



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL  
& COMMUNITY SCIENCES

**Department of Communication  
Sciences and Disorders**

**Au.D./Ph.D.**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2022 - 2023**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| GENERAL INFORMATION .....                            | 3  |
| PROGRAM OVERVIEW.....                                | 4  |
| APPLICATION PROCESS .....                            | 4  |
| ASSIGNMENT OF ACADEMIC ADVISOR .....                 | 4  |
| ACADEMIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS .....                  | 5  |
| COURSEWORK.....                                      | 5  |
| ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.....                         | 5  |
| TIMELINE .....                                       | 6  |
| <i>ORDER OF COMPLETION</i> .....                     | 6  |
| <i>COURSE SEQUENCING</i> .....                       | 6  |
| <i>SAMPLE COURSE SEQUENCES</i> .....                 | 7  |
| RESEARCH PREPARATION: PRE-DISSERTATION PROJECT ..... | 10 |
| FELLOWSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES.....      | 10 |
| GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS.....                         | 10 |

## GENERAL INFORMATION

This Handbook describes important policies and procedures related to students enrolled in the program for earning concurrent Au.D/Ph.D. degrees in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department. Except where noted in this document, all policies, procedures, and requirements of each individual degree program remain in effect. We refer you to the Au.D. Academic and Clinical Handbooks and the Ph.D. Academic Handbook for those details. Those handbooks can be found on the Department website and on Canvas:

- **Department website – <http://csd.cbcs.usf.edu>** – The Department website is the most up-to-date source of information regarding activities in the department. As a new Ph.D. student, you may find it helpful to review the “Areas of Specialization” page and the individual faculty pages to learn more about research in the Department.
- **Canvas – <http://my.usf.edu>** – The “Communication Sciences and Disorders” Canvas organization (from Canvas, select click on “Courses,” then scroll to “ORG00963: BCS Graduate Students”) is often the first place to visit in your efforts to find things. There is a section for AuD students as well as for PhD students, and you can find the respective handbooks there. For example, you can find this document there along with departmental rules, regulations, and forms.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The concurrent Au.D. /Ph.D. degrees option is designed to offer a path for those interested in clinically-related research to earn both doctoral degrees within approximately six years. The primary objective is to produce research audiologists competent to perform the wide array of diagnostic, remedial and other services associated with the practice of audiology as well as conduct independent research in the area of hearing and balance disorders.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Application to the Au.D./Ph.D. program is an internal process. Only students currently enrolled in the Au.D. program (or Ph.D. program) are eligible to apply. The application can be made at any time; however, it is generally recommended that Au.D. students wait to apply until they have identified a research lab and mentor where they would like to complete their Ph.D. dissertation work. Prior to reaching this stage, students are welcome and encouraged to take Ph.D. classes (see “Assignment of Academic Advisor” below).

For Au.D. students, application materials are submitted to the Au.D. Program Director and should include the following:

- 1-2 page letter of intent addressing the applicant’s reasons for wishing to pursue a PhD, research interests, desired research lab and mentor, and career goals
- one letter of recommendation from a member of the USF Audiology research faculty – typically, this faculty member would be the desired research mentor

For Ph.D. students, application materials are submitted to the Ph.D. Program Director and should include the following:

- 1-2 page letter of intent addressing the applicant’s reasons for wishing to pursue an Au.D., clinical interests and career goals
- one letter of recommendation from the Ph.D. mentor addressing how the clinical degree would benefit the applicant’s career trajectory

Also, it should be noted that admissions decisions are not made in the summer, so if an application is submitted at the end of spring semester or in the summer semester, it will be reviewed the following fall semester. Upon receipt of materials, the Au.D. program faculty will do an initial review of the application to ensure the student is on track in the Au.D. program. If any red flags are noted, the application may be held; otherwise, the application will be forwarded to Ph.D. admissions committee. The Ph.D. Program Director will notify the applicant of the admissions decision.

## ASSIGNMENT OF ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Any Au.D. student considering the Au.D./Ph.D. program should contact the Au.D. Program Director to express interest in the program. Academic advising for the Ph.D. program typically begins well ahead of the student’s application to the Au.D./Ph.D. program, and Au.D. students with an interest in the Ph.D. degree may begin taking Ph.D. courses prior to applying.

