

**Communicative Disorders 4450**  
**Assessment and Treatment of Communicative Disorders**  
**In the Pediatric Population**

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**Office #:** EEJ 212  
**Office Hours:** Arranged

**Course Websites:**

Course materials will be available on Canvas

**COURSE MATERIALS**

Texts: Hegde, M.N. & Pomaville, F. (2015). *Assessment of Communication Disorders in Children: Resources and Protocols – 3rd ed.* San Diego, CA: Plural Publishing.

Additional readings will be available via Canvas

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe and implement procedures for evaluation and diagnosis in speech-language pathology as well as psychometric considerations.
2. Develop awareness of the relationship between speech, language and communication.
3. Discuss the implications and utilization of evaluation information for differential diagnosis, determining a prognosis, making referrals, and implementing therapeutic programs.
4. Describe multicultural considerations in the diagnostic and treatment process.
5. Generate professional written work related to the field of speech language pathology.
6. Discuss materials and techniques used in therapy.
7. Understand various ways in which positive reinforcement can be used to encourage appropriate target behavior.
8. Be familiar with types of data collection in tracking outcomes in therapy.
9. Demonstrate understanding of health, safety and confidentiality issues related to work as a speech-language pathologist.

## Assignments and Grading

You will complete several types of assignments during the semester. These are listed in the table below. Your grade will be based on the total number of points accumulated in the course. There is a total of 291 points possible in this course and grades will be assigned as indicated.

Assignments:	Points	Weight	Grades
Exams	3 @ 50 points	52%	A = 93 – 100%
Articulation Assessment	25	8.5%	A- = 90 – 92%
			B+ = 87 – 89%
			B = 83 – 86%
Annotated bibliography	25	8.5%	B- = 80 – 82%
Case History Summarization Report	25	8.5%	C+ = 77 – 79%
Research paper	50	16.5%	C = 73 – 76%
Check Your Understanding Quiz	5	2%	C- = 70 – 72%
Academic Honesty Acknowledge	1	1%	D+ = 67 – 69%
Syllabus Quiz	10	3%	D = 63 – 66%
			D- = 60 – 62%
			F = <60%
<b>Total possible points</b>	<b>291</b>		

### Exams

Three proctored exams will be administered during the semester. Exam questions will be primarily fill-in-the-blank, true-false, multiple choice as well as some short answer/essay questions. Exams **MUST BE TAKEN** during the dates/times presented in the course. NO EXCEPTIONS will be allowed except for University-related business (those exceptions must be arranged during the first week of the semester with the instructor), or personal/family tragedy. Over the years, I have learned that it is best to take your exam during the first two days it is open. I have found that proctors usually get sick on the last two days for some reason and many students' computers stop functioning on those last two days. Again, NO EXCEPTIONS will be made for failing to take the exams. Exams will not be cumulative in nature.

### Writing assignments

This is a substantial writing course. You will be required to complete several written assignments. **All** assignments will be graded for content and form. All of the writing assignments, with the exception of the research paper, are to be completed individually. The grading rubric used for each assignment will be available on Canvas.

- **Articulation Assessment**

You will observe the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation being

administered to a 4 year old child. You will score the assessment and write up an evaluation report.

- **Case History Summarization Report:**

Using a case history form provided in class, each student will have the opportunity to complete a written case history. This report will be typewritten and must follow the template that will be provided.

- **Research paper**

The research paper provides you an opportunity to explore an aspect of childhood speech and language disorders that relates to your personal interests in the field of communication sciences and disorders. For this assignment, you are welcome to choose to work by yourself, or complete a group paper with 2-3 other students. If you decide to work as a group, it will be up to your group to submit a quality paper. One grade will be awarded to the group and all group members will receive the same grade. If this does not seem fair, please complete an individual paper. Each individual or group will select a topic from a list given in class. Your group will develop a bibliography that includes current references that will help you research your topic. You should employ a minimum of 7 references. At least 4 of these should be from peer-reviewed journals and 3 may be from a book, book chapter, or review article. You may use more than the required number of articles for references. Papers will follow this format:

- I. Introduction to the disorder (prevalence, incidence, description, population)
- II. Speech and language characteristics of the disorder
- III. Evaluation tools and methods (using Evidence-based Practice)
- IV. Treatment programs or methods (using Evidence-based Practice)
- V. Personal reaction (how will this affect your practice as a speech-language pathologist)

### **Guidelines for preparation of written assignments**

All papers must be submitted in typewritten format as a Word document (.doc or .docx format). Use a 12-point font (Times Roman and Arial are examples of acceptable fonts) and double-spacing with 1" margins on all sides of the paper. Any work that does not meet these formatting requirements will be returned to you so that you may format it correctly. If that happens, the paper will be counted as late.

