



DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND  
DISORDERS

DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY  
PROGRAM

**ACADEMIC HANDBOOK**  
**2023-2024**

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USF Au.D. Program

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tuition waiver. Grant-funded research assistantship positions may also be available at the discretion of the faculty member who holds the grant.

In assigning/re-assigning graduate assistantships, priority is determined by several factors: 1) Students who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance will be given priority over those with less strong performance. 2) Students who have demonstrated outstanding performance in previous graduate assistant assignments will be given priority over those who have demonstrated average or poor performance. 3) Students with special skills (e.g., fluency in ASL, fluency in Spanish) may be given priority for some positions. 4) Graduate assistantships that involve supervising labs for first- and second-year Au.D. courses will be assigned to students who demonstrated outstanding performance in the corresponding course. 5) Other factors being equal, students who have received fewer previous semesters of graduate assistantship support will be given priority over those who have received more semesters. 6) Fourth year students are not eligible for graduate assistantships.

The academic performance of all graduate assistants will be reviewed throughout the year. At mid-term of any given semester, if an assistant's semester grade point average is less than 3.0, the assistant will be counseled by the Program Director regarding his/her performance. If the graduate assistant ends the semester with a cumulative grade point average less than 3.0, the student will be placed on probation by the Graduate School and the assistantship will be revoked. Graduate assistantships may also be revoked following an unsatisfactory performance review or due to any concern about the student's progress in the program, such as unsatisfactory performance on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year examination or if a Clinical Assistance Plan (CAP) is instituted for a student in clinic.

Graduate assistants are required to work 10 hours each week during the appointed semester. For a Fall-Spring appointment, this equates to a total of 390 hours from the beginning of the Fall semester to the end of the Spring semester. Scheduling of the hours is negotiated with the assigned supervisor and may change from week to week. It is expected that graduate assistants will generally have availability to work assistantship hours during any times other than class and clinic meeting times. As they must maintain a very flexible schedule for fulfilling their assistantship hours, assistants are strongly discouraged from working outside the department. Clinical assignments, academic assignments, and graduate assistant work hours will NOT be scheduled around any outside work or volunteer commitments.

Graduate assistants assigned to the newborn hearing screening program at Tampa General Hospital should be aware that every day of the year must be covered, regardless of holidays or semester breaks. If a date falls between semester appointment dates, the screening team for the semester that falls before the "in between" date is responsible for covering that date.

The Graduate School resource page concerning graduate assistantships may be found at the following link: <http://www.grad.usf.edu/assistantships.php>

USF Au.D. Program

Graduate program at USF. Notice that dismissal for reasons of academic dishonesty may be reflected on the student's transcript.

Faculty of the AuD program who become aware of academic dishonesty by a student are required to report that behavior to the Audiology Program Director. Upon receiving such a report, the Program Director will notify the student to schedule a meeting between the Program Director, the student, and other relevant parties (if any) to discuss the behavior in question. If the behavior occurred within a course, the course instructor(s) will determine the academic sanctions. If the behavior occurred outside a course, the Program Director will determine sanctions in consultation with the full AuD faculty. In either case, the behavior is also considered unprofessional and will be handled according to the program's policy on professionalism, described below.

#### **XI. ACADEMIC PROBATION AND MAINTENANCE OF GOOD STANDING**

Graduate students must maintain an overall average of 3.0 ("B") in all courses and clinic assignments and must meet the program requirements to be considered "in good standing." No grade below "B-" will be accepted toward a graduate degree. All grades will be counted in computing the overall grade point average (GPA). Any student who is not in good standing at the end of a given semester will be placed on probation and any graduate assistantship held by the student will be revoked. Notification of probation will be made to the student in writing by the department, with a copy to the College Dean and the Dean of Graduate Studies. At the end of the probationary semester, the Department will review the student's GPA. If the GPA has not improved during the probationary semester, the Department will recommend dismissal from the degree program. The Dean of Graduate Studies, upon recommendation by the Dean of the student's college, may dismiss the student from a degree-seeking status after one semester of probation. The inability of a student to achieve a passing cumulative GPA after two consecutive semesters of probationary status will result in termin( )0.7 (f)-=2c16 (,)-11.4 0.7 (





**B. Professional Behavior**

The AuD program places the highest possible emphasis on professionalism and the demonstration of consistent, professional behavior by its students.

