

HAPR – HEARING AID PRACTITIONER

HAPR 101

Bioacoustics of Human Hearing

3 Credits

In this foundational course students learn how a normal auditory system functions, as a basis for working with people with hearing loss. Students learn about the acoustic and psychoacoustic properties of sound and how sound is measured, learn about the anatomy of the entire auditory system from the outer ear to the auditory cortex in the brain, and apply their knowledge of acoustics to the physiology of how sound is processed from entering the outer ear to being perceived as sound. Part-time HAPR (p. 1) students must take HAPR 101 in the student's first fall term in the HAPR program.

HAPR 102

Hearing Testing I

2 Credits

Students experience simulated hearing loss and learn about the need for hearing testing. Students are provided with an overview of the hearing testing process, learn to use basic hearing testing equipment, and learn to use the standard forms that are used for reporting hearing test results. Students also learn about appropriate test environments and infection control measures. Through hands-on learning and reflective practice, students evaluate testing environments, explore hearing testing equipment, apply appropriate infection control measures, and complete calibration activities. Part-time HAPR (p. 1) students must take HAPR 101 prior to HAPR 102, if HAPR 101 and HAPR 102 are not taken in the same term.

HAPR 103

Hearing Instrument Technology I

4 Credits

Students learn about the basic components and characteristics of hearing aids, earmolds, and assistive devices, how to formally and informally evaluate hearing aid function, and how to care for and maintain hearing aids. Through hands-on learning and reflective practice, students familiarize themselves with hearing aids and earmolds, assess hearing aid function, discuss hearing aid troubleshooting, minor repairs and modifications, make ear impressions, and apply appropriate infection control measures when working with hearing aids and earmolds. Part-time HAPR (p. 1) students must take HAPR 101 prior to HAPR 103, if HAPR 101 and HAPR 103 are not taken in the same term.

HAPR 104

The Aging Client

3 Credits

This course focuses on the psychological, social and physical transitions that accompany aging and how the changing demographics of an aging population may inform age-friendly community planning, healthcare practices, and public policy. Theories of aging are covered and personal and societal attitudes toward older adults are examined. An overview of aging as it affects the whole person encourages students to reflect on how they may better serve and work with patients who have age-related hearing loss.

HAPR 105

Customer Relations and Communications

3 Credits

This course introduces students to the interpersonal skills required for providing high quality service to adult clients who have hearing loss. Students learn about the communication skills necessary for initiating and maintaining positive relationships, the impact of personality types on interpersonal communication, and management of interpersonal relationships. Students also examine their own communication skills, learn communication concepts, and develop and practice the specific interpersonal communication and customer relations skills required for success as a hearing aid practitioner.

HAPR 108

Business Management

3 Credits

Students are introduced to the various management functions required to establish and manage a hearing aid dispensing practice. Students learn how and why small businesses are successful in Canada. Students also conduct market research and develop marketing plans, learn about business operations and costs, and develop business and financial plans.

HAPR 110

Hearing Disorders

2 Credits

Students learn to interpret and classify the results of hearing testing. Students also learn about hearing disorders and medical conditions, and their associated hearing test results. Note: This course is taken concurrently with HAPR 111 (Hearing Testing II).

Prerequisites: HAPR 102 and a minimum grade of C- in HAPR 101.

Co-requisites: HAPR 111.

HAPR 111

Hearing Testing II

4 Credits

Students learn about case history interviews, otoscopic examinations, air and bone conduction pure-tone tests, speech tests, and masking procedures. Through hands-on learning and reflective practice, students complete and record the results of case history interviews, otoscopic examinations, perform minor equipment troubleshooting, and the basic battery of hearing tests, while using industry-standard infection control measures. Note: This course is taken concurrently with HAPR 110 (Hearing Disorders).

Prerequisites: A minimum grade of C+ in HAPR 101 and HAPR 102.

Co-requisites: HAPR 110.

HAPR 112

Professional Responsibilities

3 Credits

This course introduces students to the legislation regulating hearing aid practitioners, the scope of practice for hearing aid practitioners, and the personal and business professionalism and ethics required for success as a hearing aid practitioner.

HAPR 114

Professional Practice

4 Credits

In this intensive hands-on course, students integrate knowledge and skills learned in first-year program courses. Students demonstrate an understanding of the various components of hearing testing and apply that understanding through practice, demonstration of skills and reflection.

Prerequisites: Minimum grade of C- in HAPR 103, HAPR 105, HAPR 110;

Minimum grade of C+ in HAPR 111.

HAPR 201

Interviewing and Counselling

3 Credits

Students are introduced to interviewing and counseling practices and procedures required for supporting clients in accepting and coping with hearing loss, and adjusting to and using hearing aids successfully.

HAPR 202

Aural Rehabilitation I

3 Credits

In this introductory course, students learn about hearing health promotion through aural rehabilitation and the use of a team approach to providing hearing health care services and support to adults with hearing loss.

HAPR 203

Hearing Instrument Technology II

4 Credits

This course focuses on hearing aid programming, the verification of hearing aid fittings and ear mold impressions. Students learn about the hearing aid programming process, the verification of hearing aid settings and functionality, probe microphone measurements, and hearing aid troubleshooting. Additionally, students learn how to safely collect and judge the quality of ear mold impressions.

Prerequisites: Minimum grade of C- in HAPR 114.

HAPR 204

Hearing Testing III

2 Credits

In the theory portion of this final hearing testing course, students learn about tympanometry, hearing aid pre and post fitting tests, and writing referral letters. Students will review the entire hearing testing process, interpretations of test results, making appropriate recommendations and referrals, applying test modifications and infection prevention and control guidelines. In the mandatory lab at MacEwan University in Edmonton, students complete tympanometry testing, practice completing the standard test battery, complete a practical exam consisting of a full hearing test with a client, write referral letters to physicians, and discuss special tests that are not considered part of the standard test battery. Note: This course is taken concurrently with HAPR 211 (Hearing Instrument Technology III).

Prerequisites: Minimum grade of C- in HAPR 114.

Co-requisites: HAPR 211.

HAPR 210

Aural Rehabilitation II

3 Credits

In this final aural rehabilitation course, students learn to incorporate aural rehabilitation principles into practice with individuals and groups to promote successful communication, with a specific focus on older adults.

Prerequisites: HAPR 202.

HAPR 211

Hearing Instrument Technology III

4 Credits

In the final hearing instrument technology course, students will focus on the selection of appropriate hearing aids and assistive accessories for individual adult clients, the support of clients throughout the fitting and follow up period, and the evaluation of the overall success of hearing aid fittings. In the mandatory lab at MacEwan University in Edmonton, students review the characteristics of current hearing aid technology, are exposed to the wide variety of hearing aid technology that is available in the field, and review the hearing aid selection, fitting, and follow up process from start to finish.

Prerequisites: HAPR 203.

Co-requisites: HAPR 204.

HAPR 212

Field Placement

4 Credits

Students integrate knowledge and skills from all previous program courses as they complete seminar activities and work with clients in hearing aid dispensing clinics, under the direct supervision of experienced hearing aid dispensing professionals.

Prerequisites: Minimum grade of C- in HAPR 104, HAPR 108, HAPR 112, HAPR 114, HAPR 201, HAPR 204, HAPR 210, and HAPR 211.