



California State University, Sacramento

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

GRADUATE SYLLABUS & COURSE OUTLINE

Semester/Year: Spring 2026	Course: CSAD505: Audiology Doctoral Project V	Section 01
Meeting Days: Thursday	Meeting Times: 9:00 – 9:50 AM	Location: Folsom 2204/ Faculty Office
Instructor: Laura Gaeta, Ph.D. Hamid Motallebzadeh, Ph.D. Soumya Venkitakrishnan, Au.D., Ph.D.	Email: l.gaeta@csus.edu h.motallebzadeh@csus.edu s.venkitakrishnan@csus.edu	
Office Hours: Gaeta: Tuesday 2:00-4:00 PM; Wednesday 11:00am-12:00 PM Motallebzadeh: Monday and Wednesday 10:30-11:30 AM, Thursday 12:30-1:30 PM, Make appointment Venkitakrishnan: Mondays, Tuesdays (zoom), Wednesdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Make appointment	Locations: Folsom 2207A (Gaeta) Folsom 2404E (Motallebzadeh) Folsom 2404G (Venkitakrishnan)	

Catalogue Course Description:

CSAD 505 Audiology Doctoral Project V.

1 Unit

Prerequisite(s): [CSAD 504](#)

Dissemination, written and oral, of capstone research.

Credit/No Credit

Place of Course in Program

Sacramento State Graduate Learning Goals for the 21st Century (GLG)

Sacramento State Graduate Learning Goals (GLG)	Addressed by this course (Y/N)
Disciplinary knowledge: <i>Master, integrate, and apply disciplinary knowledge and skills to current, practical, and important contexts</i>	Y

and situations.	
Communication: Communicate key knowledge with clarity and purpose both within the discipline and in broader contexts.	Y
Critical thinking/analysis: Demonstrate the ability to be creative, analytical, and critical thinkers.	Y
Information literacy: Demonstrate the ability to obtain, assess, and analyze information from a myriad of sources.	Y
Professionalism: Demonstrate an understanding of professional integrity.	Y
Intercultural/Global Perspectives: Demonstrate relevant knowledge and application of intercultural and/or global perspectives.	Y
Research: Conduct independent research resulting in an original contribution to knowledge in the focused areas of their graduate program	Y

This course is taken by Doctor of Audiology students who have: 1) passed the progress examination at the end of the first year of the program, 2) completed IRB training, and 3) received approval from their committee and advisor for the introduction and methodology. Students will learn how to plan, perform, and disseminate research in audiology. Students must be enrolled in five consecutive semesters of Audiology Doctoral Project (CSAD 501, 502, 503, 504, 505) after passing the first-year comprehensive examination and meeting advisory and proposal requirements for the doctoral project.

Expected Learning Outcomes (ELO)

Mastery of each student-learning outcome listed below is indicated by a grade of B or better on each component of the corresponding measures listed in the table. Students are required to track their progress towards meeting each learning outcome and must make an appointment with the instructor for any grade equal to or less than a B. The instructor will suggest strategies to help you establish competence and knowledge in these areas.

Students should track their progress towards meeting each learning outcome by listing their grades on the table below over the course of the semester.

CSAD 505 SPECIFIC STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Satisfactorily present their project (background, question, hypotheses, participants, methods, results, discussion, conclusions) in an oral presentation that is consistent with doctoral-level expectations for communication
2. Satisfactorily complete a written paper, which is written at a level consistent with doctoral-level expectations, to the doctoral project committee

ELO	Component Indicating Competency	Grade(s) Received
1-2	Doctoral project	

Textbooks, Materials, and Online Resources:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.)*. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

Canvas will be used for accessing all instructional materials. Students will need access to Microsoft Word and PowerPoint for this course. Feedback from instructors will be provided directly via Word documents (tracked changes), within Canvas for PowerPoint files, or on paper. Slides for the defense must be provided in PowerPoint format. Other requirements for formatting per OGS guidelines must be followed.

Course Requirements/Components:

Course Format:

Research

Class Preparation:

Students will be completing an independent research project through this CSAD 501-505 series. Benchmarks are made for students to set in conjunction with the doctoral project committee chair.

