



Course Syllabus

Audiologist's Assistants Diagnostics Module

Faculty of Record,
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course trains the audiologist's assistant to conduct screening otoscopic inspection, pure-tone air-conduction threshold testing, and tympanometry. It prepares the student to assist the audiologist with pediatric testing and with setting up patients for electrophysiologic testing. Additionally, the student learns hearing screening procedures and infection control.

MATERIALS:

You will need:

- the assistance of your supervising audiologist
- a windows 95, 98 or XP or Vista computer with Microsoft Word 2003 or higher
- internet connection
- Adobe Acrobat pdf viewer installed (viewer is free) To obtain the latest viewer for pdf files, go to <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> to download a free copy.
- FLASH software to view videos online. (Your computer should alert you if you do not have the software installed, and it should guide you through how to install the latest free version.)
- this course workbook
- a copy of your student identification code to access the WEBCT internet platform, on which the course materials are posted.

OUTCOMES:

Following successful completion of this course, the student will be able to assist an audiologist with diagnostic testing. Specifically, the student will be able to:

- define the role of the audiologist's assistant and the audiologist.
- recognize the major anatomical structures of the ear.
- use an otoscope to inspect the external ear canal.
- recognize which sounds are high and low pitch, and describe the loudness of various sounds.
- view an audiogram and predict what speech sounds would and would not be heard by the patient, and recognize whether the patient will be able to hear and understand your instructions.
- recognize the names of the different types of hearing losses.
- perform pure-tone air-conduction audiometry on patients who have previously had an audiological evaluation.
- screen hearing and conduct screening tympanometry.
- recognize test results that require children to have repeated hearing / middle ear screening, and which findings require immediate referral.
- administer a hearing handicap scale to augment adult hearing screening.
- attach electrodes for ABR (auditory brainstem response) and ENG (electronystagmography) testing and test electrode impedance.
- clean and sterilize audiologic devices and components.

TIME LINES:

You can complete the course material at your own pace; however, the course must be completed within 6 months of registration. Students registering for both courses (diagnostics and amplification) simultaneously are given 12 months to complete the two

modules. Failure to complete the course in this time will result in the incomplete assignments having a grade of zero. Students have the option of re-enrolling in the course (at an additional \$75.00 cost) in order to extend the course time by another 6 months.

It is estimated that you will only need 2 to 3 months to complete the course materials. If you wish to complete the course as quickly as possible, have the time to dedicate to studying the material, and if your supervisor is willing to provide you the clinical training in an expedited fashion, the course can be completed in as little as a few weeks.

COURSE STRUCTURE: There are different types of activities you will engage in during this course.

You will access the NSU WEBCT (webct.nova.edu – notice, do **not** use www.) site for this course. This site will provide you with:

- information on how to use WEBCT.
- an electronic version of this syllabus.
- the web-based course modules that provide you with the specific instructions for each assignment.
- FLASH-based audio narrated slide shows
- self-quizzes and tests
- the forms you need to complete. These will often require a signature from your supervising audiologist documenting completion of clinical training.
- a listing of the grades you have earned in the course.

You will view other websites to gain additional information on selected topics.

You will obtain **clinical training** directly from your supervising audiologist. Specific clinical assignments will be made. You will know which assignment to complete, in which order, from the web-based instruction material. You and your supervising audiologist will document completion of the assignments, which are a part of your course grade.

You should return these assignment sheets either by mail to:

Teri Hamill, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Audiology
Allied Health / Health Professions Division
3200 South University Drive
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33328-2018

Or by fax to:

Attention: Teri Hamill, Ph.D.
(954) 262-2908

You will take graded tests on-line. There will be a limited amount of time to take each test, so you will need to have mastered the material. There will not be enough time to look up the answers. The practice quizzes will provide you with an indication of when you are ready to take the tests.

GRADING

To earn the frameable certificate of completion from NSU's Audiology Department for successfully completing this course module, the student needs to earn a minimum of 80 points. Points come from completing assignments and taking tests. There is an opportunity to earn up to 100 points; 50 from activities and 50 from taking tests that demonstrate your understanding of the material in this course.

There are 25 clinical training activities. Assignment forms found on the course website will list the specific requirements of these activities. You will complete them together with your supervising audiologist. The different activities have points assigned to them. Many of the activities will be awarded full credit for completion within the permitted timeframe. Some activities have points awarded based on your level of proficiency, as evaluated by the supervising audiologist. The assignments together are worth up to 50 points. If you have already completed the companion module, Audiologist's Assistant Program Diagnostic Testing Module, you will not have to complete assignments that you have already completed as part of that program. However, you will need to take the tests which contain information on the content area from those assignments.

There are five unit tests, taken on-line. As described above, these tests are taken in a time-limited format. As discussed previously, while they are not closed-book, you will not have enough time to look up the answers to each question. Your grade on those five tests will be averaged together, and the test average will be used to assign the remaining 50 points in the course. (For example, if your test average is 90%, you earn 45 points.) There is no provision for retaking tests on which you do poorly, nor is there the opportunity to drop a low test score. Please be sure to take the self-quizzes to make sure you are ready to take the tests.

ACCREDITATION AND NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION:

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; Telephone number 407 697-4501) to award bachelor's, master's, education specialist's and doctoral degrees.

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed or ethnic origin.

NOTE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Please carefully review this syllabus. Note that the course requires you to see web and computer materials, listen to narrated slide shows on the computer, and take timed tests. Clinical activities must be completed, which may involve use of manually operated equipment. If you have a disability which you believe will interfere with your ability to successfully complete the course requirements, you should notify the course coordinator within 1 week of receiving this material.