COMD 7200 Introduction to Clinical Practice

Meets
Clinical practicum times will be assigned for the USU Hearing Clinic. A specific schedule for the clinical assignments will be provided separately.

Catalogue Description
Supervised diagnostic practicum for first-year students in the Audiology Program.

Required Text Book/Readings
As needed by specific assignment from clinical supervisor. There is a required $15.00 fee for this course. The fee is used to help maintain the clinic and purchase the supplies necessary to facilitate proper testing in the USU Hearing Clinic.

Knowledge and Skills Assessment (KASA)
The following knowledge and skills assessment (KASA) standards and objectives must be met in COMD 7200 as part of the competencies required for certification as an audiologist. You must earn a grade of at least 80% for each objective associated with the sign-off standard. Performance will be determined on the primary indicators listed, with any subsequent remediation through later assignments, tests, or designed tasks. If you fail to meet an objective by the end of the course, you must meet with the instructor or the graduate advisor to determine a later remediation, which may occur in another course, in clinic, or as an additional activity. Achievement of KASA standards are documented in CALIPSO.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association competencies addressed in this course:

Standard IV-A: Foundations of Practice
The applicant must have knowledge and skills in:
A22. Oral and written forms of communication
A24. The use of instrumentation according to manufacturer's specifications and recommendations
A26. Principles and applications of counseling
A27. Use of interpreters and translators for both spoken and visual communication
A28. Management and business practices, including but not limited to cost analysis, budgeting, coding and reimbursement, and patient management
A29. Consultation with professionals in related and/or allied service areas

Standard IV-B: Prevention and Identification
The applicant must have the knowledge and skills necessary to:
B1. Implement activities that prevent and identify dysfunction in hearing and communication, balance, and other auditory-related systems
B2. Promote hearing wellness, as well as the prevention of hearing loss and protection of hearing function by designing, implementing, and coordinating universal newborn hearing screening, school screening, community hearing, and occupational conservation and identification programs
B3. Screen individuals for hearing impairment and disability/handicap using clinically appropriate, culturally sensitive, and age- and site-specific screening measures
B4. Screen individuals for speech and language impairments and other factors affecting communication function using clinically appropriate, culturally sensitive, and age- and site-specific screening measures
B5. Educate individuals on potential causes and effects of vestibular loss
B6. Identify individuals at risk for balance problems and falls who require further vestibular assessment and/or treatment or referral for other professional services

Standard IV-C: Assessment
The applicant must have knowledge and skills in:
C2. Assessing individuals with suspected disorders of hearing, communication, balance, and related systems
C3. Evaluating information from appropriate sources and obtaining a case history to facilitate assessment planning
C4. Performing otoscopy for appropriate audiological assessment/management decisions, determining the need for cerumen removal, and providing a basis for medical referral
C5. Conducting and interpreting behavioral and/or electrophysiologic methods to assess hearing thresholds and auditory neural function
C6. Conducting and interpreting behavioral and/or electrophysiologic methods to assess balance and related systems
C7. Conducting and interpreting otoacoustic emissions and acoustic immittance (reflexes)
C8. Evaluating auditory-related processing disorders
C9. Evaluating functional use of hearing
C10. Preparing a report, including interpreting data, summarizing findings, generating recommendations, and developing an audiologic treatment/management plan
C11. Referring to other professions, agencies, and/or consumer organizations

Standard IV-D: Intervention (Treatment)
The applicant must have knowledge and skills in:
D1. The provision of intervention services (treatment) to individuals with hearing loss, balance disorders, and other auditory dysfunction that compromises receptive and expressive communication
D2. Development of a culturally appropriate, audiologic rehabilitative management plan that includes, when appropriate, the following:
   a. Evaluation, selection, verification, validation, and dispensing of hearing aids, sensory aids, hearing assistive devices, alerting systems, and captioning devices, and educating the consumer and family/caregivers in the use of and adjustment to such technology
   b. Determination of candidacy of persons with hearing loss for cochlear implants and other implantable sensory devices and provision of fitting, mapping, and audiologic rehabilitation to optimize device use
   c. Counseling relating to psychosocial aspects of hearing loss and other auditory dysfunction, and processes to enhance communication competence
   d. Provision of comprehensive audiologic treatment for persons with hearing loss or other auditory dysfunction, including but not exclusive to communication strategies, auditory training, speech reading, and visual communication systems
D3. Determination of candidacy for vestibular and balance rehabilitation therapy to persons with vestibular and balance impairments
D4. Treatment and audiologic management of tinnitus
D5. Provision of treatment services for infants and children with hearing loss; collaboration/consultation with early interventionists, school based professionals, and other service providers regarding development of intervention plans (i.e., individualized education programs and/or individualized family service plans)
D7. Evaluation of the efficacy of intervention (treatment) services

Standard IV-E: Advocacy/Consultation
The applicant must have knowledge and skills in:
E1. Educating and advocating for communication needs of all individuals that may include advocating for the programmatic needs, rights, and funding of services for those with hearing loss, other auditory dysfunction, or vestibular disorders
E2. Consulting about accessibility for persons with hearing loss and other auditory dysfunction in public and private buildings, programs, and services
E3. Identifying underserved populations and promoting access to care

Standard IV-F: Education/Research/Administration
The applicant must have knowledge and skills in:
F1. Measuring functional outcomes, consumer satisfaction, efficacy, effectiveness, and efficiency of practices and programs to maintain and improve the quality of audiologic services
F2. Applying research findings in the provision of patient care (evidence-based practice)
F3. Critically evaluating and appropriately implementing new techniques and technologies supported by research-based evidence
F4. Administering clinical programs and providing supervision of professionals as well as support personnel
F5. Identifying internal programmatic needs and developing new programs
F6. Maintaining or establishing links with external programs, including but not limited to education programs, government programs, and philanthropic agencies
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Evaluation/Grading/Assignments: Course grades will be based on attendance, participation & clinical skills.