Student	Chair	Committee member	Committee member
Dutta	Venkitakrishnan	Motallebzadeh	Gaeta
Followill	Motallebzadeh	Gaeta	Venkitakrishnan
Loredo	Gaeta	Motallebzadeh	Venkitakrishnan
Lyons	Gaeta	Motallebzadeh	Venkitakrishnan
Madayag	Venkitakrishnan	Thompson	Gaeta
Perez	Motallebzadeh	Venkitakrishnan	Gaeta

Grading Policy:

Chapter submissions	
Chapter 4 & 5- Draft 1 to chair	5 points
Chapter 4 & 5- Draft 2 to chair	5 points
Chapter 4 & 5- To committee	5 points
Chapter 1-5- To committee	5 points
Chapter submissions (must be completed and saved in desktop version of Word. Drafts to chair: all comments (from all versions) should be preserved and responded to. Track Changes should be enabled and preserved. Drafts to committee: all comments (from all versions) should be preserved and responded to.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tracked changes not used; comments not preserved – 2 points Timely submission –20% per day late Did not respond to all comments –5 points 	
Final Defense Presentations	10 points
Follow template provided on Canvas Time = 14-15 minutes followed by question from committee A 2-point deduction will be applied for every 15 seconds exceeding or falling short of the time limit.	
Defense – 14 - 15 minutes, 2 minutes Q&A	30 points
Final draft (all pages included) with all changes incorporated	10 points
OGS project meeting registration February 2, 2026 at 9:00 am to March 20, 2026 at 4:30 pm	2 points
Question asked during practice defense (1 question per student)	1 point maximum
OGS culminating workshop completion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration Opens: February 2, 2026 at 9:00 am Registration Closes: March 20, 2026 at 4:30 pm Deadline to Complete the Workshop: April 3, by 11:59 pm	2 points
OGS review appointment	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration opens: April 6, 2026 at 9:00 am • Registration closes: May 6, 2026 at 4:30 pm <p>Appointment Dates/Times: April 27-30, 2026 & May 4-7, 2026 from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm; May 1, 2026 & May 8, 2026 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm</p>	
OGS final submission on May 8, 3 pm- STRICT DEADLINE (failure to proceed with externship, if deadline not met)	10 points
Attendance (15 x 1)	15 points

An APIP will be initiated for any issues (e.g., academic, professional, etc.) that arise through this research project.

Grading Policy:

Points	%	Grade
83-100	83-100%	Complete
82.99	82.99% or below	Incomplete

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to arrive in class on time, prepared to participate and engage in classroom activities for both in-person and synchronous/virtual interactions. Students are responsible for class content, lecture materials, assignments, announcements, and must be aware of changes in the class schedule. Students are advised that instructional faculty may include an attendance policy in courses, which may require attendance as part of the student's course grade. These policies will be set in the syllabus.

Given the full-time, intensive nature this doctoral program, it is important that students contact instructors if they are absent or are anticipating absence, especially over an extended period of time. In the case of the latter, the Au.D. Program Director must also be notified. Attendance for clinical practica is outlined in the clinic handbook.

Attendance is necessary for this course. Students are expected to arrive on time. Students must email the instructor if they are not able to attend the class and are responsible to learn the material that was covered during their absence. Greater than two absences or lateness will cause the initiation of an academic performance improvement plan (APIP). Presentations are required to be completed in person (in the classroom). Students who do not present in person will not receive points for the presentation.

Student travel policy: https://www.csus.edu/college/health-human-services/communication-sciences-disorders/_internal/_documents/policy/csad-student-travel-policy.pdf

If you are sick, stay home and do not attend class. Notify your instructor. Please self-diagnose if you are experiencing any COVID- like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, loss of smell or taste, nausea, diarrhea, or headache) or have had exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID contact Student Health & Counseling Services (SHCS) at 916-278-6461 to receive guidance and/or medical care. The CDC provides a good source of information regarding COVID-19 and a way to self-check symptoms: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Students must adhere to COVID-19 policies regarding mask wearing and vaccinations as described on the CSUS website. Please see <https://www.csus.edu/compliance/risk-management/coronavirus.html> and <https://www.csus.edu/return-to-campus/return-to-campus-faq.html> for more information and updates.

Email

Students in the Au.D. program are required to maintain an active CSUS email address, which is linked to the student ID number. Official emails will be sent through CSUS email. Students are expected to regularly check their CSUS emails.

