



MAUD 213: Environmental Audiology

Medical Audiology Sciences Program
FHS-FM Division of Health Professions
American University of Beirut

Course Syllabus – Spring 2020

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Name: Jaime L. Westbrook, AuD, CCC-A, IF-AAA
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Office Hours: Monday 11-12 and Friday 11-1, by appointment only (email for confirmation)

COURSE INFORMATION:

Days / Time: Mondays and Wednesdays, 14:00-15:15
Place: FHS VanDyck 201
Level/Credits: Undergraduate / 3 semester hours
Prerequisites: None
Moodle Site: [MAUD 213 Moodle Site](#)

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTBOOK AND READINGS:

Textbook:

Hearing Conservation- In Occupation, Recreational, Educational, and Home Settings, Rawool, V.W. Thieme, 2011.

Supplemental Readings:

Articles corresponding to the topics may be assigned throughout the semester. Supplemental readings will either be accessible online (via the [MAUD 213 Moodle Site](#)) or distributed in class. A complete list of supplemental readings, with bibliographic information, will be posted on **Moodle**.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the effects of noise on health and society, hearing conservation programs, and noise measurement. Industrial, school, military, and social settings will be addressed.

COURSE FORMAT:

MAUD 213 is taught in a traditional format via classroom lectures and hands-on demonstrations. Students will meet in the classroom for didactic lectures and meet in the MAS Lab and elsewhere on campus for demonstrations and extramural activities.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:

1. Measure the physical characteristics of acoustic stimuli in sound field, and apply appropriate weightings to sound level measurements.
2. Describe the physical, social and psychological effects of hearing loss from occupational and non-occupational noise exposure.
3. Discuss international laws (i.e., OSHA and NIOSH) for acceptable noise exposure, and propose regulations for safe listening.
4. Explain how current health care practices are affected by both occupational and recreational noise exposure and subsequent hearing loss.
5. Identify noise exposure risk factors for hearing loss, and provide input to decrease overall risk. Discuss appropriate hearing protection measures.
6. Assist in the development and evaluation of a hearing conservation program for an employer, community, or health system.

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS IN THE COURSE:

The key to being successful in this course is to prepare for class by following the suggested guidelines for managing your study time, which is found under “Homework” in the **COURSE SCHEDULE At-A-Glance** provided at the end of this document. Additionally, active participation in classroom and hands-on demonstration sessions, as well as application of concepts learned in the classroom to your group projects will help to solidify the concepts introduced in this course.

ASSESSMENT METHODS AND GRADING CRITERIA:

The table below summarizes the ways in which your learning will be assessed throughout this course. Specifically, the table lists the assessment methods, along with the number of times each method will be used, the total number of points, and the percentage contribute to the final grade. The course instructor reserves the right to adjust the assessment methods as necessary.

METHOD	NUMBER	POINTS / ITEM	TOTAL POINTS	% OF GRADE
Exercises	4	25	100	29%
Group Project	1	75	75	21%
Exams (Mid-term, Final)	2	60	120	34%
Attendance/Participation	15	2	30	9%
Professionalism			25	7%
TOTAL			350	100%

N.B: Passing grade for this course is 60

Exercises:

Several of the lecture topics will have an associated assignment, to be outlined and initiated during course time, and finished as homework. These assignments will typically be individually assigned, but may sometimes require you to work with one or more classmates in pairs/teams. A total of six (4) exercises are planned for the semester, including: (1) *Sound Measurement* (2) *Hearing Protection* (3) *Calculating Impairment and Disability* and (4) *Attitudes About Noise*. Each Exercise is worth 25 points. When applicable, a grading rubric, which can be found on the **MAUD 213 Moodle Site**, will be used to assess your work for certain activities.

Exams:

Two (2) exams will be given during the semester (Midterm and Final). The format will be a mixture of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. Please note that exams are timed assessments (50 minutes). Exams will take the exams online, via the course *Moodle* site, at one of designated university computer laboratories. I will be available during the exam periods to assist you with any questions and an AUB's *Moodle* administrator will be available to help you with any *Moodle* technical difficulties. The midterm examination will cover information from the chapters covered up until the date of the exam, and the final will be cumulative. Each exam is worth 60 points.

Group Project (GP):

In the second half of the semester, you will work in small groups (2-3 students) on an issue related to hearing conservation and hearing health with regards to noise exposure. The complete topic will be outlined by the class, with a goal of producing our recommendations for hearing conservation regulations and promotion activities in Lebanon. Your group's input to the project will be determined by the scope of the initiative, and may include aspects such as proposing materials, creating presentations, writing a position paper, or carrying out surveys.

