General Information

Instructor: Andrea Pittman, Ph.D.
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727-8728 (office)
andrea.pittman@asu.edu

Office hours:

Graduate Assistant: Natasha Bertsch
Coor Hall #3445
727-0508

Office hours:

Class Time: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
8:40 – 9:30 am
No lab

Location: Coor Hall Room L1-20

Prerequisites: BIO 201 & PHY 101

ISBN: 0-13-827437-1
Hardcover ~ $115

Course Description

This course deals with the processing of sound by the auditory system. We will begin by characterizing the physical properties of sound including the measurements that quantify those properties. This information is necessary to understand how sound is transmitted through the auditory system. We will then discuss the anatomy (the structure) and the physiology (the function) of the auditory system at each level, from the outer ear to the brain. Your role in this course is to understand how the auditory system works. Specifically, how your auditory system enables you to detect a sound, distinguish one sound from another, and determine the location of a sound source. A solid understanding of how the healthy auditory system works will provide you with the information necessary to understand hearing disorders and the tests used to determine the underlying pathology and resulting hearing status.

Organization:
This course is divided into three sections. In the first section, we will cover the physics of sound. In the second and third sections, we will step through the anatomy and physiology of each stage of the peripheral auditory system. We'll also hear from those
students who are taking this course for graduate level credit. They will be presenting
information they have gathered on topics related to the ear and hearing.

Blackboard:
A Blackboard site has been created and contains all of the materials you will need for
this course (except the readings). Those materials include Lecture Notes, Homework
Assignments, and other General Information (e.g., syllabus, schedule). A section has
also been created for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). If you have a question
regarding an aspect of the course or an assignment, please consult the FAQs and
syllabus before contacting me. That will save time for both of us.

Registered students are enrolled automatically. If you are unable to access this site,
please see me within the first week of class. Failure to do so may result in missed
assignments. Keep in mind that the Blackboard system often experiences problems
when accessed from home or between the hours of 11 pm and 6 am. If you experience
problems and/or are locked out, send me an e-mail and I will reset the system as soon
as I’m aware of the problem. It is your responsibility to resolve problems with
Blackboard before they impact things like homework deadlines.

Personal Homepage: Please create a personal homepage within Blackboard (located
under tools). Include a recent picture (of you) and one or two interesting things (about
you) that will help me remember you. Be sure to include only those things that you want
the entire class to know as homepages are accessible to all class members.

Lecture Notes:
Lecture notes are available on Blackboard. These notes provide a basic outline of each
lecture as well as most of the illustrations and graphs that you will see in class. Be
aware: these notes are not an adequate substitute for coming to class. They are simply
a tool to help you organize and synthesize the information discussed.

Assignments:
There are 10 homework assignments worth 10 points each. These assignments can be
retrieved and printed from the “Get Homework” section on Blackboard. Some of the
assignments will be turned in during class and some will be turned in electronically
through Blackboard. For the Blackboard assignments, go to the “Turn in Homework”
section on Blackboard and select the appropriate assignment number. It will appear as
if you’re taking a test, but you’re not. Because you should have completed the
assignment on paper before going to Blackboard all you need to do is enter your
answers. While in Blackboard you will have the ability to go back and revise your
answers during that session. Once you submit your assignment, it is the same as
turning in a piece of paper. You may not revise your answers after submitting the
assignment. You may turn your assignment in at any time before the due date (no e-
mail submissions.) The due date (and time) for each assignment is indicated at the top
of the page. Because you will have at least one week to complete your assignments
and turn them in, late assignments will not be accepted. No exceptions. Immediately
after the due date (and time), the answers will be posted on Blackboard. If you think
Blackboard graded your assignment incorrectly, please bring it to my attention as soon
as possible. If, however, the error is due to your failure to read or understand the
instructions, your grade will not be changed.
Exams:
There will be three exams worth 100 points each. Although the final exam will not be cumulative (e.g., questions directly from the first two sections), a thorough review of all materials is strongly recommended before each exam because all new material is an extension of the materials learned in previous sections. The format of the exams will be fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, matching, labeling, and some short answer. All exams are graded by hand and will be reviewed in class within one week after the test date. This will allow us to address any difficult concepts that will be important to know for later sections.

Footnote 18 and SHS 598 Students:
If you are registered for SHS598, or if you would like to receive Footnote 18 honors credit, you will be required to complete additional assignments. Please read the information that applies to you in the “SHS518/Footnote18” section of Blackboard. And then come see me.

Student Evaluation and Grading:
Grading will be based on a total of 400 points: 3 exams at 100 points each and 10 homework assignments at 10 points each. Remember, late assignments will not be accepted (0 points). Course grades will be based on the total points earned during the semester and given the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>388 - 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-96</td>
<td>376 - 387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>360 - 375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>348 - 359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>336 - 347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
<td>320 - 335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>308 - 319</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-76</td>
<td>280 - 307</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>240 - 279</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>&lt; 239</td>
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There is only one opportunity for extra credit in this course. Two or three class periods near the end of the semester will be set aside to hear the presentations of the students receiving graduate level credit. If you attend (which you are expected to do), you will be given the opportunity to respond to each presentation via an index card. A total of 10 points may be earned. (Specific instructions will be given in class.)

Standard Policies

- Please remember to turn your cell phones off during class.
- Although attendance will not be taken during class you are strongly advised to attend every class. Please make arrangements with classmates for missed materials. You are not required to inform me of an expected absence, unless it falls on the day of an exam.
- Makeup exams will be allowed if the request is made for an appropriate reason and you have made acceptable arrangements with me in advance. Appropriate
absences are those that result from circumstances beyond your control: illnesses, car accidents, religious holidays, and so on. I realize that you don’t always know about these in advance, but let me know as soon as possible. Absences due to participation in official university activities are also appropriate. You must show documentation that it is necessary for you to participate and give me your schedule in advance. Because you are given at least a week to complete each homework assignment, these can be made up only for very unusual circumstances (e.g., long illnesses). An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a score of zero for that exam (don’t let that happen!). Note: exams will not be rescheduled to accommodate vacation plans, work schedules, weddings, missed busses, etc.

- Audiotaping of lectures is permitted and encouraged, especially for students who wish to take comprehensive notes. However, if you find a discrepancy between the reading materials and the lectures, (it happens) it is your responsibility to bring it to my attention before an exam. You may not use the recorded lectures to argue for more points on a test.

- Students requiring special accommodations due to a disability should present documentation from the Disability Resources for Students Department (DRS). DRS is located in the Matthew’s Center Building (less than one block from Coor). This documentation is required before any special accommodations may be made. Confidentiality will be strictly maintained.

- Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. That includes all forms of plagiarism: copying another student's exams or homework, misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, misrepresenting your work as someone else's, or cheating in any way on the exams. Any degree of misconduct will result in a failing grade (0) for the semester and a report will be sent to the academic dean.

- In the event of evacuation (for any reason), please gather your things quickly and exit the building. Proceed immediately to the Gourmet Grounds kiosk and wait there until all class members have been accounted for.