

**University of Florida**  
**College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus**  
**Course Number/Name: SPA 4050 - Clinical Observation (3 credit hours)**  
Spring 2024 Semester  
Meeting Time: Wednesday  
Period 3-4 (9:35 am - 11:30 am)  
Delivery Format: In-person/Online  
Classroom: Communicore 011 (Comm-011)  
Course Website: Canvas Site

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**Instructor Name:** Kristen Lewandowski M.A., CCC-SLP  
**Room Number:** Communicore 011 (Comm-011)  
**Phone Number:** 248-404-7298  
**Email Address:** klewandowski@phhp.ufl.edu  
**Office Hours:** By appointment only  
**Preferred Mode of Course Communications:** Email and text

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<b>Course Title:</b>	SPA 4050: Clinical Observation
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None
<b>Description:</b>	This course is intended to allow you to begin connecting the knowledge you've gained in other courses in the program to clinical practice with real clinicians, settings, and patients via 25 hours or more of guided observations and experiential learning.
<b>Intended Audience:</b>	Communication Sciences and Disorders Students
<b>Program:</b>	Bachelor of Arts Communication Sciences and Disorders
<b>College:</b>	University of Florida; College of Public Health and Health Professions

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**Course Overview:**

One of the most beneficial experiences you can acquire prior to selecting a career within the profession is to observe practitioners of that profession. You get to see what their day is like, what the clients and services are like, and what their working environment is like, among other important experiences. Active, guided observations can also help you move beyond just learning relevant information for an exam or assignment within the context of a course. When you see the principles and practices introduced in class applied in a clinical situation, your knowledge takes on greater value.

Most graduate programs along with the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, require students to have 25 hours of guided observation prior to starting their graduate clinical education and require a letter from the undergraduate university verifying the hours are complete. To help you obtain these 25 hours, we have developed this course, Clinical Observation (SPA 4904 and/or 4050), which is required of all CMS majors.

This course is intended to allow you to begin connecting the knowledge you've gained in other courses in the program to clinical practice with real clinicians, settings, and patients.

**Delivery:**

In-person/Online and Canvas

**Workload:**

Students should be prepared to spend 6-9 hours per week completing the requirements of the course.

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**Goals and Outcomes:****Student Learning Objectives**

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The following course goals articulate the general objectives and purpose of this course. Students will:

1. Describe appropriate ethical behavior in clinical practice.

2. Describe at least 3 environments in which speech-language pathologists or audiologists provide clinical services.
3. Describe core academic and clinical content areas for the profession of speech-language pathology (the “Big Nine”)
4. Apply theoretical principles learned within the major to your clinical observation experiences
5. Describe clinical populations and disorders impacted by speech, language, hearing, and swallowing disorders.

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Relation Between Course Objectives and Program Outcomes/Clinical Certification Standards

***This course addresses program outcomes that pertain to the following Clinical Certification Standards:***

Standard #	Standard
IV. C.	Knowledge of communication disorders and differences, including the appropriate etiologies, characteristics, and anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates in the areas of receptive/expressive language, cognitive aspects of communication, social aspects of communication, and communication modalities.
IV. D.	Current knowledge of the principles and methods of assessment and intervention for individuals with ASD and individuals with complex communication needs who require AAC. This will encompass the following areas: receptive/expressive language, cognitive aspects of communication, social aspects of communication, and communication modalities.

IV. E.	Knowledge of ethical issues as they pertain to the clinical management of AAC users and individuals with ASD.
IV. G.	Knowledge of professional contemporary issues related to AAC users and individuals with ASD.

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### Course Materials and Technology:

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- Syllabus
- [ASHA](#) and [AAA](#) Codes of Ethics
- Observation policies and guidelines
- Observation log
- [Master Clinician Network](#)

For technical support for this class:

- [learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

### Academic Requirements and Grading:

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#### Assignments:

1. HIPAA Training
2. Signed confidentiality statement
3. Clinical Observations
4. Medical and Educational Abbreviations Reference

### Clinical Observations \*IMPORTANT INFORMATION\*

The American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) requires that all students complete at least 25 hours of clinical observations. These hours must be obtained under the supervision of an ASHA certified audiologist and/or speech-language pathologist. Additionally, the audiologist/speech-language pathologist must have held their certification for at least 9 months and have completed at least 2 hours of continuing education in clinical supervision. You must verify this is completed by confirming with the clinician you are observing and you may also verify on [ASHA's verification website](#).

### Signing up for Master Clinician:

1. Go to masterclinician.org and click on “sign-up”
2. Click on “student registration”
3. Fill in all of the information (leave registration code blank), read, and check the box agreeing to our ethical and privacy standards, then click “submit”
4. Enter your credit card information.

### Grades

#### Point System

<b>Points earned</b>	93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60
<b>Letter Grade</b>	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if an equal number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with a B+ or higher.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>WF</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>NG</b>	<b>S-U</b>
<b>Grade Points</b>	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

#### **Exam Policy**

There are no scheduled exams for this course.

#### **Policy Related to Make up Assignments, Quizzes, Exams, or Other Work**

Please note: Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from Canvas when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

#### **Policy Related to Required Class Attendance/Participation**

You are expected to *attend* each class and, once in class, you are expected to *participate*. Attendance will be taken during each class. Your questions, comments, and observations make the class lively and interesting and are an intrinsic aspect of your learning experience. Personal issues with respect to class attendance or fulfillment of course requirements will be handled on an individual basis.

- Requirements for class attendance, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>
- Absences
  - Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. All faculty are bound by the UF policy for excused absences. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>
  - If you must miss a class or examination due to illness or emergency, you should contact the instructor beforehand. **Unexcused absences for classes will result in the deduction of ½ a point from your overall attendance grade for the class. Unexcused absences for examinations will be graded as a “0.”**

### **Topic Outline/Course Schedule**

\*\*This agenda is subject to change based on the pace and needs of the class as they occur\*\*

Week	Date	Topic(s)	Readings	Assignments
1	1/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review syllabus, requirements, clinical observations, and introduction to ethics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">SLP code of ethics</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">AuD code of ethics</a></li> </ul>	Quiz 1
2	1/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review of audiology and speech pathology scope of practice, practice settings, and service delivery</li> <li>● Medical and Educational Abbreviations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">SLP scope of practice</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">AuD scope of practice</a></li> </ul>	Quiz 2
3	1/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Big 9 overview</li> <li>● Big 9 area 1, 2: Articulation, Fluency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">ASHA: Speech Sound Disorders</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in both Articulation & Fluency with reflection

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA: Fluency Disorders</a></li> </ul>	
4	1/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big 9 area 3: Voice and Resonance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Voice Disorders</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Resonance Disorders</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in Voice and Resonance with reflection
5	2/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big 9 area 4,5: Receptive and Expressive Language, Hearing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Spoken Language</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Written Language</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Communication in Deaf/Hard of Hearing</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Hearing Loss Adults</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Hearing Loss Children</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in both Expressive and Receptive Language & Hearing with reflection
6	2/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big 9 area 6: Swallowing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Swallowing Adults</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Swallowing Children</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in swallowing with reflection
7	2/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big 9 area 7: Cognitive Aspects of Communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA TBI Adults</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA TBI Children</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Dementia</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Executive Function Disorders</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in Cognitive Aspects of Communication with reflection
8	2/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big 9 area 8: Social Aspects of Communication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">ASHA Social Communication Disorder</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in Social Aspects of Communication with reflection

9	3/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Big 9 area 9: Communication Modalities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">ASHA AAC</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in Communication Modalities with reflection
10	3/12	<b>SPRING BREAK - No class</b>	NO READINGS	NO ASSIGNMENTS
11	3/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview: Audiology Roles and Responsibilities</li> <li>Service areas in audiology: Vestibular, Tinnitus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">ASHA R + R</a></li> <li><a href="#">ASHA Hearing &amp; Balance</a></li> </ul>	Clinical observation in hearing
12	3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service areas in audiology: Electrophysiology, Hearing Conservation</li> </ul>		Clinical observation in hearing
13	4/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service areas in audiology: Amplification/Implantables, Central auditory processing disorder, Medical audiology</li> </ul>		Clinical observation in hearing
14	4/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Guest Lecturer(s)</b></li> </ul>		
15	4/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of Clinical Education and Supervision, Pathway to Certification in SLP and AUD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">ASHA Clinical Education &amp; Supervision</a></li> </ul>	
16	4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrap-Up</li> <li>Overview: Certification Standards in AUD and SLP</li> <li>Final questions &amp; discussion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">ASHA Certification standards SLP</a></li> <li><a href="#">ASHA Certification Standards AUD</a></li> </ul>	

## Assignments

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<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Weight</i>
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Assignments	25%
Quizzes	25%
25 Observation Hours	50%

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## Course Policies:

### Time Management

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You should plan on spending 6-9 hours per week on course requirements such as readings and assignments, for a 3 credit course. For this reason, it is highly recommended that you begin each assignment early. Work on it regularly over the week rather than waiting until the last day or two. This will allow you to have the chance to work out problems or get help if needed and to be prepared for the day's lecture topics.

### Participation

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. You must complete all out-of-class assignments. You are also encouraged to participate in all in-person meetings. This preparation gives you the knowledge or practice needed to engage in higher levels of learning during class. If you are not prepared for class, you may struggle to keep pace with the activities occurring and it is unlikely that you will reach the higher learning goals of the course. Similarly, you are expected to actively participate in class. Your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers and facilitates overall mastery of the course objectives.

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## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

**Expectations Regarding Course Behavior:** You are expected to behave professionally and courteously to everyone in the class. It will be to your benefit to participate.

**Communication Guidelines:** When communicating, you should always:

- Treat instructor with respect, even in email or in any other online communication
- Always use your professors' proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if you're in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
- Unless specifically invited, don't refer to them by first name (You may call me Kristy).
- Use clear and concise language
- Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar
- Avoid slang terms such as "wassup?" and texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you"
- Use standard fonts such as Times New Roman and use a size 12 or 14 pt. font
- Avoid using the caps lock feature
- Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like :)
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or offensive
- Be careful with personal information (both yours and others)
- Do not send confidential patient information via email

### **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.

## **Professionalism and COVID**

As students pursuing a path in the health professions or public health, it is crucial to demonstrate professional behaviors that reflect integrity and commitment to the health of patients, fellow health professionals, and to populations we serve. To accomplish this, a strong responsibility for the well-being of others must be evident in our decisions, along with accountability for our actions. Professionalism in the health disciplines requires adherence to high standards of conduct that begin long before graduation. This is particularly true during times of health emergencies such as the COVID pandemic, given our professional habits can have a direct impact upon the health of persons entrusted to us.

If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this link for details on where to get your shot, including options that do not require an appointment: <https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/vaccinations/vaccine-availability/>. Students who receive the first dose of the vaccine somewhere off-campus and/or outside of Gainesville can still receive their second dose on campus.

In response to COVID-19, the following professional practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to protect the health and safety of ourselves, our patients, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times while in Health Science Center classrooms and within Health Science Center buildings even if you are vaccinated.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email

covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website for more information.

- Continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing.
- Avoid crowded places (including gatherings/parties with more than 10 people)

Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class. Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect you are not permitted to use any on campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.

Continue to regularly visit [coronavirus.UFHealth.org](https://coronavirus.UFHealth.org) and [coronavirus.ufl.edu](https://coronavirus.ufl.edu) for up-to-date information about COVID-19 and vaccination.

### **COVID-19 Symptoms**

See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html> for information about COVID-19 symptoms, which may include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, chills, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, and loss of taste or smell.

### **Recording Within the Course:**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the

University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **Policy Related to Guests Attending Class:**

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Please note that guests are **not** permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy:

<http://facstaff.php.ufl.edu/services/resourceguide/getstarted.htm>

### **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/>.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### ***Accommodations for Students with Disabilities***

If you require classroom accommodations because of a disability, you must register with the Dean of Students Office at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of your accommodations that you will share with me, the instructor of the course, to receive required accommodations. Please make sure you provide this letter to me by the end of the second week of the course. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

### ***Counseling & 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 website for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. Online and in person assistance is available.
- 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: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>.
- 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 352-392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from the Alachua County Crisis Center at 352-264-6789. Check out their website for additional information: <http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

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.

### **Modification of the Syllabus and Schedule**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus and schedule at any time. Notice of any change will be E-mailed and posted as an announcement.

