INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
01:615:392
Course Syllabus
Fall 2023

Instructor: Barnali Mazumdar, M.Phil., Ph.D.
E-mail: barnali.mazumdar@gmail.com
Course Meeting Time: Online, asynchronous
Course Website: Access through Canvas
(https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/188459)
Virtual Office Hours/Location: No fixed office hours. You can set up a virtual meeting
time by emailing me at least three days ahead of the day you plan to meet. Zoom Office
Hours will be held by appointment only.
Pre-requisite: 01:615:201 Introduction to Linguistic Theory
Recommended Text: Hermann, L. (2021). But My Speech is Fine! Middletown, DE:
Technological Requirements: Computer (no more than 5 years old if possible), 1GB
of RAM *, 2 GHz processor, reliable, high-speed internet connection, Adobe
Reader/Acrobat or another PDF reader application, Javascript must be enabled to run
Canvas, Word Processor: Microsoft Word 2003 or newer recommended, sound card
and speakers, SimuCase subscription
* If you have minimal RAM, you should avoid having other programs open at the same
time you are using Canvas.
Canvas supports the current and first previous major releases of the following browsers:
• Chrome 102 and 103
• Firefox 101 and 102
• Edge 102 and 103
• Respondus Lockdown Browser
• Safari 14 and 15 (Macintosh only)
Technical Recommendations: Camera/microphone and headphones
*It is highly recommended that you retain a copy of this syllabus in your personal files
for use when applying for future degrees, certifications, or transfer of credit.

COURSE DELIVERY
This course is delivered fully online. To access the course, please visit
canvas.rutgers.edu. For information about course access or support, contact the Online
Learning Help Desk at 877-361-1134 or email help@canvas.rutgers.edu.

Updated 8/22/2023
COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course serves as an introduction to the scientific study of human communication and communication disorders. We will explore: a) basic components of human communication; b) typical acquisition of speech and language milestones; c) the relationship between culture and language; d) anatomy and physiology of speech, language, hearing, and swallowing; and e) the nature and causes of disorders of language, speech, hearing, and swallowing. Assessment and treatment procedures will be addressed. We will also examine the professional roles and responsibilities of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists. This course covers prerequisite content required for students planning to pursue a higher-level degree in the speech and hearing sciences, including speech-language pathology and audiology.

DEPARTMENT LEARNING GOALS
Students will be able to:
• reason about language scientifically
• demonstrate knowledge of cross-linguistic variability and universal patterns in language
• evaluate a range of views on the nature, origin, and/or structure of language
• identify what someone knows when they know a language.

COURSE LEARNING GOALS
The learning goals for this course support the 2020 Speech-Language Pathology Certification Standards and will be assessed through exams and written assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Goal</th>
<th>2020 ASHA Standard</th>
<th>Method of Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Describe the components of human communication and corresponding disorders.</td>
<td>IV-B</td>
<td>Exams, written assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify milestones of child speech and language acquisition, including preverbal behaviors, phonology, morphology, semantics, syntax, pragmatics, and conversational/narrative skills.</td>
<td>IV-B</td>
<td>Exams, written assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize possible causes and diagnostic features of disorders of articulation, language, voice, fluency, hearing, and swallowing.</td>
<td>IV-C</td>
<td>Exams, written assignments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated 8/22/2023
Outline procedures and techniques utilized during assessment and intervention of speech-language-hearing disorders.

Describe professional roles of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists and identify requirements necessary to obtain certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>IV-D</th>
<th>Exams, written assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV-H</td>
<td>Exams, written assignments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Communication/Discussion Information:**
Announcements will be posted periodically on the Canvas website. Questions concerning course content should be asked in the Class Help discussion board. E-mail should only be used when you must inform the instructor about personal matters, such as an illness that prevented you from completing an assignment, or when making an appointment to meet. Please include your first and last name in all e-mail correspondence.

**Faculty Response Time:**
For tests and assignments, you can generally expect feedback within 10 days of the assignment’s due date. I will reply to e-mails within 48 hours (Monday-Friday) and by the next business day on weekends and holidays.

**Office Hours:**
No fixed office hours. You can set up a virtual meeting time by emailing me at least three days ahead of the day you plan to meet. Office hours are held through the Zoom platform by appointment only. A Zoom link will be e-mailed to you.

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>85-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Final grades are determined based on the percentages below:

**Four Examinations (60%)**
- Exam 1 (Content from weeks 1-4): 30 points (15%)
- Exam 2 (Content from weeks 5-7): 30 points (15%)
- Exam 3 (Content from weeks 9-11): 30 points (15%)
- Exam 4* (Content from weeks 12-14): 30 points (15%)

*Exam 4 will be administered during finals week

**Assignments**: 50 points (25%)

**Discussion Board Posts**: 30 points (15%)

**Total Points**: 200

**Examinations**
There are four, non-cumulative, open-book exams, each worth 30 points. Exams are timed and may include multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, diagram labeling, short answer, and case-based questions. You may not consult or collaborate with other students, when completing exams. You will be given one attempt to complete each exam. Once you start the exam, you must complete it in the allotted time provided.