Attendance to on and off campus clinic is mandatory. Please let your supervisor know if you are unable to attend for emergency purposes. Students should arrive at least 10 minutes early to their assigned clinic time. The first clinic time of the day is responsible for performing a check on the equipment to ensure that it is working properly. They are also required to return all of the cleaned tips, cleaning tools, etc. to the proper storing facility. The final clinic time of the day is required to clean all of the tips and cleaning tools used throughout the day and to shut off all of the equipment used.

Grading Scale
All clinic related ASHA standards will be evaluated at the end of each semester through a clinical evaluation form located in Calipso tracking system. All students will have access to all of their evaluations. Every supervisor they worked with throughout the semester will evaluate each student. Within Calipso the supervisor will use the following Student Evaluation Rating Scale:

1. **Not evident:** Skill not evident most of the time. Student requires direct instruction to modify behavior and is unaware of need to change. Supervisor must model behavior and implement the skill required for client to receive optimal care. Supervisor provides numerous instructions and frequent modeling (skill is present <25% of the time).

2. **Emerging:** Skill is emerging, but is inconsistent or inadequate. Student shows awareness of need to change behavior with supervisor input. Supervisor frequently provides instructions and support for all aspects of case management and services (skill is present 26-50% of the time).

3. **Present:** Skill is present and needs further development, refinement or consistency. Student is aware of need to modify behavior, but does not do this independently. Supervisor provides on-going monitoring and feedback; focuses on increasing student’s critical thinking on how/when to improve skill (skill is present 51-75% of the time).

4. **Adequate:** Skill is developed/implemented most of the time and needs continued refinement or consistency. Student is aware and can modify behavior in-session, and can self-evaluate. Problem-solving is independent. Supervisor acts as a collaborator to plan and suggest possible alternatives (skill is present 76-90% of the time).

5. **Consistent:** Skill is consistent and well developed. Student can modify own behavior as needed and is an independent problem-solver. Student can maintain skills with other clients, and in other settings, when appropriate. Supervisor serves as consultant in areas where student has less experience; Provides guidance on ideas initiated by student (skill is present >90% of the time).

The evaluations completed by each clinical supervisor will be weighted based on the completed clinical clock hours with each supervisor and the final grade will be calculated using following scale:

- A = 2.0-5.0
- B+ = 1.50-1.74
- C+ = 1.0-1.24
- F = Below 1.0 (In need of clinical remediation)
- A- = 1.75-1.99
- B = 1.25-1.49
University Policies & Procedures

Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy #403 (Links to an external site.) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.

Academic Integrity – “The Honor System”

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students. The Honor Pledge (Links to an external site.) : To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

Academic Dishonesty

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University’s Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Cheating: using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity. Unauthorized assistance includes:
  - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually;”
  - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
  - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
  - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
  - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.
- Falsification: altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
- Plagiarism: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

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 (435) 797-1266.

Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy

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, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. 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 a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

**Students with Disabilities**

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Please contact the DRC prior to or as early in the semester as possible. Alternate formats for course content are available with advanced notice.

**Contacting the Disability Resource Center (DRC):**
- On Campus: Room 101 of the University Inn
- Phone: 435-797-2444
- Website: [http://www.usu.edu/drc/](http://www.usu.edu/drc/)

Disability related resources for current students:
- DRC Student Handbook
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Student Handbook
- Disability Related Scholarships
- Campus Resources
- Documentation Guidelines
- Online Resources for Students with Disabilities

**Diversity Statement**

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact:
- Student Services: [http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/](http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/), 435.797.1712, studentservices@usu.edu, TSC 220
- Access and Diversity: [http://www.usu.edu/accesscenter/](http://www.usu.edu/accesscenter/), 435.797.1728, mailto:access@usu.edu; TSC 315
- LGBTQA Programs: [http://www.usu.edu/accesscenter/lgbtqa/](http://www.usu.edu/accesscenter/lgbtqa/), 435-797-GAYS, TSC 314
- Provost’s Office Diversity Resources: [http://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty/diversity/](http://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty/diversity/), (435) 797-8176

You can learn about your student rights by visiting:


**Grievance Process**

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: [Article VII. Grievances](http://www.usu.edu/studentservices/studentcode/)

**Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:**
- Student Conduct
- Student Code
- Academic Integrity
- USU Selected Academic Policies and Procedures
- USU Academic Policies and Procedures
- Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility Policy

**Emergency Procedures**

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building by the sound of the fire/emergency alarm system or by a building representative. In the event of a disaster that may interfere with either notification, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., in an earthquake when shaking ceases or immediately when a fire is discovered). Turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs.