INSTRUCTORS

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Office Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Muñoz</td>
<td>797-3701</td>
<td>ECERC 158</td>
<td><a href="mailto:karen.munoz@usu.edu">karen.munoz@usu.edu</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brittan Barker</td>
<td>797-0434</td>
<td>ECERC 152</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brittan.barker@usu.edu">brittan.barker@usu.edu</a></td>
<td>arranged by instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Leopold</td>
<td>797-9239</td>
<td>LW 30</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.leopold@usu.edu">sarah.leopold@usu.edu</a></td>
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Department website: [http://comd.usu.edu/](http://comd.usu.edu/)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The clinical research requirement is designed to provide students with an opportunity to conduct high-quality research projects with a faculty mentor to foster appreciation for evidence-based practice, enhance capacity to be a critical consumer of audioligic research, and gain experience and knowledge about the process involved in contributing to the knowledge base of the profession.

TEXTBOOK + COURSE MATERIALS

Required Text:


Recommended Texts:


Recommended Software:

Reference management software of your choice (e.g., Mendeley, Zotero, Endnote, etc.)

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ASSESSMENT (KASA): In this course each student will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate required knowledge and/or skill development. These knowledge and skills will be assessed as delineated in the syllabus (by paper, presentation, project, etc.). ASHA specified that in order to be competent, you must achieve a level of 80% or better on each KASA item. These KASA competencies apply specifically to students in the doctor of audiology program. If the student does not attain this level in this course, they will be provided with ONE additional opportunity (in the current class) to demonstrate this knowledge or skill. If the student does not pass the competency a second time, no action will be taken if another opportunity (course or clinic) remains available in which the skill can be acquired. However, if no such opportunity is available, the student will be asked to complete an exam/demonstration of the knowledge and/or skill as defined by the department. For students failing to attain the set criteria on a required competency assessment, the department head is not able to sign the KASA form required for ASHA certification, even though the student may receive an acceptable course grade or exceed the minimum GPA.
EXPECTATIONS
The clinical research project is a substantive evidence-based experience that requires students to demonstrate critical thinking and synthesis of information resulting in a written research paper. Students are expected to:

1. actively engage in their project every semester.
2. meet deadlines determined with their mentor.
3. attend the weekly professional research round table meetings during Fall and Spring semesters of their first year in the AuD program.
4. defend their project no later than June 30th of the 2nd year of the program (i.e. prior to the beginning of their 3rd academic year in the AuD program). Upon the defense of their project, the final documents must be signed and uploaded into Box.
   a. A successful defense is required BEFORE the student can leave campus for their 4th year placement.
   b. Students who do not complete the defense within the aforementioned timeframe will receive an incomplete.
   c. A failing grade in COMD 7870 results the student’s removal from the AuD program.
5. disseminate their research results to a professional audience (e.g., via a conference presentation or published journal article).
   a. Local presentation required
      i. USU Student Research Symposium (http://srs.usu.edu/); held Spring semester
      ii. Regional Audiology Student Symposium (USU, U of U, and ISU); held Spring semester
   b. National presentation strongly recommended

PROCESS MILESTONES
Timelines will vary for each project. Students should discuss specific details about their project with their major professor.

Year 1 Fall Semester
- Research project and major professor assigned
  - Complete Clinical Research Project Planning Form with their major professor
  - Select a committee with their major professor—a minimum committee should consist of 1) the major professor, 2) a COMDDE clinical or graduate faculty person, and 3) a faculty member from outside of COMDDE.
  - Complete and submit the supervisory committee approval form available at: http://www.usu.edu/graduateschool/degree_completion/forms.cfm
- Attend scheduled weekly Research Roundtable meetings

Year 1 Spring Semester
- Complete prospectus, proposal meetings, and IRB requirements
- Attend scheduled professional research round tables

Year 1 Summer Semester through Year 2 (completion of project)
- Complete defense—after the student completes data collection and the final document, they work with their chair to schedule a defense. At the defense the committee will determine whether or not the successfully completed their clinical research project.
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Prospectus meeting: This meeting allows the student to have an initial discussion about their project with their committee. The meeting is a place that the student can help the committee members understand the direction of the project and to brainstorm/problem solve issues that can strengthen their Proposal.