All students interested in pursuing the Au.D. and Ph.D. degrees concurrently will have two

academic advisors, one for the Au.D. program and one for the Ph.D. program. The Au.D. academic advisor is assigned as defined in the Au.D. Academic Handbook and continues until the Au.D. degree is completed. The initial Ph.D. academic advisor is typically the Au.D. Program Director, in consultation with the Ph.D. Program Director. After the student is admitted to the Au.D./Ph.D program, the Ph.D. research mentor plays an increasing role in academic advising and may eventually take over as Ph.D. academic advisor. When students are ready to change Ph.D. academic advisors, they should follow the Change of Advisor procedures described in the Ph.D. Academic Handbook.

The Ph.D academic advisor provides the student guidance on which Ph.D. courses to add to their Au.D. program of study, when those courses should be taken, and when to submit their application to the Au.D./Ph.D. concurrent degree program. Students are expected to initiate meetings with their PhD academic advisor each semester and to come prepared to the advising meeting with ideas for the semester and questions. It is the student's responsibility to understand the requirements of both programs and take the initiative to draft a program of study that meets those requirements.

At the initial Au.D./Ph.D. advising meeting, the Ph.D. academic advisor is responsible for approving an Au.D./Ph.D. plan of study. After this initial meeting and prior to the start of every semester, students should meet with 1) the Au.D. academic advisor(s) to obtain permits for Au.D. classes, and 2) the Ph.D. academic advisor(s) to discuss progress and determine how best to blend Ph.D. coursework and requirements with Au.D. coursework and requirements. The Ph.D. academic advisor will provide consultation and advice as well as obtain any registration permits that are required for Ph.D. courses.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### COURSEWORK

See the USF Graduate Catalog for a description of course requirements:

- AuD catalog: <https://usf.edu/grad-catalog-audiology-aud>
- PhD catalog: <https://usf.edu/grad-catalog-communication-sciences-and-disorders-phd>
- AuD-PhD catalog: <https://usf.edu/grad-catalog-concurrent-degrees#audiology-aud-csd-phd>

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Students in the Au.D./Ph.D. program must fulfill the coursework and additional requirements of both programs. Additional requirements of each program are named in the USF Graduate Catalog for each degree program and are described in detail in the Au.D. Academic Handbook and the Ph.D. Academic Handbook.

## TIMELINE

Note that the USF Graduate Catalog indicates that students have seven (7) years from the date of admission to complete all required coursework, pass the qualifying examination, be admitted to doctoral candidacy, and complete the dissertation. Thus, the total time allowed for completion of the doctoral degree is seven years from the date of admission. Typically, a (full-time) Au.D./Ph.D. student will reach candidacy within approximately five years. The time it takes to complete the dissertation can vary widely and depends on a number of factors.

## ORDER OF COMPLETION

Whatever the rate of progress, the requirements are generally completed in the following order:

- Coursework (including directed research)
- Audiology Doctoral Project / Pre-dissertation project (while completing coursework)
- Externship
- Doctoral Committee selection, submit committee form to College *at least one semester prior to Qualifying Exam*
- Preparation for qualifying examination (while completing coursework)
- Qualifying Exam
- Dissertation
- Commencement

## COURSE SEQUENCING

Au.D./Ph.D. students have many options for sequencing their program of study. Two common approaches are ***sequential*** and ***integrated***.

In the ***sequential*** approach, the Au.D. receives primary focus initially and then focus shifts to the Ph.D. after the Au.D. is awarded. In this approach, the first three years of Au.D. study include some Ph.D. courses (how many depends on the student's interests and preferences for pacing), and the fourth year consists of a full-time clinical externship. Upon completion of the externship, the Au.D. degree is awarded and focus shifts to completing the remaining requirements of the Ph.D. Program.

In the ***integrated*** approach, the first three years of Au.D. study include many Ph.D. courses, and the Audiology Doctoral Project is completed ahead of the typical Au.D. timeline. In order to accommodate the increased workload from PhD courses, the student's clinic and/or clerkship experiences is reduced and spread out (e.g. over three years instead of two years). The student then completes a part-time clinical externship over 1.5-2 years in order to maintain Ph.D. productivity while completing the externship. In this scenario, it is possible that both degrees would be awarded concurrently.

In the integrated approach, students need to be aware that clerkship and externship options will be more limited, as not every site will be willing to accept a student working reduced hours. Part-time externships, in particular, are a rarity; this means that the student will need to take an active role (with support of the Externship Coordinator) in approaching sites to inquire about the possibility of a part-time experience and be prepared to accept an unpaid

position, since most sites will not have a budget for a part-time extern. Ideally, the externship site would be flexible on end-date, so it could be extended if the dissertation took longer than expected, allowing the student to maintain their clinical skills.

In either approach, students should consider if they wish to obtain the ASHA-CCC upon graduation. Many academic positions often require CCC's, and if the credential is desired, clerkship and externship sites will need to be selected carefully in order to ensure that the supervision requirement is met to qualify for the ASHA-CCC.

### **SAMPLE COURSE SEQUENCES**

The sample course sequences below are presented for illustrative purposes only. The first example is a sequential approach; the student completes the Au.D. in four years, and finishes the Ph.D. degree requirements for Doctoral Candidacy at the end of the fifth year and receives the Ph.D. at the end of the sixth year. The second example is an integrated approach; the student completes both degrees in six years. These examples should not be taken to mean that a student must follow one path or the other. Each student's path to advanced scholarship is different, and some students may find it useful to incorporate elements of both approaches into their play of study. Regardless of the approach, students should make note of eligibility requirements for the qualifying examination and admission into Doctoral Candidacy in planning their course of study.

**Sequential: complete AuD and then finish PhD**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>AUD – Year 1</b></p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 1 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 5120 Psychoacoustics (3)<br/>                 SPA 5153 Quantitative Prob. (3)<br/>                 SPA 5303 Auditory A&amp;P (3)<br/>                 SPA 6392 Professional Aud. (2)<br/>                 SPA 6535L Clinic Lab I (3)<br/>                 AuD credits: 14</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 1 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 5132 Aud. Instrument. (3)<br/>                 SPA 7150 Adv. Speech Sci. (3)<br/>                 SPA 6340 Amplification I (3)<br/>                 SPA 6305 Pediatric Aud. (3)<br/>                 SPA 6536L Clinic Lab II (3)<br/>                 AuD credits: 15</p>   |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Summer)</b><br/>                 SPA 6505 Clinic I (1)<br/>                 SPA 6341 Amplification II (3)<br/>                 SPA 6320 AR Across Lifespan (3)<br/>                 SPA 5506 Clinic I (3)<br/>                 SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1)<br/>                 AuD credits: 11</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 6314 Electrophysiology (3)<br/>                 SPA 6805 Research Proc. (3)<br/>                 SPA 6311 Medical Audiology (3)<br/>                 SPA 5506 Clinic II (4)<br/>                 SPA 6505 Clinic II (2)<br/>                 Add PhD courses:<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)</li> </ul>                 AuD credits: 15<br/>                 PhD credits: 1<br/>                 Total credits: 16</p>   | <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 6316 Vestib Eval &amp; Treat (3)<br/>                 SPA 7346 Cochlear Implants (3)<br/>                 SPA 5506 Clinic III (4)<br/>                 SPA 6505 Clinic III (2)<br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                 SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1)<br/>                 Add PhD courses:<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)</li> <li>• SPA 6505 Teaching Sem (1)</li> </ul>                 AuD credits: 14<br/>                 PhD credits: 2<br/>                 Total credits: 16</p>                |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Summer)</b><br/>                 SPA 7330 Adv. Vestibular (3)<br/>                 SPA 6393 Aud. Practice Mgmt (3)<br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                 SPA 6508 Clerkship I (3)<br/>                 Add PhD courses (* is shared course):<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *SPA 7931: Seminar in Adv Auditory Perception (3)</li> <li>• *EDF 6407 Stats I (4)</li> </ul>                 AuD credits: 11<br/>                 PhD credits: 7<br/>                 Total credits: 11 (7 shared)</p> | <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 6307 Sp. Percept. &amp; HL (3)<br/>                 SPA 5512 Counseling Lifespan (3)<br/>                 SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1)<br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                 SPA 6508 Clerkship II (3)<br/>                 Add PhD courses (* is shared course):<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *SPA 7497 ProSem 1 (1)</li> <li>• Present ADP @ Fall Research day (predissertation presentation)</li> <li>• Apply to PhD Program</li> </ul>                 AuD credits: 12<br/>                 PhD credits: 1<br/>                 Total credits: 12 (1 shared)</p> | <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 7331 Adv. Med Aud (3)<br/>                 SPA 7332 Adv. Electrophys (3)<br/>                 SPA 6508 Clerkship III (3)<br/>                 SPA 6354 Hearing Conservation (3)<br/>                 Add PhD courses (* is shared course):<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)</li> <li>• SPA 7332 Adv. Electrophys (3)</li> <li>• SPA 7497 ProSem 2 (1)</li> <li>• *EDF 7408 Stats 2 (4)</li> </ul>                 AuD credits: 10<br/>                 PhD credits: 9<br/>                 Total credits: 15 (4 shared)</p> |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Summer)</b><br/>                 SPA 6508 Externship I (6)<br/>                 AuD credits: 6</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 6508 Externship II (6)<br/>                 AuD credits: 6</p>   | <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 6508 Externship III (6)<br/>                 AuD credits: 6</p>   |
| <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Summer)</b><br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (2)<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form doctoral committee</li> <li>• Prepare for qualifying exam</li> </ul>                 PhD credits: 2</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                 SPA 7802 Critical Analysis (3)<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take qualifying exam</li> </ul>                 PhD credits: 4</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                 SPA 7807 Critical Synthesis (3)<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish/revise qualifying exam</li> <li>• Apply for candidacy</li> </ul>                 PhD credits: 4</p>  |
| <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Summer)</b><br/>                 SPA 7980 Dissertation (4)<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dissertation proposal</li> </ul>                 PhD credits: 4</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Fall)</b><br/>                 SPA 7980 Dissertation (4)<br/>                 PhD credits: 4</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Spring)</b><br/>                 SPA 7980 Dissertation (4)<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dissertation defense</li> </ul>                 PhD credits: 4</p>  |