As a first step to ensuring that all students are aware of program expectations, the Office of Academic Affairs will provide information to all students regarding the program's professional behavior expectations.

**C. Audiology Doctoral Project (ADP)**

The goal of the Audiology Doctoral Project (ADP) is provide the student with a research experience that will allow them to become a better consumer of research and give them basic tools that may be applied to generating clinical research in their future professional careers. In the typical case, the plan for the ADP will be developed by the student and the Chair of the ADP Committee during the Research in CSD course (Fall semester of the second year). During the semester(s) following the Research course, the student will complete the project, write the ADP document, and give a presentation of the project results during Audiology Grand Rounds / Research Day. Work on the ADP should not begin until after the student passes the end of the first year exam.

It is expected that most students will present their projects at Research Day in the Fall semester of the third year; a backup Research Day is offered in the Spring semester for any students unable to meet this timeline. The final, approved ADP document must be submitted to the Audiology Program Director for archiving by the end of the third year of study. In exceptional cases, the student may be permitted to complete the ADP during the beginning of the fourth year of the program; however, in all cases, the Grand Rounds / Research Day presentation and final ADP document must

### ADP Committee

The ADP Committee must include at least two members, with one member serving as Chair, or both members serving as Co-Chairs. Additional members are optional. The Chair, or one of the two Co-Chairs, must be a member of the Graduate Faculty in the Department of Communication Sciences or Disorders. A member of the Graduate Faculty of another USF Department or School and research faculty members of CSD (Research Assistant Professor or higher rank) may request approval to chair ADPs only after they have served as a committee member for at least one completed ADP. Once approved, they may serve as Chair or Co-Chair (taking the responsibilities normally allocated to the Graduate Faculty member) on future ADP committees without additional approvals. Committee members may be tenure-track, clinical, research, or affiliated faculty within CSD or, upon approval of the Audiology Program Director and the Committee Chair, may be from outside the department.



Committee Chair must approve distribution of the PPT or report document to Committee members. If any Committee member believes the project is not at a near-final stage of completion, the presentation



Clinic Hours – Year 3 off-campus (Clerkship I, II, III)

Students will rotate through a sequence of clinical settings designed to provide a variety of clinical experiences (e.g., adult diagnostics, pediatric diagnostics, adult hearing aids, pediatric hearing aids, vestibular evaluation/treatment). Prior to this assignment, students MUST successfully complete Clinic I, Clinic II, Clinic III, and the second year examination. Failure to successfully complete all three of these pre-requisite requirements will delay off-campus clerkship assignment by one year, and delay graduation. Each of the three clerkship experiences will take place in different settings. VA traineeships or other paid clerkships may only be counted as one of the three clerkship experiences. Only one clerkship assignment will be approved per semester. The minimum number of clerkship hours is listed below for each semester as well as for the entire year. Please be aware that an individual site may expect more weeks or hours than are listed. Students are responsible for any costs associated with fingerprinting and/or background checks if they are required by a clerkship site.

Summer Semester:	Minimum of 10 weeks @ 10 hours/week	100 hours minimum
Fall Semester:	Minimum of 14 weeks @ 10 hours/week	140 hours minimum
Spring Semester:	Minimum of 14 weeks @ 10 hours/week	140 hours minimum
	Total	380 hours minimum

Clinic Hours – Year 4 off-campus (Externship I, II, III).