The project guidelines will be introduced after the mid-term exam, and time has been set aside to check your group's progress throughout the semester. Specifically, you must form your group by Week 7. We will review the components of the project during a discussion session that will be held on Week 10. The Group Project output (report, and presentation, etc.) must be uploaded to the **MAUD 213 Moodle Site** during Week 14. Groups will present their component projects (maximum 10-minute presentation, 10 minute discussion) during Week 14. Classmates and the instructor will provide feedback about the presentations (*in-class evaluations*).

Each Group Project will be graded on the following (*75 points total*):

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| • Group Formation | 0 points |
| • Draft/outline | 15 points |
| • Final element | 35 points |
| • Presentation | 15 points |
| • In-Class Evaluations | 10 points |

Participation and Professionalism:

Participation (*i.e.*, classroom attendance, well-developed comments/questions) and professionalism are valued in this course. A total of 55 points can be earned for a student's active engagement in classroom activities and general professionalism. Two points can be earned per class session (the mid-term exam and final exam sessions carry no participation points). No points will be given to students who participate in less than 70% of the sessions (miss 6 class days or more) or who demonstrate any form of unprofessional behaviour. Examples of active participation and professionalism include:

- Demonstrated interest in learning the course material
- Taking responsibility for your own learning
- Oral participation in class
- Participation in laboratory activities
- Class preparation (*e.g.*, review of previous information / familiarity with assigned reading)
- Checking the course website in *Moodle* at least 2-3 times per week
- Communicating necessary information to your instructor (in person, via e-mail or telephone)
- Asking questions when you have them (*e.g.*, in person, via email or telephone)

- Treating your classmates/instructor with respect and tolerance, understanding that everyone learns differently, and understanding that nobody (including your instructor) is perfect and that everyone sometimes makes mistakes.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Late Assignments and Missed Exams:

All assignments and exams must be completed by the due dates specified to receive full credit, unless the student obtains **explicit permission in advance** from the instructor for a delayed submission or make-up exam. If permission is granted, time permitted for the student to finalize the assignment without penalty will be determined on a case by case basis. Without such advance permission, late assignments will not be accepted and zero points will be given for that activity. Exams must be started and completed within the time period specified; zero points will be given for an exam if the student does not adhere to the time guidelines.

Attendance:

Regular class attendance is expected. I understand that you may occasionally need to miss class for either excused or “unexcused” reasons; however, repeated absences are not appropriate in this class, as it is a highly demanding course. If you miss more than three sessions by mid-semester, you will be asked to complete remedial assignments prior to sitting for your midterm exam. Please note that tardiness is also not acceptable, and tardiness will also be met with a decreased participation grade. All absence or tardiness excuses **must be submitted via email prior to the start of the given class** in order to be valid, and will not be accepted after class has started. For example, an “I’m stuck in traffic” email is nice, because it lets the instructor know you are on your way, but is not a valid excuse for tardiness.

Moodle Support:

Moodle will be used in this course. Students should check the *Moodle* course site frequently (2-3 times per week) for announcements, module guidelines, readings, resources, and assessment instructions/due dates. Should you have any difficulty with *Moodle*, you can consult the [Moodle for Students](#) and the [Moodle Student Guide](#). Additionally, you can contact AUB’s *Moodle* Administrator via email (moodle@aub.edu.lb) or by telephone at extensions: 3518 / 3588 / 3586. Finally, you may consult the instructor or classmates by posting your *Moodle* questions in the “*News & Housekeeping Forum*”, again, which is located in the *Course Resources* section of Module 0.

Technology Support:

This course requires that you have access to a computer (e.g., personal or lab computer). The AUB Computing and Networking Service (CNS) can help you with hardware and software requirements for this course. Specifically, the CNS can assist you with (a) account creation and management, (b) computer/system configuration, (c) AUB wireless LAN, (d) online resources, and (e) locating computer labs on campus. For more information about student services, visit the **CNS website** at <http://www.aub.edu.lb/cns/students/Pages/index.aspx>. Students can request technical support/assistance from CNS by contacting them directly by telephone (ext: 2260), or via their online **CNS Help Desk** (<http://www.aub.edu.lb/cns/helpdesk/Pages/index.aspx>).

Cell Phones:

The use of cell phones is **prohibited in the classroom**, even when set to vibrate. Cell phones are extremely disruptive to your classmates and to the instructor. Please make a point to turn off your cell phone before entering class, and ensure that they stay in your bag.