**Weekly Assignments/Simucase/Discussion Board Posts**
Some lesson modules require the completion of an assignment or submission of several discussion board posts. Once you have watched the module videos and completed the readings, you may be required to submit a written assignment (or discussion board posts) related to the topic covered. Information about specific assignments and discussion board posts is located within each lesson module. Most weekly assignments are due on the **Sunday** of the week they were assigned (by 9pm.) Assignments will involve using Simucase, a web-based simulated case study application. Simucase features virtual clients that require speech-language pathology services for a variety of conditions. Assignments will involve applying knowledge about various communication disorders by taking part in aspects of the assessment and treatment process. You will need to register on [www.simucase.com](http://www.simucase.com) to access clients. Please follow the instructions in the introductory module to register for SimuCase. Each assignment that pertains to Simucase will have specific information about what tasks need to be completed for a particular client. Rubrics for SimuCase assignments and discussion board posts are provided on Canvas.

**Optional Quizzes**
Each lesson module has several sections. After watching the videos and completing the readings in each section, you may take an optional quiz. These quizzes do not count toward your final grade. Each quiz covers information from the videos and assigned reading.

**ATTENDANCE/EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY**
All work is completed asynchronously, so there is no attendance policy. However, students are expected to complete all posted readings, watch required videos, and complete all assignments. No exam make-ups will be offered, unless the student
presents the instructor with a note from a physician (other reasons for missing exams will also be considered on a case-by-case basis). **All assignments must be turned in by their assigned due dates.**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/PLAGIARISM**
By enrolling in this course, you assume responsibility for familiarizing yourself with the Academic Integrity Policy and the possible penalties (including suspension and expulsion) for violating the policy. As per the policy, all suspected violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Aiding others in committing a violation or allowing others to use your work
- Failure to cite sources correctly
- Fabrication
- Using another person's ideas or words without attribution–reusing a previous assignment
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Sabotaging another student's work in doubt, please consult the instructor

Students must comply with the updated Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy ([http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu](http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu)).

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
Accommodations are provided to students with disabilities. Please contact the Office of Disability Services for Students ([https://ods.rutgers.edu](https://ods.rutgers.edu)) for more information.

**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**
Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)
(848) 932-7884
[www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)

Scarlet Listeners
(732) 247-5555
[http://www.scarlettlisteners.com](http://www.scarlettlisteners.com/)

Rutgers Learning Centers
[https://rlc.rutgers.edu/](https://rlc.rutgers.edu/)

Rutgers Writing Centers
[https://wp.rutgers.edu/writingcenters](https://wp.rutgers.edu/writingcenters)

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**WEEKLY LECTURE SCHEDULE**
Weekly modules are posted every Monday on the Canvas course website (Modules tab.) Assigned reading from the textbook is posted below. Additional required readings can be found within each module.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>TOPICS/READING</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Course Introduction, Communication &amp; its Disorders Ch. 1</td>
<td>Discussion board posts Due: 9/10/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Introduction to the Professions, Culture &amp; Communication Ch. 15, Ch. 2</td>
<td>Assignment #1: Part 1 Due: 9/17/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Articulation &amp; Phonological Disorders Ch. 4, pgs. 99-105, Ch. 5</td>
<td>Assignment #1: Part 2 Due: 9/24/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Language Acquisition &amp; Language Disorders in Children Ch. 6</td>
<td>Assignment #1: Part 3 Due: 10/1/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Exam #1, Autism</td>
<td>Exam #1 Due: 10/4/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hearing Disorders Ch. 13</td>
<td>Discussion board posts Due: 10/22/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Aural Rehabilitation Ch. 14</td>
<td>Discussion board posts Due: 10/25/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>Exam #2 Due: 11/5/23</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fluency Disorders Ch. 7</td>
<td>Discussion board posts Due: 11/12/23</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Voice Disorders Ch. 8, Ch. 4, pgs. 87-98</td>
<td>Assignment #2 Due: 11/19/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dysphagia Ch. 11, pgs. 380-390</td>
<td>Optional Group EC Assignment Due: 11/19/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Exam #3, Adult Language Disorders Part 1, Ch. 10, pgs. 315-330</td>
<td>Exam #3 Due: 11/22/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Adult Language Disorders Part 2, Ch. 10, pgs. 343-358</td>
<td>Assignment #3 Due: 12/6/22</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Motor Speech Disorders Ch. 10, pgs. 330-342</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Exam #4</td>
<td>Due Date: TBA</td>
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