

Foundations of Orientation and Mobility (O&M)

IL 2540

University of Pittsburgh

Vision Studies Program

Spring 2019

Instructor: Dr. Tessa McCarthy
tessam@pitt.edu

Time: On-line

Course Description:

This course, the first of three, is designed to introduce the student to the principles and fundamentals underlying the process of orientation and mobility (O&M). Through readings, discussions, activities and completion of products, the student will acquire the necessary foundation for understanding the concepts and skills involved in the art and science of teaching O&M.

Course Objectives:

The student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Articulate the history and development of the profession of O&M
ACVREP Domain 1: Know Professional Information
2. Demonstrate knowledge in the various sensory systems and their contribution to the O&M process
ACVREP Domain 9: Teach Use of Senses
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the various familiarization and orientation procedures used by individuals with visual impairment including the development of tactile maps
ACVREP Domain 7: Teach Orientation Strategies and Skills
4. Demonstrate knowledge in the variety of orientation devices used in teaching O&M and construction of orientation devices
ACVREP Domain 8: Teach Mobility Skills
5. Demonstrate an ability to analyze environments
ACVREP Domain 12: Analyze and Modify Environments
7. Demonstrate an understanding of learning theories and methods for teaching diverse populations of clients.
ACVREP Domain 3: Understand and Apply Learning Theories to O&M and
Domain 11: Teach Diverse Consumers

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to have read the required readings and actively participate in each class. Learning will be assessed based on attendance and class participation in the virtual classroom, assignments, midterm examination, and final examination. The details of each of these will be discussed in the document Course Checklist and Schedule.

Required and Optional Texts for this Course:

The following texts are required for the course. Textbooks can be obtained by calling the University of Pittsburgh Book Center at **412-648-1455**. You will need to supply them with the **Course Number (IL 2540)** and **Class Number (20526)** and let them know you need the required books for the course

shipped UPS. Your books and the shipping fee will be charged to the credit card number you provide. Be sure to verify that they are sending you all the books listed below as required. The Book Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 8:00 pm most of the year.

Required:

Weiner, W. R., Welsh, R. L., & Blasch, B. B. (Eds.) (2010). *Foundations of orientation and mobility*, 3rd ed., Vol. I). New York: American Foundation for the Blind Press.
ISBN: 978-0-89128-448-2

Pogrud, R., Sewell, D., Anderson, H., Calaci, L., Cowart, M. F., Gonzales, C. M., Marsh, R. A., & Roberson-Smith, B. (2012). *Teaching age-appropriate purposeful skills (TAPS): An orientation and mobility curriculum for students with visual impairments* (3rd ed.). Austin, TX: Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
ISBN: 1-880366-46-0

Fazzi, D. L. & Petersmeyer, B. A. (Eds.) (2001). *Imagining the possibilities: Creative approaches to orientation and mobility instruction for persons who are visually impaired*. New York: American Foundation for the Blind Press. (**You should have this from the Foundations of O&M course – I&L 2540**).
ISBN: 978-0-89128-382-9

Readings and Assignments:

The schedule of topics, required readings, Virtual classroom times and weekly assignments with due dates are outlined in the Course Checklist.

Please note: This syllabus and course content outline may change throughout the course. The instructor will inform you at least 1 week in advance of any changes.

Assignments and Grading:

Students' grades will be based both on performance and participation. Since this is a web-based course, participation in the virtual classes, assignments, and exercises is important to keep the atmosphere interactive and to help the instructor and the student monitor learning throughout the course. The following list is the make-up of the final grade:

1. **Assignments:** Unit assignments and exercises
2. **Participation:** based on virtual class discussions, discussion board, and assignments
3. **Midterm Exam:** timed exam taken on-line
4. **Final Exam:** timed exam taken on-line, with possible chat time

Final Grade:

94-100%	A	87-89%	B+	77-79%	C+	Below 70%: Fail
90-93%	A-	84-86%	B	74-76%	C	
		80-83%	B-	70-73%	C-	

Assignment Points:

1. Virtual meeting (Introduction and review of syllabus) (January) 5 points
2. Assignment 1: History of O&M 56 points
3. Assignment 2: Role of Perception 20 points

4. Assignment 3: Sensory Input-Motor Output	24	points
5. Assignment 4: Low Vision	20	points
6. Midterm Exam	100	points
7. Assignment 5: Audiology Case Study	20	points
8. Assignment 6 – Spatial Orientation	20	points
9. Assignment 7: Mobility Tools	20	points
10. Assignment 8: Orientation Aids	20	points
11. Final Exam	100	points

TOTAL:	405	points
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G and I Grades

A student may be graduated without removing G and/or I grades from the record provided all degree requirements have been met and the student's department recommends graduation. The individual school's grading policy should be consulted for regulations dealing with the removal of I grades. Students assigned G grades are required to complete course requirements no later than one year after the term in which the course was taken. Once the deadline has passed, the G grade will remain on the record, and the student will be required to re-register for the course if it is needed to fulfill requirements for graduation.

