

Ph.D. & Combined Au.D./Ph.D. in Audiology





Ph.D. in Audiology

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Program in Audiology

The primary goal of our Ph.D. program is to educate students as researchers, with a focus on interdisciplinary studies. Our course work is designed to facilitate development of expertise in various aspects of research so that students become capable of conducting independent and original research programs that add to the body of knowledge in basic and applied communication sciences. Our mission is to provide doctoral students with quality research and academic education in audiology and hearing sciences for the purpose of advancing these widely recognized and highly respected fields. We are committed to recruiting, admitting, supporting, retaining, graduating, and helping to place students with the highest ethical and academic qualities.

The Degree

The Doctor of Philosophy is a research degree. The aim of the Ph.D. program is to prepare individuals for the generation of new knowledge in the basic and applied aspects of audiology, hearing science, and communication disorders. A further aim is the transmission of accumulated knowledge within the discipline. Thus, many graduates will locate themselves in university settings where they will teach, perform research, and/or contribute service to the profession and to their institutions. Others will perform research and scholarly functions in teaching hospitals and other medical environments. Still others will conduct research in laboratory settings, both public and private.

Why Interdisciplinary?

From the beginning, audiology has been an interdisciplinary field. To succeed, researchers in the fields need to incorporate research from such distinct fields as linguistics, engineering, acoustics, psychology, physiology, medicine, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive neuropsychology, education, music, exercise science and others. With the current funding emphasis on interdisciplinary research, particularly from federal agencies, this interdisciplinary trend will continue to be important.

Audiology faculty at the University of Florida engage in their own interdisciplinary work, collaborating with a wide range of faculty from departments across campus, Shands Hospital and the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center. This provides doctoral students with a strong advantage, as many will get the chance to interact with experts in a variety of related fields, as well as to participate in interdisciplinary research unavailable at many other institutions.

Distinct from many of the other doctoral programs in the country, our students are provided with an opportunity for interdisciplinary interactions. These interactions occur on one campus with interchange between students and faculty from UF's Colleges of Public Health and Health Professions, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Medicine, Engineering and Fine Arts and the research health scientists at our Veterans Health Affairs.



"During my doctoral program, I had the opportunity to work and consult with faculty members in Gerontology, Psychology, Health Professions, Health Services Research Management and Policy, Architecture, and Education. The strong associations between faculty in Communication Sciences and Disorders and research faculty in a wide range of departments throughout the university helped broaden my experience as a doctoral student and provided outside perspective on my own studies in hearing. As I interviewed for faculty positions, I found that experience in inter-departmental collaboration and willingness to continue working across departments was a primary concern of search committees, chairpersons, and Deans I met. There is no question that taking advantage of these collaborative opportunities at UF helped me during my job search." –Andrew John (Ph.D. 2007, Audiology), Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Application Timeline

November: investigate UF website and compare doctoral programs.

December-January: contact potential faculty mentors. Prepare application.

February: submit application

March 1st: deadline

Minimum Requirements for Doctoral Study

- A Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score: while preference will be given to students with scores above the 50th percentile, scores from the GRE will be used in the context of a holistic credential review process.
- A satisfactory previous **academic record:** an upper division undergraduate GPA of not less than 3.4 and/or a graduate GPA of not less than 3.5
- At least three **letters of recommendation** indicating high potential for success in the doctoral program from individuals qualified to assess such abilities
- An **application portfolio** prepared by the applicant to indicate potential success in research, writing, teaching, etc. The packet should include as many as possible of the following:
 - ◆ A well-written essay on career goals and objectives
 - ◆ Reports of research projects in which applicant has participated
 - ◆ Copy of master's thesis or project, if completed
 - ◆ Copies of reprints, convention papers, etc. if any have been completed
 - ◆ Other supporting material that the applicant wishes to submit for consideration.
- International students must submit a satisfactory score on the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB or successful completion of the University of Florida English Language Institute program.



Program Options

- **Ph.D.**
- **Combined Au.D./Ph.D.**

The majority of our Ph.D. students enter holding a previously earned graduate degree. Up to 30 graduate credit hours from a previous master's degree may be counted in the 90-hour minimum, provided the master's degree was earned within the last seven years. Students may petition for credit from master's degrees completed earlier. Students holding an earned Au.D. degree may complete the Ph.D. with a minimum of 30 additional graduate credit hours.

