

COMD 408

Directed Study in Speech and Language Pathology

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Fitton
E-mail: FITTONL@mailbox.sc.edu
Office: 272 Close-Hipp
Office Hours: By appointment

Academic Bulletin Description

Directed readings and/or research in speech and language pathology.

Detailed Purpose & Description

The purpose of this course is for students to (1) obtain hands-on research experience and (2) to learn about bilingual language and reading development in children who speak languages other than English at home in the United States. Students will meet regularly with Dr. Fitton and complete “lab hours” where they complete hands-on research tasks such as assessment administration with bilingual children, data scoring, data entry, and reading relevant research articles. Efforts will be made to tailor individual experiences to students’ interests and career goals.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Learning Outcomes

Individual meetings, hands-on experiences, independent tasks, and analysis of research are used to facilitate students’ critical thinking and mastery of the learning outcomes below. After completion of this directed study, students will be able to:

- Identify and define the ethical responsibilities inherent in the research process
- Exhibit the ability to develop and pose effective research questions
- Demonstrate technical reading skills related to research
- Demonstrate effective use of university library resources, including electronic article databases
- Identify and differentiate among opportunities for graduate study or professional goals

Course Materials

Throughout the semester, students will be assigned readings pertaining to their research topic. Additionally, the student will identify 3-5 peer-reviewed research articles pertaining to their topic of study in consultation with the instructor. The student will use these articles to complete the Discover USC Proposal and Final Poster assignments. All course materials comply with copyright/fair use policies.

Technology Requirements

The links to articles, assignments, and rubrics are located on the Blackboard site for the course. To participate in learning activities and complete assignments, you will need:

- Access to a working computer that has a current operating system with updates installed.
- Reliable Internet access and a USC email account;
- A current Internet browser that is compatible with Blackboard (Google Chrome is the recommended browser for Blackboard);
- Microsoft Word as your word processing program; and
- Reliable data storage for your work, such as a USB drive or Office365 OneDrive cloud storage.

If your computer does not have Microsoft Word, Office 365 ProPlus package is available to you free of charge and allows you to install Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneNote, Publisher, and Access on up to 5 PCs or Macs and Office apps on other mobile devices including tablets. Office 365 also includes unlimited cloud storage on OneDrive. To download Office 365 ProPlus, log into your student (University) email through a web browser, choose Settings (top right corner), and select software. If you have further questions or need help with the software, please contact the [Service Desk](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_technology_services/support/servicedesk.php) (https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_technology_services/support/servicedesk.php).

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Minimal technical skills are needed in this course. All work in this course must be completed and submitted online through Blackboard. Therefore, you must have consistent and reliable access to a computer and the Internet. The minimal technical skills you have include the ability to:

- Organize and save electronic files;
- Use USC email and attached files;
- Check email and Blackboard daily;
- Download and upload documents;
- Locate information with a browser; and use Blackboard.

Technical Support

If you have problems with your computer, technology, IT-related questions, support, including Blackboard, please contact the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) Service Desk at (803) 777-1800 or submit an online request through the [Self-Service Portal](https://scprod.service-now.com/sp) (<https://scprod.service-now.com/sp>) or visit the [Carolina Tech Zone](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_technology_services/support/ctz.php) (https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_technology_services/support/ctz.php). The Service Desk is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM (Eastern Time Zone). If you are located in the Columbia, SC area, the Thomas Cooper Library at USC has computers for you to use in case you encounter computer issues/problems. If you are not located in the Columbia, SC area, most regional campuses and public libraries have computers for public use.

Course Assignments and Grading

Schedule

It is expected that students will complete their scheduled lab hours and report them weekly on their timesheets by the weekly deadline set for all individuals working in the lab. Note that some course-related activities will be flexible in when they can be completed, but others may need to occur during scheduled hours (e.g., working with children at schools).

Late/Missing Assignments

Late projects will be penalized 10% off per day beginning with the day they are due. Only in cases of emergency or illness can alternate arrangements be made for altering dates of assignments. All such arrangements are the full responsibility of the student and must be made prior to the due date.