Course Units:

Each unit will contain a link for the following:

1. **Instructor's Notes:** These links are the links to the lecture content for that unit and most unit contain the following sections:
 - A. Learning Objectives: These are the minimum skills you should make sure you are competent in by the end of the unit.
 - B. Lesson Content: Lecture material will be in text, PowerPoint, and/or embedded videos.
2. **Assignments:** All units will have an assignment section. The assignments will be turned in via the assignment link. Some units will also list some enrichment activity ideas as well. You can also consult the checklist of assignments for the whole course to make sure you are not missing any. All units and assignments are listed in the syllabus along with the time frame given for completing that unit. Readings are also listed in the syllabus and divided up among the units. The readings come from the textbooks you purchased for the course. *Guide to Readings* will introduce the material and list the readings for the entire unit. A guide of questions to think about while reading (hints for reading section) will be provided *Handouts:* Any forms, charts, or diagrams to be used within the units or for the assignments will be found in this folder or through links in the sections to which they apply. You may also be referred to the assignments button to find handout postings.

Assignments are to be turned into the instructor via the Assignment link within each unit no later than midnight on the due date. Directions for completion of assignments will be provided within the unit with which they are associated.

To submit your work:

- A. Assignments are posted at the end of each instructional unit.
- B. Click on the link found below the assignment description.

- C. In the second area titled Assignment Materials, provide a comment to the instructor as needed/appropriate and click on the Browse button to link your attach MS Word document (completed assignment).
- D. Click the Submit button at the bottom right to send your attachment to the grade book.

Points: The points that each assignment is worth will be posted with the directions. You can also print off and consult the **course checklist** of activities for the whole course. Consult the checklist for specific deadline dates, but assignments are always due by midnight on the due date. **Assignments turned in past the deadline will receive a 10% penalty per day.**

For Enrichment:

These activities listed within the units are for your own extended learning. They are not required and are not counted as part of your participation grade. Not all lessons will list an activity.

- 3. **Handouts:** Any handouts, charts, related materials relevant for that week's unit content will be included under this label as separate links. You will need to open and possibly download them in order to complete that week's unit and/or assignments.

Midterm and Final:

The midterm will cover material discussed in Units 1-5. The final will cover material discussed in Units 6-9. It is recommended that you keep a notebook containing assignments and personal notes from the required readings and virtual classroom sessions from which to study for the mid-term and final. This notebook will also serve as a great source of reference in your future career as an O&M specialist. Midterm and final exams will be taken through Blackboard on your honor (see Course Policies below for an explanation of the Academic Integrity Code). These exams are closed book exams meaning that **NO** materials (either electronic or hardcopy) will be allowed to be used or referenced once you begin. The exam will be available during the week that it is listed so you can choose to take it at your convenience. **Be prepared to take the whole test in one sitting. There will be a time limit on the exam and the computer will not let you log out of the test and return.** If you do so, any answers left blank will be sent to the instructor that way. The rest of the exam will be in the same format as the midterm: multiple choice and short essay. The midterm will cover material in the first half of the course from lectures and readings. The final exam will be comprehensive with the major focus being on the second half of the coursework.

Points: Both exams are worth **100 points**.

Attendance:

Students are expected and required to attend all virtual classes for this course. Attendance includes preparation and participation. If a student needs to miss a virtual class, the student is required to inform the instructor via email or phone call of the absence at least 1 hour before the scheduled class. If the instructor is not informed at least one hour before the scheduled class starts, the student will forfeit the attendance and participation points for that day. If the instructor is informed within this guideline, the student will be given the option of earning the attendance and participation points for that class if they complete an additional assignment pertaining to the topic to be discussed that day. The assignment must be submitted within 48 hours of the completion of missed class in order to receive any of the points.

Additional Information:

Technology Issues

If you have trouble getting the technology up and running, please call the Pitt Help Desk at 412-624-HELP. There is someone available 24 hours who can hopefully help you straighten out technology issues!

Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity, September 2005. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity, September 2005. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

Academic Integrity Guidelines

All students enrolled in courses offered through the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education are expected to observe the same code of academic honesty required of all University of Pittsburgh students. The conduct below constitutes a violation of this code.

Taking of Information

Copying graded assignments from another student. Each written assignment must be the student's own work.

Tendering of Information

- Giving your work to another student to be copied.
- Sharing answers to a quiz or an examination.
- Telling another student about the contents of a quiz or examination.

Plagiarism

"To present as one's own work, the ideas, representations, or words of another, or to permit another to present one's own work without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources" (University of Pittsburgh Guidelines on Academic Integrity, p. 5).