Sample Ph.D. Program Timeline

Year 1 & 2: complete course requirements, participate in research
Year 3: qualifying exam, dissertation proposal
Year 4: dissertation research & defense

Sample Au.D./Ph.D. Program Timeline

Year 1-3: complete course requirements for the Au.D. with some research coursework interwoven
Year 4: clinical externship
Year 5: complete research course requirements; qualifying exam
Year 6-7: dissertation proposal, dissertation research & defense

Student Support

- **Stipend**
- **Tuition**
- **Full health insurance**

Classes Taken by Previous Ph.D. Students at UF

Courses of general interest

CLP 6527/8 Measurement, Research Design & Statistics I & II
CLP 6307 Human Higher Cortical Function
CLP 7934 Subcortical Functional Cognition
CLP 7934 Cognitive Bases of Behavior
CLP 7934 Experimental Methods in Clinical Neuropsychology
EDF 6481 Quantitative Research Methods
EEX 6936 Grant Writing
EXP 6099 Overview of Cognitive and Sensory Processes
HSA 5103 Introduction to The U.S. Healthcare System
HSA 6126 Perspectives in Health Service Administration
HSA 6930 Organizational Issues in Healthcare 1 & 2
GMS 5905 Introduction to Applied Biostatistics
GMS 6705 Functional Human Neuroanatomy
RSD 6110 Rehabilitation Science Theory and Application
RSD 6705 Rasch Analysis
RSD 6930 Clinical Trials Rehabilitation
SPA 6905 Topics in Sign Language: Deaf Culture
SPA 6905 Topics in Sign Language: Advanced Sign Language
STA 6126/7 Statistics for Social Sciences I & II
STA 6934 Biomedical Research Design and Analysis
VME 6767 Issues in Responsible Research

Electives for a program in Audiology

CAS 6291 Cochlear Implants
CAS 6630 Advanced Seminar In Cochlear Implants
GMS 6421 Cell Biology
GMS 6635 Organization Of Cells And Tissues
HSC 6037 Philosophy And Principles Of Health Education
HSC 6668 Interpersonal Communication And Health
MHS 5005 Introduction To Counseling
PHA 5933 Auditory Pharmacology
PSB 7248 Neurobehavioral Relations
PSY 6905 Advanced Psychoacoustics



“The combination Au.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Florida has provided me with a unique opportunity to receive a top notch clinical education as well as develop a research path in Audiology. I initially began the Au.D. program with a primary interest in clinical care. The coursework in the Au.D. program, as well as the encouragement of the faculty, fueled an interest in pursuing a degree in research. The combination Au.D./Ph.D. program is an excellent springboard for a diverse career in Audiology.” – **Kristin N. Johnston, Au.D., Ph.D. Candidate**

A Unique Opportunity for You

Your Faculty Mentor

The success of the Ph.D. experience hinges on the relationship between the student/candidate and the faculty mentor. Thus, a required early step for someone considering entering into the Ph.D. program is identifying potential faculty mentors for the area of research the applicant wishes to pursue. It is highly recommended that potential applicants consider what specific area of research they expect to undertake, and seek out an appropriate potential faculty mentor. The faculty and graduate coordinator will work to assist potential applicants in this process.

Your Program Plan

With assistance from the chairperson of your academic supervisory committee, you will prepare a proposed Program Plan which guides your program of study. By the end of your second semester of study, you should meet with your academic supervisory committee to discuss the proposed plan.

Your Research Opportunities

Doctoral students will be required to complete two lab rotations in addition to research conducted with their primary mentor. Lab rotations involve conducting research for one semester with faculty members other than the primary mentor who are from within and outside the department.

Your Future

Graduates of our Ph.D. program have gone on to work in premier research universities (77%), armed services laboratories (13%) and Veterans Administration research centers (6%). Others (4%) have opted to join practices in which they can conduct applied research as well as practice the profession.

Audiology Faculty

The faculty associated with the audiology program pursue diverse interests in basic and applied auditory research. These faculty include **Patrick Antonelli** (otology, neurotology), **Ken Gerhardt** (auditory physiology, noise induced hearing loss), **Scott Griffiths** (vestibular disorders, speech perception), **James Hall** (auditory processing disorders, tinnitus, electrophysiology), **Alice Holmes** (cochlear implants, hearing assistance technology), **Pat Kricos** (audiologic rehabilitation, gerontologic issues), **Colleen Le Prell** (peripheral mechanisms of hearing), **George Singleton** (otolaryngology), and **Mini Shrivastav** (speech perception, auditory processing, psychoacoustic abilities in older adults). Our Ph.D. students have engaged in innovative interdisciplinary research through productive collaborations with others in speech and hearing as well as in psychology, otolaryngology, sociology, architecture, electrical engineering, and education.

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	On-Campus Au.D.	Ph.D. in Audiology	Au.D./Ph.D. in Audiology	Distance Learning Au.D.
REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION				
Bachelor's Degree	Any Major	Any Major	Any Major	Any Major
Master's Degree	Not required	Not required	Not required	Required (in Audiology)
Professional Work Experience	Not required	Not required	Not required	1 or More Years Post-Masters
Licensure/Certification	Not required	Not required	Not required	Required*
PROGRAM DETAILS				
Credits Hours (semester)	125	90	155 or more	45
Program Length	4 Years	Variable	Variable	18 Months

*ABA certification, ASHA certification or a U.S. state license to practice audiology (or its international equivalent).