

## COMD 5860, d6860 Assistive Technology I Course Syllabus

### **Instructor:**

Dr. Beth E. Foley

Office: Lillywhite Building, Room 104

Office Hours: M, W, 2:00-3:00, other times by appointment.

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### **Prerequisite Requirements:**

Open to seniors and graduate students (from any discipline) with an interest in assistive technology for persons with disabilities.

### **Course Description:**

This course provides students with interdisciplinary training in assistive technology. Students will learn about specific disabilities and their impact on major life activities, become familiar with current legislation relating to assistive technology, gain experience with a range of assistive technology devices and products, learn a theoretical framework from which to make AT assessment and intervention decisions, determine how to match appropriate assistive technology options with individual consumer needs and preferences, and learn to work together on interdisciplinary teams to develop assistive devices and provide AT training to local consumers with a variety of disabling conditions and AT needs.

Students will be evaluated not only on the course content from lectures and from course readings, but also on their performance in individual and team AT Lab activities, consumer interactions, contributions to class and case-study discussions, and attendance in class.

### **Course Objectives:**

The student will be able to:

1. Determine candidacy for assistive technology products and services.
2. Obtain information about consumers needing assistive technology from case history and referral information, interactions with consumers, and completion of formal and informal AT assessment procedures for purpose of matching appropriate AT options to individual consumer needs and preferences.
3. Write reports detailing results of assessment and service delivery procedures. Reports will also include summary, goals for intervention, and need for further assessment

4. Readily access assistive technology information for clinical purposes: Students will be required to keep an organized notebook of assessment procedures and relevant product information discussed this semester.
5. Develop an AT training module on a selected topic and deliver it to students completing AT projects for SPED 5530.
6. Modify, customize, and/or fabricate a range of low to medium tech assistive devices for AT consumers.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of multicultural issues in AT service delivery.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Class Dates</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Matching Consumers with Appropriate Assistive Technologies	Week 1	Ch. 1
Contexts: AT at Home, School, Work, and In the Community	Week 2	Ch. 2
Human Factors and Environmental Access	Week 3	Ch. 3
Service Delivery in AT (Local AAC/AT team presentation)	Week 4	Ch. 4
AT for Computer Access	Week 5	Ch. 7
Augmentative and Alternative Communication	Week 6	Ch. 9
AAC Continued	Week 7	Handouts
AAC/AT to Support Inclusion	Week 8	Handouts
AAC Device Presentations	Week 9	Handouts
Integrated Systems	Week 10	Ch. 10
Information Technologies	Week 11	Ch. 8
AT Presentations	Week 12	Ch. 23
AT Presentations	Week 13	

AT Presentations	Week 14	
Funding and Public Policy	Week 15	Ch. 6
AAC/AT Case Studies/Wrap Up	Week 16	

**Course Requirements:**

- 1) Students are expected to complete all assigned readings as listed on the course syllabus.
- 2) Students will complete all assignments by designated due dates. No late assignments will be accepted.
- 3) Students will take exams on the due dates given on the course syllabus. Failure to take an exam will result in a grade of F unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor.
- 4) Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and participate in class discussions. More than one unexcused absence will result in a grade reduction.
- 5) Any student with a disability requiring modifications in course materials and/or instructional activities (e.g., enlarged texts, taped texts, un-timed tests, etc.) should notify the instructor within the first week of the semester so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

<b><u>Course Evaluation:</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>
1) AT Presentation	100
2) AT Logs	100
3) Class Assignments	25 each
4) Organized AT Resource Notebook (including table of contents)	100
5) AT Lab Projects (10)	25 each
6) Final Project Summaries (Team)	50
	<hr/> <b>TOTAL</b>

**Your final grade will be based on the total possible points: 93% of total or greater = A; 90% to 93% = A-; 87% to 90% = B+; 83% to 87% = B; 80% to 83% = B-; etc.**

**Note: There are no opportunities for extra credit in this class.**

**Attend Class!!! If you miss more than one session, your grade will be reduced.**

**Type and carefully write all assignments. Proofread everything you turn in. Grammar, spelling, organization, appearance and clarity are all important and will influence your grade.**

**This instructor will abide by the University Regulations (Article V, Sections I and 2) regarding academic dishonesty (see attached copy of regulations).**

**Required Text:**

Olson, D.A., & DeRuyter, F. (2002). Clinician's guide to assistive technology.  
Mosby, Inc.:St. Louis, MO.

**Other Required Readings:**

As assigned.

