Conduct
- ASHA Code of Ethics
- HIPPA
• Review of Grammar and Mechanics
• Terminology in Communication Disorders
• Clinical Observation of Assessment & Treatment
• Observation Forms
• Observation Documentation
• ASHA Scope of Practice