

University of Florida
College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus
SPA 6581 Anatomy and Physiology of Balance (1 credit)
Semester: Fall 2024
Delivery Format: On-Campus

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Preferred Course Communications: email

Course Overview

Theoretical and applied understanding of the anatomical structures involved in balance and the functions they serve to support an understanding of the nature of balance disorders.

Relation to Program Outcomes

The content of this course is designed to provide students with both information and activities that apply to specific knowledge and skills set forth by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) in regards to completion of academic and certification requirements in Audiology. Content will be learned from assigned readings, lectures, labs, and class discussions. Outcomes will be assessed through class discussions, labs, student reflections, and written examinations.

Governing Body	KASA Standard	Test
ASHA	Standard II-A: Foundations of Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A1. Genetics, embryology and development of the auditory and vestibular systems, anatomy and physiology, neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, and pathophysiology of hearing and balance over the lifespan 	Tests*, In-Class Assignments**, Readings, Labs**
CAA	3.1.2.A Foundations of Audiology Practice...each student can demonstrate knowledge of the... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● embryology, anatomy, and physiology of the auditory, vestibular, and related body systems; ● normal aspects of auditory and vestibular function across the lifespan 	Tests*, In-Class Assignments**, Readings, Labs**

*summative assessment, **formative assessment

Course Objectives

1. 1) Correctly identify key structures in the inner ear
2. 2) Describe the contribution of the sensory systems involved in balance
3. 3) Correctly identify the oculo-motor muscles and their functional pairings
4. 4) Describe the function of the vestibulospinal pathways
5. 5) Summarize embryology and evolution of the inner ear

Instructional Methods: Lectures and assigned readings

Recommended Textbook:

There is no text. All readings will be provided by the instructor through the Canvas site.

Week	Date(s)	Topic(s)
1	8/28	Introduction to balance system
2	9/4	Ontogeny of the vestibular system and balance
3	9/11	Ontogeny of the vestibular system and balance
4	9/18	Peripheral vestibular system
5	9/25	Peripheral vestibular system
6	10/2	Exam review
7	10/9	Midterm
8	10/16	Central vestibular system
9	10/23	Central vestibular system
10	10/30	Ocular motor system
11	11/6	Ocular motor system
12	11/13	Balance Function
13	11/20	Exam review
14	11/27	No Class – Thanksgiving Break
15	12/4	Exam

Required student tasks/assignments:

Midterm Exam (35%)

Final Exam (35%)

Quizzes (30%)

Exam times and dates will not be altered: In the event that the University is officially closed on a test day due to some unforeseen occurrence (e.g. inclement weather) the test will be given during the next regular class day. As you have been given the dates well in advance, you should be able to confidently schedule work hours, vacations, etc., so that they do not conflict with exam times.

Lectures: Website: e-Learning in Canvas, accessed via <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://kb.helpdesk.ufl.edu/FAQs/E-Learning>
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

PowerPoint lectures, supplemental readings (outside the text), and lecture handouts will be provided through Canvas. All materials will be available prior to the lecture day. The student will be responsible for accessing and printing (if needed) all lecture materials.

Quizzes: Each week after class a quiz will be posted on Canvas covering the material that was discussed in that week's class. The quiz will be due before the next class. There will be no quiz following classes with an exam review or exam.

Supplemental Readings: The course schedule indicates the dates that the readings should be completed.

Class Participation: Participating in class discussions and class activities is expected.

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	E
Percentage	93-100	90-93	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	70-76	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60
Points	925+	895-924	865-894	825-864	795-824	765-794	700-764	665-699	625-664	601-624	<600
Grade points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0

For detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=149>

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

You are expected to attend class and participate. Each class member has a different perspective and sharing provides a more meaningful exchange of ideas and interest. As a professional you will often be required to voice your opinion and perspective. Be respectful to the ideas of peers or the instructor if they differ from your own beliefs or experiences. You may use your laptop or tablet for class notes and class participation. Reviewing your e-mail, on-line shopping, completing other assignments or any other non-class related activity is disrespectful and distracting and you will be asked to remove yourself from class. Use of phones during class is unacceptable there will be ample breaks in class to attend to your personal calls or texts. If there is an impending emergency or pressing issue please discuss with me prior to the beginning of class.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The **Counseling and Wellness Center** 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. On line and in person assistance is available.
- **U Matter We Care** website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The **Student Health Care Center** at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from: Alachua County Crisis Center: (352) 264-6789 <http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>
- **University Police Department:** [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.](#)

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment

- The UF Audiology Program, as well as this instructor, work to provide a safe and respectful environment in which students can learn independently as well as cooperatively. Furthermore, ASHA and AAA Ethics require us to always interact with our patients and each other in professional manners. It is possible to have differing opinions or beliefs yet interact in a respectful manner towards your patients and/or colleagues. Therefore, it is the expectation of the instructor that you will facilitate a positive learning environment during class. Students that deliberately and specifically make the learning environment toxic, either by word, action, attitude, or behavior may be asked to leave the class, earn a grade of “zero” for that day’s activity, and/or be referred to the Dean of Students for harassment.
- Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida’s Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, “The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act.” If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu