

Updates to MSC Catalog 2008-2009

Doctoral Program in Audiology (AuD)

Post-bachelor Certificate in Dietetic Internship

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research

DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN AUDIOLOGY (AU.D.)

General Information:

The audiologist is an autonomous professional who identifies, evaluates and manages hearing loss and balance disorders. In addition the audiologist:

- Provides audiologic habilitation for infants/children and audiologic rehabilitation for adults.
- Selects, prescribes and programs hearing aids and other amplifications systems and assistive communication devices.
- Prevents hearing loss through education to consumers, selection and fitting of hearing protectors and counseling regarding the effects of noise on the auditory system.
- Participates in research in the areas of prevention, identification and treatment of hearing loss, tinnitus and disorders of the balance system.

Employment Setting:

Audiologists are qualified to work in private practice, hospitals and government agencies such as Department of Health, Education and Family Services. Other employment opportunities are available in Federal Programs, Private Institutions and Universities.

Academic Description of the Program:

The Doctor in Audiology (Au.D.) is a professional entry-level degree. The Program is a four-year, full-time, post-baccalaureate program which includes academic, research and clinical experiences. The academic, research and clinical experiences are guided toward the acquisition of critical knowledge and skills in four areas: foundation of practice, prevention and identification, evaluation and treatment of hearing, and balance disorders. The curriculum also reflects the scientific knowledge, skills, and the use of technology that characterizes the current scope of practice in Audiology. **The Program requires the approval of 132 semester credit hours of post-baccalaureate study**, and a practicum experience which is equivalent to a minimum of 12 months of full-

time, supervised clinical experience. The student has a maximum of 7 years to complete the degree requirements, after initial registration as a first year student.

Admission Requirements:

The Audiology Program will accept applicants by direct admission from accredited universities which meet the following requirements:

1. Possess a Baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited university.
2. Possess a General and Specific Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.00. The specific grade point average refers to the 24-27 credits which are pre-requisites for admission into the Audiology Program¹.
3. Official report of score obtained in the "Examen de Admisión a Estudios de Posgrado" (EXA-DEP) or in the Graduate Record Examination. Both exams must be taken within five calendar years of the application date. This requirement will provide a standard measurement in order to place the student even in terms of the areas measured by the test.
4. Complete twenty four of twenty-seven (24-27) credits on the following areas or their equivalent:

Pre-requisite Courses

General Physics	3
Statistics	3
Human Development throughout lifespan **	3/6
General Biology	3
Pre-Calculus	3
General concepts on individuals with special needs	3
Psychology	3
Social Sciences	3
Total	24/27

¹ These admission criteria go into effect for students to be admitted on August 2009.

** The credits required vary since some of the courses on human development cover lifespan in one 3 credits course, while others cover it in two 3 credits courses.

5. Knowledge and comprehension of written and spoken English and Spanish. This will be evaluated during the faculty interview.
6. Interview with the program's faculty.
7. Required Documents:
 - Two official transcripts
 - Completed Admission form

General Requirements:

Students must attend the Audiology Program on a full-time basis.

Curricular sequence: The curricular sequence listed below is the one approved for the students to be admitted on August 2009. The curriculum for the students admitted on August 2007 and August 2008, has the research project as an elective and therefore, the total of required semester credits for graduation is 129.

DOCTOR IN AUDIOLOGY

Total semester credit-hours: 132

First Year: 38 Credit-Hours

HLAG 6303	Anatomy of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism	3
HLAG 6325	Communication Development of the Normal Child	3
HLAG 7111	Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders I	2
AUDI 7115	Acoustics for Hearing and Speech Sciences Laboratory	1
AUDI 7116	Acoustics for Hearing and Speech Sciences	3
AUDI 7117	Principles of Audiology Laboratory	1
AUDI 7118	Principles of Audiology	3
HLAG 6300	Basic Concepts in Linguistics, Psycholinguistics and Psychoacoustics	3
HLAG 7112	Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders II	2

AUDI 7119	Instrumentation in Audiology	2
AUDI 7120	Speech Disorders	3
AUDI 7125	Pharmacology in Audiology	2
AUDI 7126	Advanced Audiology	3
AUDI 7127	Advanced Audiology Laboratory	1
AUDI 7216	Differential Diagnosis in Pediatric Audiology	3
HLAG 6533	Language Disorders in Children	3

Second Year: 33 Credit-Hours

AUDI 7201	Clinical Practicum I	1
AUDI 7211	Amplification Systems I	3
AUDI 7213	Amplification Systems Laboratory I	1
AUDI 7217	Psychosocial Aspects of Hearing Loss	2
AUDI 7218	Auditory Pathologies	3
AUDI 7305	Audiological Habilitation of the Pediatric Population	3
AUDI 7128	Physiological Assessment of the Auditory System	3
AUDI 7129	Physiological Assessment of the Auditory Systems Laboratory	1
AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum II	2
AUDI ____*	Clinical Seminar	1
AUDI ____*	Assessment and Intervention of Balance Disorders I	2
AUDI ____*	Research Application into the Clinical Practice of Audiology	2
AUDI 7212	Amplification Systems II	3
AUDI 7214	Amplification Systems Laboratory II	1
AUDI ____*	Occupational and Environmental Hearing Conservation	2
AUDI ____*	Laboratory on Occupational and Environmental Hearing Conservation	1
AUDI ____*	Research Project I	2

Third Year : 47 Credit-Hours

AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum III	3
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AUDI ____*	Clinical Seminar	1
AUDI ____*	Auditory Perceptual Disorders	2
AUDI ____*	Issues in Deaf Culture, Linguistics and Manual Communication code Systems	3
AUDI ____*	Audiologic Rehabilitation of the Adult	3
AUDI ____*	Assessment and Intervention of Balance Disorders II	2
AUDI ____*	Assessment and intervention of Balance Disorders Laboratory	1
AUDI ____*	Research Project II	2
AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum IV	2
AUDI ____*	Clinical Seminar	1
AUDI ____*	Professional Issues in Audiology	3
AUDI ____*	Practice Management in Audiology	3
AUDI ____*	Special Topics	3
AUDI ____*	Research Project III	2
Summer Session		
AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum V	15

Fourth Year: 14 Credit-Hours

AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum V	0
AUDI ____*	Clinical Practicum VI	14

Graduation Requirements:

In order to receive the degree the student must fulfill the following requirements:

- Approved 132 semester credits with a grade point average of 3.00 or higher, in a scale of 0 to 4.00.
- Approval of the comprehensive examination
- Complete a minimum of a year of full-time clinical practice
- Approval of the clinical practicum examination
- Demonstrate appropriate professional behavior

Licensure:

In order to practice the profession of Audiology in Puerto Rico it is necessary to obtain a license. The license

requirements are to hold a Masters or Doctoral degree in Audiology and to approve the exam offered by the Examining Board in Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Speech Therapy of the Department of Health of Puerto Rico.

Accreditation:

One of the accrediting agencies for the Audiology Profession is the: Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association - 10801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Telephone # (301) 897-5700. The Audiology Program is currently working on preparing the document that must be submitted in order to apply for the accreditation of the Program.

POST BACHELOR CERTIFICATE IN DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

General Information:

As a member of the health care team, the dietitian is directly responsible for the nutritional care of individuals and groups. This care includes the application of the science and art of human nutrition in helping people select and obtain food for the primary purpose of nourishing their bodies in health or disease throughout the life cycle. Dietitians work in a wide variety of employment settings including health care, business and industry, public health education, research, and private practice.

The Dietetic Internship Program of the School of Health Professions is a post baccalaureate program that prepares professionals in nutrition and dietetics, **with emphasis in medical nutrition therapy**¹. It is an eleven month program providing learning opportunities geared to integrating previously acquired knowledge, obtain new knowledge, build resources for personal and professional growth, and develop skills in the best procedures for carrying out nutrition and dietetic services.

Admission Requirements:

In order to be considered for admission, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, with courses that meet the academic requirements established by the American Dietetic Association (A.D.A.).
- A general grade point average and area of specialization index of 2.50 or higher.
- An interview with the program's Student Selection Committee.
- The applicant must be completely fluent in Spanish and must also have knowledge and comprehension of English.

