

SPLH 868: Professional Issues Fall 2011

Instructors: Kris Pedersen 785-864-0655 kpedersen@KU.edu
 Marc Fey 913-588-5937 mfey@kumc.edu

Meeting time: 6:30-8:15 Thursdays, as scheduled (8/25, 9/8, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 12/8)

Location: Room 2094 Dole, Lawrence & Room 3001 Miller, KUMC

Purpose of the Course

1. Provide an opportunity for the discussion of current issues of relevance to the practice of speech-language pathology. In this context, “practice” also includes research as well as clinical practice.
2. Supplement the topics covered elsewhere in the formal curriculum in a way that facilitates a student’s transition into the world of professional (clinical and/or research) practice.
3. Increase the students’ ability to orally present information in response to questions that require careful problem analysis and synthesis of ideas and opinions.

Course Format

Each class will begin promptly at 6:30. The first 15-20 minutes of each class period will consist of discussion of current field study issues or concerns. The discussion is intended to be a chance to discuss issues that you might have in order to help you deal with the problem and also to give your classmates a learning opportunity in the event they find themselves in a similar situation now or in the future.

The remainder of the class period will cover topics identified on the syllabus. This is not a lecture-based course. The instructors will provide structure to the class on a given topic and will help launch the class discussion. However, student participation in the discussion is the heart and soul of information exchanged in a given class period. Your preparation prior to coming to class will be critical for learning. At the end of each class period (or via email shortly thereafter) we will remind you of the next topic and point you in the right direction for readings and other sources of information to help you prepare for the next class. The ASHA website is one in particular that you should bookmark and with which you should become familiar.

Requirements and Grading

Grading for this course is satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Attendance at each class is required. The evening meeting time was selected to facilitate course attendance. Any absences due to medical and family emergencies must be excused by one of the class instructors *prior* to the class. Make-up assignments will be given for students who require more than a single excused absence.

More than one unexcused absence will result in a grade of Unsatisfactory for the semester.

Pre-class preparation and oral presentation skills will be assessed through class participation. Each student must make a substantive contribution in the form of a comment, question, or

opinion during each session. At the end of each class period, the instructors will assign a “grade” of “satisfactory” or “unsatisfactory” for each student *for that session*. Failure to make a substantive contribution will result in a grade of unsatisfactory *for that session*. The instructors recognize that there is a fair amount of subjectivity as to what constitutes a “substantive contribution.” The amount of talking is not what we are evaluating. We want to know what each of you are thinking, to hear the questions that you have, to note your observations on a topic and so forth. Students receiving an unsatisfactory mark for a session will be notified within two days by one of the instructors. **Two or more session grades of unsatisfactory are grounds for a semester grade of Unsatisfactory.** It does not automatically mean a grade of Unsatisfactory, but it is a strong possibility unless substantial changes are noted in student performance or there are acceptable reasons for the unsatisfactory performances in the class periods. One of the stated purposes for this course is to facilitate growth in oral presentation. The instructors will counsel on an individual basis to help a student who struggles with this in group situations, but ultimately, the student must be able to demonstrate professional oral presentation skills within the class to receive a Satisfactory grade for the semester.

In addition to attendance at class and substantive contributions to class discussion, there are two assignments that will be graded. These are described below.

Course Assignments

1. Attendance at and summary of a professional presentation. You will attend at least two sessions at the KSHA annual convention (September 15-17) in Overland Park, KS (see www.ksha.org for convention program and registration form) or ASHA convention in San Diego, CA (see www.asha.org). Several conference sessions at KSHA address current “hot topics” in our field and there are a number of very good presenters, including several of our own faculty and students. We recognize that school, clinic and work responsibilities may limit your ability to attend the entire conference; however, there is a half-day of programming on Saturday that should not interfere with your field study and school responsibilities. Your registration expense as a student is \$40 - \$60 depending on whether or not you are a KSHA student member and whether you register before or after a deadline date. Check the KSHA web site for registration deadlines (www.ksha.org).

If you are planning to attend ASHA, you may substitute attendance at an ASHA presentation. The instructors will consider other substitutions for the KSHA/ASHA experience (e.g., other professional conferences or presentations that may be happening where you are at or that you can access) but you must first clear it with either instructor. After you attend a convention, complete the assigned form and turn it in at the class on 12/8/11. You will also provide a brief presentation for discussion with your peers on that date.

2. Submission of resume. On September 8th, bring 2 copies of your up-to-date resume. One copy will be submitted to the course instructors. The second copy will be shared with your classmates for discussion and feedback. Your course instructors will return your resume with feedback and suggestions. The final draft of your resume is due November 3rd.

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC(s)	RESOURCES
8/25	Lawrence	Transitioning from student to professional Class & Field study expectations Workplace skills Communication with professionals	See links in the Readings section of Blackboard
9/8	Either campus	The Job Search Writing Resumes & Cover Letters	http://www.asha.org/students/job http://www.kucareerhawk.com/s/762/start.aspx See other links in the career-related links of the Website section of Blackboard
9/22	No Class	KSHA Conference runs from September 15 - 17	http://www.ksha.org/mc/page.do
10/6	KUMC	Professional organizations; Guest speaker – Doug Parham, KSHA President Elect, WSU Faculty Member The Praxis	http://www.ksha.org/ http://www.asha.org/certification/praxis/preparation.htm http://www.asha.org/ce/
10/20	Either campus	Interviewing	Mock interviews in small groups Former student panel http://www.kucareerhawk.com/s/762/start.aspx
11/3	Either campus	Clinical Ethics & Legal Issues Terminology Perspectives Processes for dealing with situations Hot topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • controversial interventions • SLP assistants <i>DUE: Final draft of your resume</i>	See Bb web site http://www.asha.org/docs/html/ET2010-00309.html http://www.asha.org/practice/ethics/ethics-articles.htm See other links in the Ethics-Related Links in the Websites section of Blackboard
11/17-19	No Class	ASHA Convention	
12/8	Lawrence	Sharing of Resumes & Portfolios Continuing ed – sharing of KSHA/ASHA experiences <i>DUE: Convention assignment - turn in form and provide short presentation to the class.</i>	See Bb web site