Course Policies/Procedures:

Students are expected to complete all tasks for their projects, including responding to feedback, data collection, analysis, writing, IRB modifications (if applicable), preparation of materials and methods, participant recruitment and communication, etc. Other procedures for assignments can be found on Canvas.

TENTATIVE Course Schedule/Outline:

Date	Topic	Due Date (see note below)
1/29	Syllabus review and course schedule Defense presentation tips: Dr. Motallebzadeh	Attendance Semester goals worksheet
2/05	Data analyses/ Writing support Defense presentation review	Attendance Submit chapter 4-5 Draft 1 to Chair
2/12	Defense presentation review	Attendance
2/19	Defense practice presentations: Erika, Serena	Attendance Chair to return feedback on chapter 4-5 Draft 1 to student Submit the final defense presentations
2/26	Defense practice presentations: Nikki, Jaleasha	Attendance Submit chapter 4-5 Draft 2 to Chair
3/05	Defense practice presentations: Jamie, Raymund	Attendance Chair to return feedback on chapter 4-5 Draft 2 to student Chair to return presentation feedback to student
3/12	Defense presentation review	Attendance Submit chapter 4-5 to committee Student question for defense due (02/19 to 03/12)
3/13	DEFENSE 2-5 pm (room TBD)	Attendance Submit final presentations for DEFENSE (noon deadline)
3/19	Data analyses/ Writing support	Attendance Committee to return feedback to student on chapter 4-5
3/26	<i>Spring break</i>	
4/2	Writing support	Attendance Draft of chapters 1-5 to committee OGS culminating experience workshop completion due April 3, by 11:59 pm
4/9	Writing support	Attendance Committee to return feedback to student on chapters 1-5
4/16	Writing support	Attendance Final draft with all changes incorporated to Chair (all pages)
4/23	Writing support	Attendance Chair to return feedback on final version
4/30	Writing support	Attendance
05/7	Final class: Discussing future plans	Attendance
5/8		OGS submission due May 8, by 3pm – upload screenshot of submission

Please note that dates, class format/location, topics, and assignment deadlines are subject to change. In the event of a change, you will be given ample notice.

Hornet Honor Code

As proud members and representatives of the Sacramento State Hornet community, we commit ourselves to actively promoting honesty, integrity, respect, and care for every person, ensuring a welcoming campus environment, and striving to help every member of our Hornet family feel a strong sense of belonging.

As Hornets, we will:

- Promote an inclusive campus and community
- Listen and respect each other's thoughts, interests, and views. Value diversity and learn from one another
- Engage daily with mutual trust, care, and integrity
- Support a culture of honor and adhere to campus policies for honesty, ethics, and conduct
- Be proud to be Sac State Hornets.

Academic conduct

Students enrolled in the Au.D. program must adhere to the Department and University policies on academic misconduct. Please see the department's policy on academic misconduct ("Policy on Student Academic and Clinical Conduct"). The following are expectations for professional behavior in the classroom:

- Ethics: Students must uphold the ethical standards set forth by professional bodies in the field (see Appendices C and D).
- Respect: Students should demonstrate respect to their peers, instructors, and staff.
- Feedback: Students are expected to self-reflect and modify their work in response to feedback, while displaying non-defensive behavior to suggestions.
- Health: Students should maintain their personal wellness and health, attending to any needs in a timely fashion in order to support their academic and professional growth.
- Attire: Students should dress appropriately for class. Classes may be held in clinic space, so students are expected to observe the clinic dress code.
- Accountability: Students are expected to be accountable, honest, and professional for their activities and communications. The general principles of ethical behavior should be applied to their coursework, evaluations, and examinations.
- Language: Students should demonstrate professional oral and written communication, including emails. Discretion and professional language should be used in all modalities, emphasizing constructive rather than reactive use.
- Scholarship: Students should take an active role in their learning, recognizing their deficiencies and seeking to correct them, as part of their commitment to lifelong learning.
- Effort: Students should collaborate and work to complete tasks and assignments on time or by the set deadline. Students are expected to follow through on all activities while maintaining professionalism and intellectual curiosity.

Commitment to Integrity

As a student in this course (and at this university) you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom.