Proposal meeting: This meeting allows the student to formally present their research proposal to the committee. During the proposal meeting a student typically reviews their literature and research plan in a 15-20 minute presentation. This is an opportunity for the student to refine their methods with input from your committee, identify areas that need to be clarified in your literature review and methods, and agree upon expectations for the student’s final clinical research project.

Defense: This meeting allows the student to formally present their research project to the committee. During the defense a student typically reviews their literature, methods, and findings in a 15-20 minute presentation. This meeting is an opportunity for the student to demonstrate their knowledge of the topic, critical thinking skills, ability to synthesize information, and ability to draw relevant conclusions from their work.

Committee Meeting Expectations:
- The student should schedule a room for a one-hour time-slot for each meeting.
- Two-weeks prior to the meeting, the student will email their paper along with a reminder of meeting date, time, and location to their committee.
  - For the purpose of the meeting, the paper should be well developed (i.e. APA style, proofed with no grammatical or spelling errors, etc.).
- Students will provide a brief oral presentation about their project. This will include and/or be followed by discussion and questions from the committee.
  - During the defense, at the conclusion of the discussion the student will be asked to step out of the room and the committee will discuss their work and determine if they passed the clinical research project or if further work is needed from the student.
- Meetings are formal and student presentations are expected to be professional.

Scheduling Committee Meetings:
1. Identify Meeting Date - one month in advance
   a. Doodle Scheduler [http://doodle.com](http://doodle.com) is an easy and free Internet scheduling program. Students should talk with their faculty mentor about the dates they should target for the meeting. Keep in mind: (1) be as flexible as possible, (2) do not propose more than potential 5 days, and (3) require a short timeline (e.g., 3 days) to respond (be explicit). Individuals’ schedules are constantly changing, it is important to confirm the date and time for the meetings as soon as possible. Plan to track down some committee members that do not respond via email quickly.

   **Sample Email:** I would like to thank you for agreeing to be on the committee for my clinical research project, <insert title>. It is time to schedule a meeting for <insert meeting type>. Please go to the following Doodle link <copy and paste the link you received from Doodle and paste it in your email> and indicate your availability for a one-hour meeting. I would like to determine and confirm a meeting time as soon as possible, so please respond by <date>. Thank you for your time and I will be in touch with further details about the meeting.

2. Reserve a Meeting Room – once a data/time is determined reserve a room for the meeting ASAP via the front desk staff in ECERC or in Lillywhite.
3. **Confirm Meeting Date/Time** – once a room is scheduled, confirm the date, time, and meeting place with your committee ASAP via email

**Sample Email:** Thank you for your help in identifying a meeting date for my clinical research project, <insert title>. The <insert meeting type> will be on <date> at <time> in <building and room>. Two weeks prior to the meeting I will send you <insert product>. Please let me know if you have any questions or unanticipated conflicts with this meeting.

4. **Send Reminder** - 2 weeks prior to the meeting send a reminder via email; include date, time, and location of the meeting. Attach the project information (e.g., proposal or final research paper) to the email.
   a. A second reminder should be sent to the committee via email again 2-3 days prior to the meeting.

**Sample Email:** This is a reminder that the committee meeting <insert type of meeting> for my clinical research project, <insert title> is scheduled for <date> at <time> in <building and room number>. Please read the attached <insert document type> prior to the meeting. Thank you for your time and I look forward to your comments and feedback.
CLINICAL RESEARCH PROJECT PLANNING FORM

Student: 

Project Title: 

Committee Chair: 

Committee Members: 

IRB Protocol #: 

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Projected Timeline</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<td>Prospectus Meeting</td>
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<td>Literature Review</td>
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<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Defense</td>
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Dissemination Expectation:

Required:
  • Student presentation: USU Student Research Symposium and/or Regional Audiology Student Symposium

Strongly Encouraged:
  • Professional presentation
  • Article submission

I understand that completion of the clinical research project and successful defense of the project are required before I can apply for a fourth year external placement. I also understand that my grade will reflect my progress, engagement, and my command of the topic.

______________________________  ____________________  ____________________  ____________________
Student Signature               Date                        Major Professor Signature         Date