You should follow the APA guidelines in the preparation of all of your papers. The APA publication manual provides you with stylistic guidelines as well as format for citations in text and for the reference list for your papers. There is a guide for writing research papers based on styles recommended by the American Psychological Association at <http://www.ccc.commnet.edu/apa/>. You can also download a mini manual at <http://library.manukau.ac.nz/pdfs/apa6thmini.pdf>

Additional information is available through the Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University. You can access this resource directly at its web site (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>).

### **Grading Policies:**

1. Late Work – All assignments will be due by the date posted. **No late work will be accepted regardless of your inability to upload documents for submission. I have no control over the internet across the nation. If your internet connection is down or your scanner is not working, you will get an incomplete on the assignment. Remember that I live in the Mountain Time Zone. This is the time zone that you should be aware of when submitting assignments.**
2. Grades are earned, not given. I do not give grades; rather the student earns his/her grade through organization, diligence, planning and execution. Students are expected to assume individual responsibility for the quality, presentation, and timeliness of their own work.
3. Grades are assigned based on how the student's overall performance aligns with the established criteria for assignments or exams. Therefore, it is imperative that students review the grading criteria for each assignment prior to submission.
4. I will make every effort to evaluate students' work equitably and fairly. Grades are not negotiable. I am willing to review and recalculate grades when a computational error is suspected. A student may request a review of *computation* only. Requests to otherwise alter a grade will not be honored.
5. Individual requests for extra credit will not be honored. Any extra credit opportunities offered are at my discretion and will only be offered to the entire class as optional credit opportunities.

### **Important Additional Information: Please read carefully!**

#### **Graduation:**

All students who desire a degree must have a graduation application filled out and submitted to the graduation office at USU during the first part of the semester PRIOR to the semester of graduation. Students can fill out an online application for graduation at <http://www.usu.edu/registrar/htm/graduation/apply-online>

Upon receipt of the graduation packet, students should sign and mail it to:

Dee Child

Utah State University

Dept of COMDDE

1000 Old Main Hill

Logan, UT 84322-1000

Dee Child will get the remaining signatures needed and submit it for you. Students should also include the check of their graduation fees with the packet. The fee is \$10 for those who apply prior to the semester they graduate and \$50 for those who apply during the semester they graduate. Students can pay graduation fees online in their Access account.

### **Grievance Process (Student Code):**

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated [in matters other than (i) discipline or (ii) admission, residency, employment, traffic, and parking - which are addressed by procedures separate and independent from the Student Code] may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: [http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student\\_code.pdf](http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student_code.pdf) (Article VII. Grievances, pages 25-30).

### **Honor Code**

The Utah State University Honor Code embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of the university, and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the university community.

The fundamental beliefs underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

- (1) that trust in a person is a positive force in making that person worthy of trust,
- (2) that every student has the right to live in an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty, and
- (3) that the honesty and integrity of all members of the university community contribute to its quest for Truth.

The functions of the Honor System are to communicate the meaning and importance of intellectual honesty to all students of the University; to articulate and support the interest of the community in maintaining the highest standards of conduct in academic affairs; and to identify, sanction, and educate those who fail to live up to the stated expectations of the university community with regard to these standards. The Honor Code is the University policy, which defines the expected standards of conduct in academic affairs. The Honor System is the University body charged with disseminating information about the Honor Code to the university community and with enforcement of the Honor Code.

**The Honor Code is the University policy, which expressly forbids the following academic violations:**

- **Cheating** -- Cheating includes the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of any unfair advantage on any form of academic work, or attempts thereof.
- **Plagiarism** -- Plagiarism includes the copying of the language, structure, ideas and/or thoughts of another and passing off same as one's own, original work, or attempts thereof.
- **Falsification** -- Falsification includes the statement of any untruth, either verbally or in writing, with respect to any circumstances relevant to one's academic work, or attempts thereof. Such acts include, but are not limited to, the forgery of official signatures, tampering with official records, fraudulently adding or deleting information on academic documents such as add/drop requests, or fraudulently changing an examination or other academic work after the testing period or due date of the assignment.