Evaluation

At the close of the semester, each student will receive a letter grade based on his or her individual participation and performance across multiple tasks. Feedback will be provided at the mid-term evaluation and as needed throughout the semester.

Grading

Point allocation across the course assignments is as follows:

Requirement	Due Date	Percent of Grade
Lab participation and performance	Ongoing (multiple dates)	50%
Discover USC Poster Proposal	Friday, December 13th	20%
Discover USC Final Poster	April 9 th , 2020 at 11:59pm	30%

Assignments

- A. **Lab Participation and Performance (50% of grade).** See attached schedule.
- B. **Discover USC Poster Proposal (20% of grade).** Students will choose a research topic during the semester, in consultation with the instructor. The topic should be relevant to the student's work in the lab. Students will complete a full draft of a Discover USC Poster Proposal, to be submitted to the instructor one week prior to the 2020 Proposal deadline. Students may propose to use data made available to them in the lab or may propose a literature review-focused project for the presentation.

Upon receipt of feedback from the instructor, the student will revise the proposal accordingly and submit it for Discover USC at least 24 hours before the Discover USC deadline.

- C. **Final Discover USC Poster (30% of grade).** Based on the Discover USC Poster Proposal and in consultation with the instructor, students will lead all tasks relevant to developing a final research poster. Students may use templates provided by the instructor. A completed research poster must be submitted to the instructor by 11:59pm on April 9 (though drafts may be submitted for feedback prior to the deadline). The poster should be created using Microsoft PowerPoint and should include the following components: (a) title, (b) author list, (c) background information necessary to understand the poster, (d) methods, (e) results, (f) conclusions, (g) relevant figures and tables, and (h) a word document listing references in APA 7 format.

Upon submission of the completed poster, the instructor will provide feedback. The student is responsible for revising the poster and providing the instructor with a final version to be printed and presented at Discover USC 2020. All posters are due by April 16th at 11:59pm.

Course grades are based on the following grading scale

89.5-100 = A	69.5-75.4 = C
85.5-89.4 = B+	65.5-69.4 = D+
79.5-85.4 = B	59.5-65.4 = D
75.5-79.4 = C+	0 – 59.4. = F

Course Policies and Procedures*

Attendance Policy

All lab time should be scheduled at least one week in advance in consultation with the instructor and/or the lab managers. If you are absent for scheduled lab time at any time during the semester, you are responsible for making up that time at a later date. If you are ill during a scheduled trip to a school, be sure to let the instructor to know as soon as possible. You will not be permitted to go to schools when you are sick and may make up the time at a later date. If there is a time-sensitive task that you miss, you are responsible for coordinating with others in the lab to make sure that the task is completed on time.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the honor code (<http://www.sc.edu/academicintegrity/honorcode.html>). Violations will not be tolerated and students may fail the class if the honor code is violated.

Plagiarism

Using the words or ideas of another as if they were one's own is a serious form of academic dishonesty. If another person's complete sentence, syntax, key words, or the specific or unique ideas and information are used, one must give that person credit through proper citation.

Class and Lab Conduct

Professional behavior is paramount, as you will be working as part of a research team. Come to the lab on time. Be conscious of your own behavior and how it impacts those around you. Silence your phone or anything else that has the potential to ring, beep, or otherwise disrupt others.

Institutional Review Board

Each student must complete IRB training prior to beginning his or her independent study hours in the lab. Specific instructions for training will be distributed.

Inclement Weather Policies

The class will follow university guidelines for inclement weather available on the main university website. Should the University cancel class or close, students will be excused of their lab hours scheduled for that time and do not need to make up the hours.

University Holidays

Should the students' regularly scheduled lab hours fall on a University holiday, the student is not expected to complete their lab time for that day and does not need to make up these hours.

Diversity and Inclusion

The university is committed to a campus environment that is inclusive, safe, and respectful for all persons, and one that fully embraces the Carolinian Creed. To that end, all lab activities will be conducted in an atmosphere of friendly participation and interaction among colleagues, recognizing and appreciating the unique experiences, background, and point of view each student brings. You are expected at all times to apply the highest academic standards to this course and to treat others with dignity and respect.