Departmental Grievance Policy:

- DIL Student Grievance Procedures
 - The purpose of grievance procedures is to ensure the rights and responsibilities of faculty and students in their relationships with each other. The rights and responsibilities of faculty and students are described in the University's Academic Integrity Guidelines at: <http://www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/02/02-03-02.html>
 - When a student in DIL believes that a faculty member has not met his or her obligations (as an instructor or in another capacity) as described in the Academic Integrity Guidelines, the student should follow the procedure described in the Guidelines (p. 16) by (1) first trying to resolve the matter with the faculty member directly; (2) then, if needed, attempting to resolve the matter through conversations with the chair/associate chair of the department; (2) if needed, next talking to the associate dean of the school; and (4) if needed, filing a written statement of charges with the school-level academic integrity officer.
 - The more specific procedure for student grievances within DIL is as follows:
 1. The student should talk to the faculty member to attempt to resolve the matter.

2. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the student should talk to the relevant program coordinator (if the issue concerns a class) or his or her advisor.
3. If the matter remains unresolved, the student should talk to the associate chair of DIL (currently Dr. Patricia Crawford).
4. If needed, the student should next talk to the SOE associate dean of students. If the matter still remains unresolved, the student should file a written statement of charges with the dean's designated Academic Integrity Administrative Officer.

Disabilities

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 216 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890 or (412) 383-7355 (TTY), as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

University of Pittsburgh Policy on Sexual Harassment

The University of Pittsburgh is committed to the maintenance of a community free from all forms of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment violates University policy as well as state, federal, and local laws. It is neither permitted nor condoned. The coverage of this policy extends to all faculty, researchers, staff, students, vendors, contractors, and visitors to the University. For more information: http://www.provost.pitt.edu/more/ch2_wkpl_sexual_harass.htm

I&L 2540 Foundations of O&M - Course Checklist & Schedule for Spring 2019

Dates	Readings	Assignments	Points
1/10	Introductions and Review of Syllabus	Virtual classroom meeting—Attendance is encouraged, but if you can't make it, the session will be recorded. Please let your instructor know if you will not be able to attend by midnight on January 10 th . January 11 th , 5 p.m - 7 p.m.	1. ___/5
Unit 1 1/11 - 1/17	Development of the O&M Training • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 13, pp. 434-485 (including Appendix 13A)	No assignment due	
Unit 2 1/18 - 1/24	History of the Profession • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 14, pp. 486-506	1. Assignment 1 – History of O&M Due: January 24	1. ___/56 Total Pts: 56
Unit 3 1/25 – 1/31	Sensory Systems and O&M • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 1, pp. 3-32 (stop at “Crossing Streets without Vision”)	1. Assignment 2 – Role of Perception Due: January 31	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
Unit 4 2/1 - 2/7	Kinesiology and Sensorimotor Functioning • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 5, pp. 138-172 • TAPS Part 1: pp. 72-87 and Part 3: Appendix K	1. Assignment 3 – Sensory Input – Motor Output Due: February 7	1. ___/24 Total Pts: 24
Unit 5 2/8 - 2/14	Low Vision • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 3, pp. 63-73 (stop at “Optical Devices for Mobility”) • TAPS Part 1: pp. 151-161, 207-209	1. Assignment 4 – Low Vision Due: February 14	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
2/15 – 2/21	MIDTERM	Midterm Exam Due: 2/21 at midnight	1. ___/100 Total Pts: 100
Unit 6 2/22 - 3/6 (2 weeks)	Auditory System • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 4, pp. 84-137 • TAPS Part 1: pp.63-70	1. Assignment 5 – Audiogram Case Study Due: March 6	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
3/4- 3/11	SPRING BREAK	You do have an assignment due on March 6, but if you want to take this whole week off, you can just turn the assignment in by March 4. If you choose to turn the	

		assignment in during Spring Break, it gives you a couple of days to finish the assignment.	
Unit 7 3/14 - 3/27 (2 weeks)	Spatial Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 2, pp. 45-62 • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 1, pp. 37-43 • TAPS Part 1: pp. 110-112, 145-150 	1. Assignment 6 – Spatial Orientation Due: March 27	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
Unit 8 3/28 – 4/10 (2 weeks)	Mobility Tools and Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 8, pp. 241-276 • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 9, pp. 277-285 (stop at “The Dog Guide School”) • TAPS Part 1: pp. 98-99, 118-127 and Part 3: Appendix G 	1. Assignment 7 – Mobility Tools Due: April 10	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
Unit 9 4/11- 4/17	Orientation Aids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWB Vol. 1, Ch. 10, pp. 296-323 • TAPS Part 3: Appendix L • Fazzi Ch. 7, pp. 261-291 	1. Assignment 8 – Orientation Aids Due: April 17	1. ___/20 Total Pts: 20
4/18 - 4/24	Final Exam	Final Exam Due: 4/24 at midnight	1. ___/100 Total Pts: 100

Assignment Points:

1. Virtual meeting (Introduction and review of syllabus)	5	points
2. Assignment 1: History of O&M	56	points
3. Assignment 2: Role of Perception	20	points
4. Assignment 3: Sensory Input-Motor Output	24	points
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TOTAL: 405 points