California State University, Sacramento
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

CSAD 217, AAC & Assistive Technologies
Spring 2017

Semester: Spring 2017
Course Number: CSAD 217
Title: AAC & Assistive Technologies
Room: Shasta 250
Day & Time: Monday & Wednesday, 7:30-8:20 a.m.

The information below is at the discretion of the individual course instructor and may be changed at any time with prior notice to students in the course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Biological, acoustic, psychological, development, linguistic, and cultural bases for communication disorders, focusing on augmentative and alternative communication and assistive technologies as well as their assessment and treatment techniques.

PREREQUISITES:
Admittance to graduate program.

LEARNING OUTCOME COMPETENCIES: CSAD 217:
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.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. Describe the principals and functions of augmentative and alternative communication as well as identify potential AAC users.
2. Discuss and explain evidenced-based assessment and selection processes of augmentative and alternate communication.
3. Interpret assessment data and determine evidenced-based treatment strategies for augmentative and alternative communication intervention.
4. Discuss funding and troubleshooting processes of augmentative and alternative communication systems.
5. Identify characteristics and needs of differing populations and how they might benefit from augmentative and alternative communication.
6. Identify and discuss potential clinical implications of cultural diversity as it relates to the selection and use of AAC devices and systems.
7. Describe and apply knowledge about ethical considerations and professional issues and their impact on assessment and treatment of individual with augmentative and alternative communication needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment Measures (Tentative content arrangements)</th>
<th>Grade Received (or average of grades)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - 7</td>
<td>Critical Thinking Questions/Class Participation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>Mid-Term Examination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>AAC Novel Review and Reflection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>AAC System Presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>AAC Resource Binder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-7</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**METHODS OF PRESENTATION:**
Direct instruction, whole group discussions, small group in-class activities, critical thinking activities, guest presentations, case study analysis (e.g., video and written vignettes) and other class assignments/activities.

**The learning outcomes address ASHA Standards IV-B, IV-C, IV-E, IV-F, IV-G**
Students will demonstrate knowledge of the information listed in these standards in order to demonstrate theory and use of statistical designs in research and to determine the value of different research studies to form prevention, assessment and intervention decisions congruent with evidence-based practice, and are listed below:

**KASA (Knowledge and Skills Acquisition):**
**Standard IV-B**
The applicant must demonstrate knowledge of basic human communication and swallowing processes, including their biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases.
- Basic human communication processes
  - Neurological

**Standard IV-C**
The applicant must demonstrate knowledge of communication and swallowing disorders and differences, including the appropriate etiologies, characteristics,
anatomical/physiological/acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates in the following areas:

- Communication modalities including oral, manual, augmentative and alternative communication techniques, and assistive technologies
  - How to apply principles of AAC to speech-language pathology and audiology disorders including voice, motor speech, receptive and expressive language, hearing, cognitive and social aspects of communication

**Standard IV-E**
The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of standards of ethical conduct.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the principles and rules of the current ASHA Code of Ethics

**Standard IV-F**
The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of processes used in research and of the integration of research principles into evidence-based clinical practice.

- Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of basic and applied research
  - Access sources of research information
  - Apply research to clinical practice

**Standard IV-G**
The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of contemporary professional issues.

- Demonstrate knowledge of professional issues that affect speech-language pathology including trends in professional practice, ASHA practice policies and guidelines, and reimbursement procedures.

**COURSE MATERIALS:**

**Required Texts:**


**Recommended Texts:**

Other Readings:
Additional readings will be made available on the course web site/SacCT environment.
See reference list, located at the end of the syllabus.

Required Materials:
Laptop, netbook, iPad, or other device with internet capability (if device is not available,
student(s) should arrange to share with a classmate, in advance of class meeting)
Paper, pens, pencils
Download, print, and bring relevant documents from SacCT (e.g., quiz forms, etc.) to class

Recommended Materials:
3-ring binder, with dividers
Pictures/photos, colored pencils, glue stick, tape (for Communication Board Activity)

COURSE STRUCTURE:
This course will incorporate a variety of in-class learning experiences including direction instruction/lecture, active learning activities, small/whole group discussions, and multimedia viewing. Due to the breadth and depth of the course content, students will be assigned weekly readings to be completed before the class meeting. All assignments and activities are carefully administered for the purpose of enhancing student learning.

EXPECTATIONS:
Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be prepared to participate in weekly class discussions and activities. Assignments must be turned in or taken on the scheduled dates and times. Special circumstances will be allowed for rescheduling or make-ups given the following: (a) a compelling and/or documented medical issue and (b) instructor approval. If you are absent from class, you are responsible for all material covered.

Cell phones are to be turned off throughout the class period. Electronic devices will be used to access posted SacCT resources or documents. Checking email and other non-course online activities are not acceptable.
Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect for others, democratic values, understanding of an appropriate social contract, and respect for diversity. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated and will be dealt with under established University policy. If you are caught cheating on an exam, you will receive a failing grade for the class.

Students who have trouble keeping up with the assignments or other aspects of the course, should communicate these challenges to the instructor as soon as possible.
Building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Be proactive and inform the instructor when any difficulties arise during the semester so possible solutions can be identified.