All applicants to the Dietetic Internship must participate in the computer matching process established by the ADA. **At the D & D Digital web site (www.dnndigital.com) applicants should be able to register, pay the fee and submit DI preferences on line.** For further information contact the Dietetic Internship Program Director.

Program of Study:

- Introductory course (4 weeks).
- Clinical Practice (40 weeks):
 - Medical Nutrition Therapy (20 weeks)
 - Food Service System Management (10 weeks)
 - Community Dietetics (10 weeks)

Graduation Requirements:

In order to graduate, students must complete the Dietetic Internship Introductory Course and approve all clinical experiences as specified by the Program.

Licensure and Registration:

In order to practice the profession in Puerto Rico, it is necessary to obtain a license and be an active member of the Puerto Rico College of Nutritionists and Dietitians. The license is obtained after approving an examination offered by the Puerto Rico Nutritionists and Dietitians Examination Board. Also, the A.D.A. Registration Examination is given in Puerto Rico for graduates interested in becoming Registered Dietitians.

Accreditation:

The Dietetic Internship Program of the School of Health Professions is currently accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL, 60606. The A.D.A. Department of Accreditation and Education Programs phone numbers are (312) 899-0040 (x -5400).

¹ This emphasis goes into effect for students to be admitted on August 2009.

JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Post-Doctoral Master of Science and the Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research represent a joint effort, of the School of Medicine and the School of Health Professions of the Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico, to offer two multi-disciplinary didactic training programs to meet the need among minority health professionals for formalized academic training in the principles of clinical research. These programs were developed with the support of the other four academic schools of our campus; Graduate School of Public Health, School of Dentistry, School of Pharmacy and School of Nursing. These academic programs also joined in the partnership with the graduate clinical research program, K - 30, at Mayo Clinic - Rochester, MN, the San Juan Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Puerto Rico Department of Health to increase the depth and breadth of training opportunities and improve the overall quality of the education.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

The objectives of the Graduate Certificate program are to increase knowledge and skills in clinical research and improve the attitudes toward clinical research through completion of the didactic component. The curriculum consists of one year of didactic courses for a total of 24 semester credit hours. After completion of the program requisites, the graduate will have acquired knowledge in study design, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of clinical research, biostatistics methods appropriate to clinical research and legal, ethical and regulatory issues related to clinical research. The graduates will also develop skills in problem solving, analysis and critical thinking strategies for the design, implementation and management of clinical projects, effective oral and written communication and use of technology for seeking information and data processing purposes. The graduates will exhibit an ethical responsible conduct in clinical research, recognize the importance of collaborative work and the importance of communicating scientific knowledge and findings.

Admission Requirements

The program will competitively evaluate all interested candidates from accredited institutions across the island. Applicants meeting all requirements will be interviewed and recommend the top ranked candidates.

1. Hold a master degree
2. Minimum master general grade point average of 3.00
3. Submission of the official application and all required documents prior to the deadline established by the program
4. Curriculum Vitae
5. Transcript from the institution granting the master degree
6. Two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicants science - research related activities
7. Personal statement detailing how this program will contribute to the candidate career goals

Graduation Requirements

A Graduate Certificate in Clinical Research degree will be awarded to those students admitted to the certificate program that complete successfully the 24 semester credits of the didactic component and attendance to seminar series.

The curricular sequence listed below is the one approved for the students to be admitted on August 2009.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT-HOURS: 24

INCL 6005	Introduction to Clinical Research	1
INCL 6006	Introduction to Health Services Research	1
INCL 6016	Application of Informatic in Research	1
INCL 6025	Bioethics and Regulatory Issues in Clinical Research	2



INCL 6035	Epidemiology in Clinical Research I	2
INCL 6041	Biostatistic in Clinical Research I	2
INCL 6042	Biostatistic in Clinical Research II	2
INCL 6046	Epidemiology in Clinical Research III	2
INCL 6055	Clinical Trials	2
INCL 6065	Scientific Communication	2
INCL 6075	Bioanalytical Methods in Clinical Research	2

Electives recommended by the Program

INCL 6085	New Frontiers in Clinical Research	1
INCL 6056	Clinical Research Protocol Development	2
INCL 6007	Gender Consideration in Clinical Research	1
INCL 6045	Introduction to Bioinformatics and Medical Genomics	1