Students are responsible for identifying potential fourth year externship sites; however, all placements are subject to department approval and approval by USF Legal Counsel. All other program requirements (excluding the ADP, but including any “extra” course requirements such as Phonetics or Language Development and Disorders) must be completed before the Audiology Externship Coordinator will process externship site paperwork. In addition, all externship site paperwork must be completed and processed before the Audiology Externship Coordinator will approve registration for Externship I. Processing of externship paperwork requires a minimum of 6 weeks. Students are responsible for any costs associated with fingerprinting and/or background checks if they are required by an externship site. The three-semester externship sequence is typically completed during the summer, fall and spring of the 4th year of the Au.D. program. This sequence must consist of 32-40 hours/week. The entire clinical practical component of the Au.D. program (including Clinics, Clerkships, and Externships) must comprise **a minimum of 1820 hours**.

**E. Additional Course Requirements for Students without CSD Background**

Students from a wide variety of academic backgrounds are welcome in the Au.D. program. However, students entering with an earned degree in an area other than Communication Sciences and Disorders may be required to take additional coursework either prior to eitnaoo









**XVIII. KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ASSESSMENT (KASA) COMPETENCIES**

The Au.D. curriculum, as described in the graduate catalog, is designed to provide opportunities for the successful student to meet the KASA competencies outlined by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The KASA competencies are available in spreadsheet form in the Audiology section of the CSD Canvas site. In situations where a student fails to meet KASA competencies, either in an academic or a clinical course, the Audiology Program Director or Hearing Clinic Director (as appropriate) is notified. Individualized plans are then developed in consultation with appropriate faculty members, directors, and the student. Once the plan is developed, the student and other relevant faculty sign to indicate agreement with the written plan. Remediation for academic course competencies typically involves independent study and remediation for clinical course competencies typically involves additional supervised clinical experience.

**XIX. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Graduation is not an automatic process that occurs as a result of completing the final course or practicum assignment. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the process by applying for graduation via the Registrar's website and in compliance with the deadlines listed there. The student must separately apply for the commencement ceremony via links from the Registrar's website.

Prior to applying for graduation and commencement, the student must make an appointment with his or her assigned Advisor and the Academic Program Assistant to review his/her academic file and confirm that all Department and University Requirements for graduation have been met. Subsequent appointment with the

Department are structured to prepare graduates to meet the **Standards of Clinical Competence** established by ASHA that are prerequisites to in-field employment in most employment settings. The Doctor of Audiology program is also structured to prepare graduates for licensure in Audiology by the State of Florida. Students planning to practice in other states should review the requirements for licensure in those states.

ASHA issues Certificates of Clinical Competence to individuals who present satisfactory evidence of their ability to provide independent clinical services to persons who have disorders of communication (speech, language, and/or hearing). An individual who meets these requirements may be awarded a Certificate of Clinical Competency (CCC) in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) or in Audiology (CCC-A), depending upon the emphasis of preparation; a person who meets the requirements in both professional areas may be awarded dual Certification. This certification is optional but often eases the process of licensure in some states and/or portability from state to state. Ultimately, it is state licensure that allows practice, not the CCC.

Graduates from this program meet all current ASHA/State of Florida requirements for coursework and clinical experience; therefore, the process of applying for the CCC/licensure is greatly simplified. Students should see the Academic Program Assistant for additional information prior to the completion of their CCC/licensure application(s).

Students who wish to obtain licensure in the State of Florida must complete the application as described on the Florida Department of Health website

(<https://floridasspeechaudiology.gov/licensing/audiologist>). Reference: 12-01-2024 12:37:26 T22.11.4 (-16.7 (appliments he beimusl4(i).3 (m)-6l3or... the PlaiomPicbePe l



John M. Tragon III, for whom this scholarship is named, led a life that was dedicated to the service of others. This scholarship is awarded by the Tampa Sertoma Breakfast Club to an audiology student in the third or fourth year who demonstrates exemplary service to the profession of audiology and the patients and families we serve in the greater Tampa community. Scholarship applications are due in May of the third year. A faculty committee reviews the applications, and the Tampa Sertoma Breakfast Club selects the recipient.

#### **XXIV. GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The University offers a number of awards and fellowships for graduate students. A list of opportunities and eligibility requirements can be found at <https://www.usf.edu/graduate/graduate-studies/graduate-studies-funding>