**Honor Code:** The USU honor code will be strictly enforced in this class. Any suspected violations of the honor code will be promptly reported to the honor system. Policies regarding the honor code will be enforced and can be found at: <http://www.usu.edu/policies/PDF/Acad-Integrity.pdf>

**This means that ANYONE caught committing academic violations will be given an "F" for the semester and will be brought up to deal with the University Honor Code System. This may result in dismissal from Utah State University and barring from participation in future courses from Utah State University.**

**Incomplete (I) Grades:**

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances. The term "extenuating" circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter course schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by employer, (5) judicial obligations, or (6) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor. The student may petition the instructor for time beyond the end of the semester to finish the work. If the instructor agrees, two grades will be given, an "I" and a letter grade for the course computed as if the missing work were zero. An *Incomplete Grade Documentation Form* must be filed by the instructor in the department or college office. Students may not be given an incomplete grade due to poor performance or in order to retain financial aid. An incomplete grade may be granted only if the student has completed the majority of the course and is passing the class at the time.

The student is required to complete the work by the time agreed upon (which may not be longer than 12 months). If no change of grade is submitted by the

instructor within the prescribed period, the “I” will be removed and the letter grade originally submitted with the “I” will remain as the permanent grade for the course. Arrangements to complete the missing coursework are to be made directly with the instructor awarding the “I” grade, and in accordance with departmental and other USU policies. In the absence of the original instructor, special circumstances must be handled by the department head. Documentation of the reasons for granting an “I” grade and required work to be completed in order to remove the “I” grade must be recorded on the *Incomplete Grade Documentation Form*, which must be filed with the departmental office. Resolution of the “I” grade does not involve a complete repeat of the course, only the completion of missing coursework. **A student does not reregister for the course.** All “I” grades must be changed to letter grades prior to graduation, regardless of whether or not the course is required for the degree. Dissertation, thesis, directed study, and independent study courses taken for graduate work are exempted from this policy.

A student who is on academic probation and receives an incomplete grade in one or more classes may register for classes in the subsequent semester, provided the grades received from his or her other classes are high enough to prevent the student from being placed on academic suspension. A student in this situation, prior to making up the incomplete grade, may enroll in *only one* subsequent semester. A Registrar’s Office hold will then be placed on the student’s record, preventing him or her from registering for a second additional semester. Additional registration holds may be placed on a student’s record by an academic advisor. The Registrar’s Office hold will not be removed until the incomplete grade is changed to a letter grade. If the resulting grade does not cause the student to be placed on academic suspension, the Registrar’s Office hold will be removed. Other registration holds, such as an advisor hold, will need to be removed by the office placing the hold.

Exceptions to the one subsequent semester limitation may be made (1) if receiving the grade that accompanies the incomplete grade (e.g., a student who receives an *IF* grade would receive an *F* if no additional work was completed) would not cause the student to be placed on academic suspension for the semester in which the incomplete grade was originally received, or (2) by memo of justification from the course instructor who submitted the incomplete grade. Any exceptions must be requested through the Registrar’s Office.

**Proctoring Information** .... Current information regarding choosing and using a proctor can be found at: <https://elearn.usu.edu/support/proctors.html>

#### Proctored Testing

Students who are located near a USU Regional Campus or education center (please see [map](#)) will need to contact the appropriate testing center to schedule their exam. Students who are not located in Utah or who are unable to travel to/match schedules with the nearest USU site will need to find someone to proctor their exams. Many colleges and universities have testing centers which

allow students from other schools to take tests. There may be a fee for each exam taken. Students are responsible for all fees incurred while taking exams.

### Proctoring an Exam

Proctors are responsible for supervising you as you take an exam to ensure educational integrity. Examples of acceptable proctors are:

- college testing center personnel
- superintendent
- principal
- county agent
- military education director
- librarian

Relatives, co-workers (of you or your family), and friends (of you or your family) are *not eligible* to proctor exams.

After you have found your proctor, submit an [Exam Request Form](#) *at least two to three business days before* you plan to take the test. You **must** include your proctor's professional email address. Hotmail, Yahoo, Gmail or similar addresses will not be accepted.

Exams must be taken at an educational, professional or governmental institution, never at the proctor's place of residence. Exams must be taken using equipment that belongs to the institution. Personal laptops and computers are not allowed. If you have questions about proctor requirements, call (435) 797-9700 or (800) 233-2137.

### **Sexual Harassment:**

Sexual harassment is defined by the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as any "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature." If you feel you are a victim of sexual harassment, you may talk to or file a complaint with the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Office located in Old Main, Room 161, or call the AA/EEO Office at 797-1266.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act states: "Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the



Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format, large print, audio, diskette, or Braille.”