Students with Disabilities:

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please inform me immediately so that we can privately discuss options. In order to help establish reasonable accommodations and facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office: accessibility@aub.edu.lb; +961-1-350000, x3246; West Hall, 314. Also, please see the instructor of this course privately in regard to possible support services that can be provided to you.

Student Code of Conduct:

Any dishonesty related to academic work or records constitutes academic misconduct. Academic misconduct is a serious ethical violation and will not be tolerated. Acts such as cheating on examinations and plagiarism are viewed as moral and intellectual offenses that are subject to investigation and disciplinary action through appropriate University procedures. It is the instructor's job to report such offenses and follow university-mandated procedures. The student will be informed of the filing of an infraction, and all further communication in such a case should be directed to the FHS Dean's office. Penalties may range from loss of credit for a particular assignment to dismissal from the University. The AUB Student Code of Conduct can be read at:

[http://www.aub.edu.lb/sao/Documents/Revised%20Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20\(Aprved%20May%202009\).pdf](http://www.aub.edu.lb/sao/Documents/Revised%20Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20(Aprved%20May%202009).pdf).

Communication with Course Instructor:

All official communication regarding course work, including general questions, requests for extensions, requests for meeting during office hours, etc. should be sent via email, not WhatsApp. Dr. Westbrook will not respond to emails sent after 8pm until the next morning. If you request an appointment at office hours, I will send you an appointment reminder via Outlook Calendar. Please accept the appointment time to confirm the meeting.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

An outline of the course lecture schedule, session-by-session, is provided on page 6 of this document. Please note the following **important items on the schedule**: **EXAMS**, **ASSIGNMENTS**, and *pending activities that will include guest speakers or field work. For further information about the course modules and instructions for the various assignments, please examine the **MAUD 213 Moodle Site**.

COURSE SCHEDULE: "At-A-Glance"

Day/Date	Topic	Learning Goals	Activity/Assignment/Reading
Wed 22 Jan	Course Intro	All (develop)	Current Events article
Mon 27 Jan	Article presentations/discussions	All (develop)	
W 29 Jan	Article presentations/discussions NIHL and Ototoxicity	All (develop)	
M 3 Feb	Sound Measurement	1	Chapter 1 due today
W 5 Feb	Documenting Hazardous Noise	1, 2, 3	Chapter 2 due today
M 10 Feb	In-class practice: Sound Measurement and dB conversions/scaling	1, 2, 3	Exercise 1
W 12 Feb	Noise Control	1, 2, 3, 5	Chapter 3 due today
M 17 Feb	Monitoring NIHL (Industrials)	2, 4, 5	Chapter 4 due today
W 19 Feb	Comprehensive Audiological Evaluation after noise exposure	2, 4, 5	Chapter 5 due today
M 24 Feb	Creating a Hearing Conservation Program: What do we want for AUB/AUBMC?	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	Develop overall project direction (outline to be completed in Week 10)
W 26 Feb	Hearing Protection Devices	2, 5, 6	Chapter 6 due today Exercise 2
M 2 Mar	Training and Motivating Workers	All	Chapter 7 due today
W 4 Mar	Midterm Exam	All	Moodle-based exam
M 9 Mar	Evaluating HCPs	6	Chapter 8
W 11 Mar	Working with Musicians	2, 5	Chapter 9
M 16 Mar	Non-Occupational Noise (Community Noise)	1, 2, 5	Chapter 10
W 18 Mar	Worker's Compensation & Forensic Audiology	3, 4, 5	Chapter 11 Exercise 3
M 23 Mar	Group Project Discussion	All	
W 25 Mar	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	
M 30 Mar	*Potential Presentations from MPH Students*	All	Exercise 4
W 1 Apr	Noise in the School Setting	1, 2, 5	Chapter 13
M 6 Apr	Supporting Workers with NIHL	2, 3, 4, 5	Chapter 12
W 8 Apr	Developing and Supporting Tinnitus Protocols	2, 5	Review Chapter 5 Readings on Moodle
M 13 Apr	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	
W 15 Apr	In-class time for Group Projects	All	Articles and discussions on Moodle
M 20 Apr	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	
W 22 Apr	Group Project Presentations	All	Group Projects Due
M 27 Apr	*Class time will be spend on final Research Presentations for MAUD 208* Make-up session at instructor's discretion*		
W 29 Apr	Final Exam	All	Moodle-based exam