

**COURSE:** SPPA 480 - ADULT NEUROGENIC COMMUNICATION DISORDERS  
Spring 2007 2 credits  
Tuesdays 2:00 - 3:40 p.m.  
Bell Hall 015

**INSTRUCTOR:** Brynja Davis Phone: 471-6370  
M.S. CCC-SLP E-mail: [brynja@andrews.edu](mailto:brynja@andrews.edu)

**REQUIRED TEXT:** Brookshire, R.H. (2003). An Introduction to Neurogenic Communication Disorders (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby

**PREREQUISITES:** SPPA 234 & SPPA 280

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** "A study of neuroanatomy, as well as the interaction of language and cognition, and hemispheric specialization. This course also covers the classification, etiology, and assessment of individuals with language and cognitive disturbances associated with central nervous system damage. Therapeutic principles are introduced" (AU Undergraduate Bulletin).

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** At the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to do the following:

Understand neuroanatomy as pertinent to speech-language pathologists.

Discuss the etiology and behavioral characteristics of neurogenic disorders such as stroke and head injury.

Understand the diagnostic process for neurogenic communication disorders.

Discuss multi-disciplinary issues in evaluating and treating various neurogenic communication disorders.

Understand and discuss basic treatment procedures appropriate for specific communication/cognition disorders associated with neuropathology.

Demonstrate professional skills in both written and oral presentations regarding adult neurogenic communication disorders.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

**Class attendance:** Since this class is taught only once a week and we will be discussing a lot of material each time, your attendance is not only a logical expectation but a requirement. Please arrive on time. The teacher reserves the right to make a downward adjustment to the grade, if more than 5 class periods are missed.

**Examinations:** Only *one* (1) examination will be scheduled during the semester. This will include a "take-home" section, that will be due the class period following the exam.

**Research Paper:** A 10-12 page research paper (literature review), regarding a specific neurogenic disorder or a diagnostic or therapeutic issue regarding neurogenic disorders, will be required of each student. Although students will be expected to write on a topic of their choice, topics must first be cleared with the teacher. The final date for topic clearance is **Feb 6**. The goal or purpose of the paper should be clearly outlined in a **Thesis Statement** along with an **Outline** and listing of a minimum of **10 references**, are due by **Feb 20**. The final paper will be due at the time of the final. Each student will give a 10-15 minute overview of their research paper at that time.

**Please follow APA (5<sup>th</sup>) edition format for all aspects of your research paper.**

**Treatment Plan:** You will be required to complete a 1-2 page paper in **outline format**, of a complete treatment hierarchy for a specific neurogenic communication disorder. The plan is due on **March 6**. You may be asked to share your plan with the class.

**Observation Report:** Students will be required to visit a rehabilitation, hospital, or clinical facility and observe an individual with a neurogenic communication disorder. A 1-2 page observation summary is due by the end of the semester.

**Oral Presentation:** Students will be required to make an oral presentation to the class, summarizing the contents of one of the last 4 chapters in the textbook. There should be no verbatim reading from the book, but a summary of what it says, tell the class about the disorder in an organized fashion. Students will be graded on their ability to convey the subject matter using as many methods of communication as needed, and on their ability to respond to questions in an informed manner. Presentations should be roughly 20 minutes long.

**Miscellaneous assignments:** In class projects or homework assignments may be added to enhance learning, at the discretion of the teacher.

## COURSE POLICIES:

**Late work:** Assignments and projects will not be accepted for full credit if turned in late. If you cannot be at class because of an excused absence, yet you wish to have your assignment/project receive full credit, please be sure your work gets to me by the time class begins. Late work will be discounted 10% each day until a 50% reduction has been reached. No credit will be given for work turned in after that time.

**Academic dishonesty:** Andrews University, as a Seventh-Day Adventist Christian institution expects students to demonstrate the ability to think clearly and exhibit personal moral integrity in every sphere of life. Honesty in all academic matters is a vital component of personal integrity. Breaches in academic integrity principles are taken seriously by your instructor and the University. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence. It can be defined as (but not limited to):

Falsifying official documents; Plagiarizing, which includes copying others= published work and/or failing to give credit properly to other authors and creators; Misusing copyrighted material and/or violating licensing agreements; Using media from any source or medium, including the Internet with intent to mislead, deceive, or defraud; Presenting another=s work as one=s own; Using material during a quiz or exam other than those specifically allowed by the teacher; Stealing, accepting, or studying from stolen quizzes or exam materials; Copying from another student during a regular or take-home test or quiz; Assisting another in acts of academic dishonesty. Please see the Student Handbook for information regarding University enforcement penalties for academic dishonesty. (Andrews University 2006-2007 Bulletin, p. 28). In addition, a student will receive a reduced grade, and may receive a failing grade in the course.

**American Disabilities Act:** If you qualify for accommodations under this act, please see me as soon as possible for referral and assistance in arranging such accommodations.

**Cell Phones:** All cell phones are to be turned off during class time. Ringing or vibrating phones are a distraction to the students as well as to the instructor.

**Changes:** At the discretion of the teacher some assignments, quizzes, tests and projects may be changed for an enhanced learning experience for the

students. Likewise the class schedule is fluid if more time or less is needed to cover each topic mentioned.

#### GRADING SUMMARY:

Exam	150 points
Research paper	150 points
Obs. Report	25 points
Treatment Plan	25 points
Presentation	25 points
Misc. & attendance	25 points

Total points: 400

#### **Grading Scale:**

A	94 - 100%	C+	77 - 79%
A-	90 - 93%	C	73 - 76%
B+	87 - 89%	C-	70 - 72%
B	83 - 86%	D	60 - 69%
B-	80 - 82%	F	Below 60%

## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

<b>January</b>	9	Orientation & Neuroanatomy	Chapter 1	
	16	Neuroanatomy	Chapter 1	
	23	Neuropathology	Chapter 1	
	30	Neurogenic Disorders Explained	Chapter 4	
<b>February</b>	6	The Neurological Assessment	Chapter 2, 3	<b>Topic Due</b>
	13	Neuro. Assessment Continued	Chapter 2, 3	
	20	Neurogenic Communication Assessment	Chapter 5	<b>Thesis etc. Due</b>
	27	Treatment Strategies	Chapter 6, 7	
<b>March</b>	6	Treatment Strategies Continued	Chapter 6, 7	<b>Treatment Plan Due</b>
	13	Examination		
	20	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>		
	27	Right Hemisphere Disorders	Chapter 8	Presenter: _____
<b>April</b>	3	Traumatic Brain Injury	Chapter 9	Presenter: _____
	10	Dementia	Chapter 10	Presenter: _____
	17	Dysarthria	Chapter 11	Presenter: _____
	24	Apraxia	Chapter 11	Presenter: _____
<b>May</b>	3	<b>Final Presentations of Research Papers @ 1:30 - 3:30</b>		