Course Communication

Regular communication among lab members is key to successful research. Students are encouraged to regularly communicate with the instructor, who is available via email, scheduled meetings, and drop-in times as well. In addition to other naturally-occurring communication, at the end of each week each student will email the instructor with an update that contains the following information (1) a brief summary of what they have completed that week during their lab hours, (2) their plan for the next week, and (3) any questions or problems encountered.

Emails will be sent your email address. In addition, announcements may be posted in Blackboard. If you primarily use another email account, you should make sure that the Blackboard account is linked to that address. It is your responsibility to ensure that your email account works properly in order to receive mail.

Please be sure that the email you check regularly is set in Blackboard:

- Click on the My USC tab along the top of the page in Blackboard
- In the Tools module, click on "Personal Information"
- Click on "Edit Personal Information"
- Scroll down to the listing for Email
- In the box will be listed what Blackboard has as your email address. If you wish to change it, delete the email address in the box and type in the email address you want to use.
- Click on the Submit button at the top or bottom of the page.

Academic Success

Disability Services

[Student Disability Resource Center \(http://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/\)](http://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/): The Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) empowers students to manage challenges and limitations imposed by disabilities.

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact me to discuss the logistics of any accommodations needed to fulfill course requirements (within the first week of the semester). In order to receive reasonable accommodations from me, you must be registered with the Student Disability Resource Center (1523 Greene Street, LeConte Room 112A, Columbia, SC 29208, 803-777-6142). Any student with a documented disability should contact the SDRC to make arrangements for appropriate accommodations.

Counseling Services

https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_health_services/medical-services/counseling-and-psychiatry/index.php: The University offers counseling and crisis services as well

Drafted Schedule

Date	Main Focus	Secondary Tasks
1/13/2020	Test administration training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current training materials and create 5-10 quiz questions for each test 	Journal article reading #1 with 1-paragraph reflection and 1-2 questions listed at end
1/20/2020	Test administration training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Woodcock Muñoz Language Survey and create training materials for the Letter ID and Passage Comprehension subtests, develop 5-10 questions for each 	Journal article reading #2 with 1-paragraph reflection and 1-2 questions listed at end Richland One Career Expo – Assessment demos
1/27/2020	Test administration training: Meet with groups of assistants in lab to review training materials and solidify preparation for testing in February	Journal article reading #3 with 1-paragraph reflection and 1-2 questions listed at end Trip #2 to GSC – gaining experience testing
2/3/2020	Self-selected journal article #1: Email instructor selected article with 1 paragraph reflection and 1-2 questions listed at end	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
2/10/2020	Self-selected journal article #2: Email instructor selected article with 1 paragraph reflection and 1-2 questions listed at end	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 SCSHA Attendance on Thursday evening
2/17/2020	Formalize Discover USC Proposal Idea: Request meeting with instructor to review idea and begin preparing	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
2/24/2020	Discover USC Proposal Drafting	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
3/2/2020	Discover USC Proposal Drafting & Feedback	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
3/9/2020	Discover USC Proposal Drafting	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
3/16/2020	Discover USC Proposal Drafting & Feedback	Data Collection in Schools: larger-scale test administration with children in G1 Data Cross-Checking, Scoring, Entry
3/23/2020	Re-Planning Meeting + Full-Team Prep Meeting	Review English version of questionnaire, Magellan application, identify “components” of the questionnaire. Draft intro paragraph: who are DLLs and why do we care about them?
3/30/2020	Meeting to Outline Lit Review (with Molly) + Meeting with Gina to review Outline	Incorporate feedback on intro paragraph, develop outline for lit review, get feedback on outline
4/6/2020	Weekly Full-team check-in meeting	Paragraph 3: Text-based outline of the literature review. Also create headings for the lit review.
4/13/2020	Weekly Full-team check-in meeting	Divide lit review tasks up for remaining weeks.
4/20/2020	Weekly Full-team check-in meeting	(see above)
4/27/2020	Weekly Full-team check-in meeting	(see above)
5/4/2020	Final Meeting to Finalize Grade: 12:00pm on Monday, May 4th Finalize plans for summer SMART application	