

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY



Course Syllabus

Audiologist's Assistant Program Amplification Course

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TECHNICAL SUPPORT: <http://www.nova.edu/help/> or (800) 541-NOVA (6682) x24357.

Contact Help Desk for any technical support services, whether the problem is email, online courses, network access, or another technical question, the Help Desk is here to assist and troubleshoot with advanced technical support.

Email Help Desk at: help@nsu.nova.edu (via email 24-48hr response time).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course trains the audiologist's assistant to assist patients in learning to use and care for hearing aids. The assistant will be able to recognize different hearing aid styles, insert and remove them, manipulate their switches and controls, and change their batteries. The assistant will be able to troubleshoot defective hearing aids, make simple in-office repairs, conduct electroacoustic analysis of hearing aids, and know when to send hearing aids for manufacturer repair. The assistant will demonstrate understanding of how to modify the fit of custom products and earmolds as well as measure and fit earwires/thin tubes and domes. The assistant will recognize the different available assistive listening devices and be able to discuss these options with patients. The assistant will be trained to make earmold/shell impressions and to follow infection control procedures.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Following successful completion of this course, the student will be able to assist an audiologist with services related to hearing aid care and use. Specifically, the student will be able to:

1. Define the role of the audiology assistant and the audiologist
2. Recognize the major anatomical structures of the ear
3. Use an otoscope to inspect the external ear canal
4. Understand how frequency and intensity are represented on scientific graphs and audiograms
5. Clean and sterilize instrumentation and tools
6. Recognize the legal requirements for hearing aid dispensing
7. Recognize the different types of hearing aids
8. Insert and remove all types of hearing aids
9. Identify battery size when viewing batteries and hearing aid battery doors
10. Discuss battery hazards with patients
11. Test hearing aid batteries
12. Teach patients how to insert, remove, and adjust all types of hearing aids
13. Teach patients to properly use the phone while wearing hearing aids
14. Teach patients how to care for their hearing aids
15. Make earmold/shell impressions with or without a video otoscope
16. Troubleshoot hearing aids
17. Clean hearing aids and make in-office repairs by cleaning microphones, receivers, vents, and earmolds/earhooks; dehumidifying hearing aids; retube earmolds; replace battery doors; and remove lodged batteries
18. Fit receiver-in-the-ear domes and earwires; change out receivers and earwires
19. Conduct electroacoustic analysis of hearing aids

20. Complete hearing aid repair forms and send hearing aids for manufacturer repair
21. Enter patient information and connect hearing aids through Noah
22. Assist the audiologist in collecting outcomes measurement data
23. Recognize the types of assistive listening devices and describe some of the options to patients if instructed to do so by the audiologist
24. Demonstrate professionalism in dealing with patients
25. Describe ways in which the assistant can enhance the audiology practice

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

- Supervising audiologist to assist with assignment completion
- Clinical location in which to complete assignments
- Computer with internet connection
 - Preferred web browser is Google Chrome
- Adobe Acrobat pdf viewer installed (viewer is free)
 - To obtain the latest viewer for pdf files, go to <https://get.adobe.com/reader/> to download a free copy
- Scanner to upload non-electronic documents
 - Free applications exist for smart devices (e.g. smart phone) if there is not a physical scanner in your office

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

To earn the certificate of completion from NSU's Audiology Department for successfully completing this course, the student needs to earn a minimum of 80% of available points for assignments and for tests. Assignments make up 50% of the overall grade. Unit Tests make up the remaining 50% of the overall grade.

There are 25 clinical training activities. These assignments are found within each of the modules in the Canvas course online. You will complete them together with your supervising audiologist. Each assignment has specific instructions regarding what actions to take and how to submit the assignment for credit. The different activities have points assigned to them. A course administrator will review your submission within 2 business days and update the points earned accordingly.

If you have already completed the companion course, Audiology Assistant Program Diagnostic Course, 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 5 online unit tests and 19 online quizzes. The quizzes are not counted toward the final grade; however, they should be completed to make sure you are prepared for the unit tests. The unit tests are not closed-book; however, the unit tests are time limited and you will not have enough time to look up the answers to each question. Your grade on these 5 tests will be averaged together to count for half of your grade in the course. 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. The self-quizzes may be taken as many times as you'd like.

TIMELINES:

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. You must call the Audiology Department to request an extension.

It is estimated that you will only need 2 to 3 months to complete the course materials. At quickest, the course could potentially be completed in a few weeks. Time to complete the course is dependent on available time to study the material, clinical training opportunities with your supervising audiologist, and how quickly you obtain proficiency in the areas your supervisor deems necessary for their practice.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

There are different types of activities you will engage in during this course. Go to NSU Sharklink website (sharklink.nova.edu) to access this course. Login using your username and password provided. Click "Canvas" to access course materials. The course(s) should be loaded on the dashboard. Once you click on the course, you will land on a home page. Please proceed to the "Modules" section and work through the modules from top to bottom. The slideshow presentations will be loaded here.

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

You will obtain **clinical training** directly from your supervising audiologist following the assignments as a guide. You will know which assignment to complete, in which order, from the web-based instruction material.

You will take graded tests online. 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.

ADVISEMENT OF NECESSITY TO FOLLOW STATE LICENSURE LAWS:

Some states have specific requirements, such as a certain number of college credits, in order to qualify to work as an audiology assistant. The university's legal counsel has advised the department that we are not permitted to interpret state law to guide you in determining if you do or do not meet your state's licensure requirements. The first assignment in the course is to review your state licensure laws. If you find that you cannot qualify to work as an audiology

assistant because of the licensing requirements in your state, recognize that as you start the first assignment, notify the course coordinator within 1 week of completing Assignment 1.

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.

This course does NOT award college credit. It is a certificate-based program.

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.