The syllabus, outlines of class topics, and other info will be posted on SacCT in Course Content. Outlines and other posted information will be removed no earlier than 2 weeks after original posting, but will not remain available on-line indefinitely. Read and/or copy the material when it is posted. In addition, it is recommended that students:

1. Retrieve the outline from SacCT when it is posted.
2. Read the text ahead of class to correlate readings with information that will be presented in lecture to reinforce learning.
3. Take notes in class and later rewrite and organize them using the outline as a guide or rewrite and reorganize them as personally needed for understanding.

**GRADED COURSE ACTIVITIES:**

According to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders Graduate Admissions Policy, Procedures and Practices (http://www.csus.edu/HHS/SPA/accreditation/accreditation%20docs/GRaduate%20admissions%20Policy,procedures%20and%20practices.pdf), students failing to maintain a GPA of 3.00 are automatically placed on academic probation. In addition, any course grade below a “B-” must be repeated. Therefore, students should track their progress towards meeting each learning outcome by listing their grades on the table listed above over the course of the semester. The instructor will use a variety of activities and strategies to ensure maximizing students’ opportunities to learn and to integrate information presented in this course. Assessment data from these activities will used to evaluate students’ mastery of each learning outcome and the assignment of an earned grade.

All assignments must be completed and turned in during class, on time, and in the correct form. Late assignments and/or those in an incorrect form will receive no credit accepted without a serious and compelling reason and/or doctor’s note and instructor approval. Late or missing assignments will negatively affect the student’s grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points- total 400</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAC System Presentation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAC Novel Review and Reflection</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAC Resource Binder</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your grade will be based upon the total number of points you achieve for the semester out of the total possible. Grades can be improved or lessened by attendance issues, late assignments, and/or the amount and quality of verbal class participation. Letter grades will be based upon the rubric below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-94%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>64-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>60-63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the SacCT Grade Center. Grades are typically posted within seven-fourteen (7-14) days following the completion of an activity. Students who receive below a B- on any one test, presentation, paper, or project will be expected to conference with me to discuss deficient areas and what can be done to ensure competency. Final grades will be based on the average of exams, projects, and assignments.

Note: For more information about grading at Sac State, visit the academic policies and grading section of the university catalog.

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: http://www.csus.edu/umanual/AcademicHonestyPolicyandProcedures.htm

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.
UNDERSTAND WHEN YOU MAY DROP THIS COURSE
It is the student’s responsibility to understand when he/she needs 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.

ACCOMMODATIONS:
Inform your instructor of any accommodations needed. If you have a documented disability and verification from the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities (SSWD), 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 SSWD and meet with a SSWD counselor to request special accommodation before classes start. SSWD 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 sswd@csus.edu

TENTATIVE LECTURE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Dates and topics may change based on time, guest speakers, special events, etc. Students will be notified ahead of time via in-class announcements, emails, and/or webct

Please read assigned textbook readings before class meeting!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/23 &amp; 1/25</td>
<td>*Review syllabus/assignments/class Structure/expectations *Topic: AAC Communication Processes</td>
<td>Read: Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 1 In-class small group activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/30 &amp; 2/1</td>
<td>*Topic: Message Management</td>
<td>Read: Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/6 &amp; 2/8</td>
<td>*Topic: Symbols and Rate Enhancement</td>
<td>Read: Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Date(s)</td>
<td>Topic(s)</td>
<td>Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2/13 &amp; 2/15</td>
<td>Topic: Alternative Access</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2/20 &amp; 2/22</td>
<td>Topic: Principles of Assessment</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/27 &amp; 3/1</td>
<td>Topic: Assessment of Specific Capabilities</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3/6 &amp; 3/8</td>
<td>Principles of Decision Making, Intervention, and Evaluation</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3/20 &amp; 3/22</td>
<td>Spring Recess No class meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4/3 &amp; 4/5</td>
<td>Language Development and Intervention: Challenges, Supports and Instructional Approaches</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>4/10 &amp; 4/12</td>
<td>Instruction to Support Linguistic and Social Competence AAC System Presentations 4/12</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>4/17 &amp; 4/19</td>
<td>Literacy Intervention for Individuals with Complex Communication Needs AAC System Presentations 4/19</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>4/24 &amp; 4/26</td>
<td>Adults with Acquired Physical Conditions, Adults with Severe Aphasia and Apraxia of Speech AAC System Presentations 4/26</td>
<td>Beukelman &amp; Mirenda, 2013 Ch. 14 and 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Relevant AAC References to Enhance Student Learning**


Cafiero, J. M. (2007). Challenging our belief systems regarding people with autism and AAC: Making the least harmful assumptions. *Closing the Gap Solutions, April/May*


**Relevant and Free AAC Webinars to Enhance Student Learning**

Webcast: AAC-A User’s Perspective [http://aac-rerc.psu.edu/index.php/webcasts/show/id/3](http://aac-rerc.psu.edu/index.php/webcasts/show/id/3) 36 minutes


ONLINE LECTURE: Creating Communication Environments available from the WATI website under free downloads (wati.org)

*For a list of additional Augmentative and Alternative Communication new books, please*