Sac State's Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

“The principles of truth and honesty are recognized as fundamental to a community of scholars and teachers. California State University, Sacramento expects that both faculty and students will honor these principles, and in so doing, will protect the integrity of academic work and student grades.” Read more about Sac State’s Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures at the following website: <https://sacramentostate.policystat.com/policy/11300038/latest>

Definitions: At Sac State, “cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means.” **Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. At Sac State, “plagiarism is the use of distinctive ideas or works belonging to another person without providing adequate acknowledgement of that person’s contribution.” Source: Sacramento State University Library Note: Any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, may be reported to the office of student affairs.

Department Policy on Use of APA format

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders requires the use of the APA format and style. All students are required to reference the APA manual (7th edition.) All assignments are to be composed using APA format and style unless otherwise noted.

Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student’s responsibility to understand when he/she need to consider disenrolling from a course. Prefer to the Sac State Course Schedule for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons include: (a) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (b) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student’s family. Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if there is a compelling extenuating circumstance. All incomplete course assignments must be completed by the department’s policy.

Equal Access

California State University-Sacramento, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you have a documented disability and verification from the Disability Access Center (DAC), and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student’s responsibility to provide documentation of disability to DAC and meet with a DAC counselor to request special accommodation before classes start. **Sacramento State Disability Access Center (DAC)** offers a wide range of support services and accommodations for students in order to ensure students with disabilities have equal access and opportunity to pursue their educational goals. Working collaboratively with students, faculty, staff and administrators, DAC provides consultation and serves as the information resource on disability related issues to the campus community. DAC is located in Lassen Hall 1008 and can be contacted by phone at (916) 278-6955 (Voice) or (916) 278-7239 (TDD only) or via email at dac@csus.edu Additional information can be found on the DAC website: <https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/disability-access-center/>

Crisis Assistance & Resource Education Support (CARES) Support

If you are experiencing challenges in the area of food and/or stable housing, help is just a click, email or phone call away! Sacramento State offers basic needs support for students who are experiencing challenges in these areas. Please visit our Crisis Assistance & Resource Education Support (CARES) website to learn more about your options and resources available. <https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/crisis-assistance-resource-education-support/>

Title IX

The University requires faculty and staff to report any personal disclosures of sexual misconduct including rape, dating/domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. Students who do not wish to report their experience to me or the Title IX Coordinator may speak to someone confidentially by contacting Student Health and Counseling Services.

Sac State is committed to supporting students and fostering a campus environment free of sexual misconduct and gender-based discrimination. If a student chooses to disclose to a faculty or staff member an experience related to sexual misconduct which includes rape, relationship violence, or stalking, all faculty and staff are obligated to report this disclosure to the university's Title IX Coordinator. Sac State's Title IX Coordinator is Mary Lee Vance. Please email equalopportunity@csus.edu or (916) 278-5770. Upon receipt of the report, the Title IX Coordinator will contact you to inform you of your rights and options as a survivor and connect you with support resources, including resolution options for holding accountable the person who harmed you. Students who elect not to discuss their experience with the Title IX Coordinator can speak confidentially to the following confidential resources:

Student Health & Counseling Services at The WELL On Campus

Phone Number: 916-278-6461

Website: <https://www.csus.edu/student-life/health-counseling/counseling/>

Campus Confidential Advocate Email: weave@csus.edu

On Campus Phone Number: 916-278-5850 (during business hours)

WEAVE 24/7 Hotline: 916-920-2952

Other Resources

The Office of Student Affairs maintains a list of campus resources/centers: <https://www.csus.edu/center/>

Testing Center: <https://www.csus.edu/testing/>

Library: <https://library.csus.edu/>

Student Health and Counseling Services at The WELL: <https://www.csus.edu/shcs/>

Sacramento State Disability Access Center (DAC): <https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/disability-access-center/>

Peer & Academic Resource Center: <https://www.csus.edu/parc/>

Student Academic Success and Education Equity Programs: <https://www.csus.edu/saseep/>

CHHS Student Success Center: <https://www.csus.edu/college/health-human-services/student-success/>

Reading & Writing Center: <https://www.csus.edu/undergraduate-studies/writing-program/reading-writing-center.html>

SMART Thinking (tutoring resource): https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/degrees-project/_internal/_documents/smarthinking.pdf

Knowledge And Skills Acquisition (KASA) For Certification in

Audiology

ASHA Knowledge And Skills Acquisition (KASA) tracking for courses and clinics in the AuD program can be found online in the student's CALIPSO account.

ACAE Competencies

Foundation:

12. Critically evaluate the research foundation for hearing, balance and communication sciences.