**AuD credits = 120 / PhD credits = 42 (core, research tools, advanced study) / Shared credits = 12  
 Total credits = 150 (120 + 42 -12)**



**Integrated: simultaneously take AuD/PhD courses**

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>AUD – Year 1</b></p>   | <p><b>AUD – Year 1 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 5120 Psychoacoustics (3)<br/>                     SPA 5153 Quantitative Prob. (3)<br/>                     SPA 5303 Auditory A&amp;P (3)<br/>                     SPA 6392 Professional Aud. (2)<br/>                     SPA 6535L Clinic Lab I (3)<br/>                     AuD credits: 14</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 1 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 5132 Aud. Instrument. (3)<br/>                     SPA 7150 Adv. Speech Sci. (3)<br/>                     SPA 6340 Amplification I (3)<br/>                     SPA 6305 Pediatric Aud. (3)<br/>                     SPA 6536L Clinic Lab II (3)<br/>                     Add courses:<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 7834 ADP Sem (1) (<i>early, if topic is set</i>)<br/>                     • Apply to PhD Program<br/>                     AuD credits: 16</p>   |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Summer)</b><br/>                     SPA 6505 Clinic I (1)<br/>                     SPA 6341 Amplification II (3)<br/>                     SPA 6320 AR Across Lifespan (3) (<i>delay</i>)<br/>                     SPA 5506 Clinic I (3)<br/>                     SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1)<br/>                     Add courses (* is shared course)::<br/>                     • *PHD: SPA 7931 Sem in Computational Methods (3)<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)<br/>                     AuD credits: 12<br/>                     PhD credits: 3<br/>                     Total credits: 12 (3 shared)</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 6314 Electrophysiology (3)<br/>                     SPA 6805 Research Proc. (3)<br/>                     SPA 6311 Medical Audiology (3)<br/>                     SPA 5506 Clinic II (4) (3) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6505 Clinic II (2) (1) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     Add courses (* is shared course):<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)<br/>                     • *GEY 6402 Statistical Methods (3)<br/>                     AuD credits: 17<br/>                     PhD credits: 3<br/>                     Total credits: 17 (3 shared)</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 2 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 6316 Vestib Eval &amp; Treat (3) (<i>delay</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7346 Cochlear Implants (3)<br/>                     SPA 5506 Clinic III (4) (3) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6505 Clinic II (2) (1) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6910 Directed Research (1)<br/>                     SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1)<br/>                     Add PhD courses (* is shared course):<br/>                     • *GEY 6403 Multivariate Stats (3)<br/>                     • Present ADP @ Spring Research day (predissertation presentation)<br/>                     AuD credits: 12<br/>                     PhD credits: 3<br/>                     Total credits: 12 (3 shared)</p>   |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Summer)</b><br/>                     SPA 7330 Adv. Vestibular (3)<br/>                     SPA 6393 Aud. Practice Mgmt (3)<br/>                     SPA 5506 Clinic III (3) (<i>reduce</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6505 Clinic III (1) (<i>reduce</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6910 Directed Res (1) (<i>taken earlier</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship I (3) (<i>delay</i>)<br/>                     Add courses:<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 6320 AR Across Lifespan (3)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)<br/>                     AuD credits: 7<br/>                     PhD credits: 1<br/>                     Total credits: 8</p> | <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 6307 Sp. Percept &amp; HL (3)<br/>                     SPA 5512 Counseling Lifespan (3)<br/>                     SPA 7834 ADP Seminar (1) (<i>taken earlier</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6910 Directed Res (1) (<i>taken earlier</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship II (2) (2) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     Add PhD courses (* is shared course):<br/>                     • SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)<br/>                     • *SPA 7802 Critical Analysis (3)<br/>                     • SPA 7497 ProSem 1 (1)<br/>                     AuD credits: 11<br/>                     PhD credits: 5<br/>                     Total credits: 13 (3 shared)</p> | <p><b>AUD – Year 3 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 7331 Adv. Med Aud (3)<br/>                     SPA 7332 Adv. Electrophys (3)<br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship II (2) (2) (<i>reduce</i>)<br/>                     SPA 6354 Hearing Conserv (3) (<i>delay</i>)<br/>                     Add courses:<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 6316 Vestib Eval &amp; Treat (3)<br/>                     • PHD: GEY 7404 Grant Writing (3)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 6910 Dir Res (1)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 7807 Critical Synthesis (3)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 7497 ProSem 2 (1)<br/>                     • Form doctoral committee<br/>                     • Prepare for qualifying exam<br/>                     AuD credits: 5<br/>                     PhD credits: 8<br/>                     Total credits: 13</p> |
| <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Summer)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship II (1) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     Add PhD courses:<br/>                     • SPA 6910 Dir Res (2)<br/>                     • Prepare for qualifying exam<br/>                     AuD credits: 1<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 3</p>   | <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship III (2) (2) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     Add PhD courses:<br/>                     • SPA 6910 Dir Res (2)<br/>                     • Take qualifying exam<br/>                     AuD credits: 2<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 4</p>  | <p><b>AUD – Year 4 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Clerkship III (2) (2) (<i>reduced</i>)<br/>                     Add courses:<br/>                     • AUD: SPA 6354 Hearing Conserv (3)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 6910 Dir Res (2)<br/>                     • PHD: SPA 6505 Teaching Sem (1)<br/>                     • Finish/revise qualifying exam<br/>                     • Apply for candidacy<br/>                     AuD credits: 5<br/>                     PhD credits: 3<br/>                     Total credits: 8</p>  |
| <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Summer)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship I (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>   | <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship I (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     • Dissertation proposal<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>   | <p><b>PHD – Year 5 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship II (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>   |
| <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Summer)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship II (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Fall)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship III (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>  | <p><b>PHD – Year 6 (Spring)</b><br/>                     SPA 6508 Externship III (6) (3) (<i>part-time</i>)<br/>                     SPA 7980 Dissertation (2)<br/>                     • Dissertation defense<br/>                     AuD credits: 3<br/>                     PhD credits: 2<br/>                     Total credits: 5</p>  |

**AuD credits = 120 / PhD credits = 42 (core, research tools, advanced study) / Shared credits = 12  
 Total credits = 150 (120 + 42 - 12)**

## RESEARCH PREPARATION: PRE-DISSERTATION PROJECT

As described in the Graduate Catalog, Ph.D. students are required to complete a pre-dissertation research project before applying for candidacy. The pre-dissertation project is designed to provide students with research experience before embarking on the dissertation project.

The pre-dissertation project may be waived for Au.D./Ph.D. students who complete a research-based Audiology Doctoral Project (ADP). Au.D./Ph.D. students should apply for a waiver as soon as the ADP is completed. Instructions for obtaining a waiver may be found in the Ph.D. Academic Handbook.

## FELLOWSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

Graduate students have several potential sources of funding, including Fellowships, Scholarships, Research Assistantships, and Graduate Assistantships. Additional information about these opportunities can be found in the Academic Handbooks for the Au.D. and Ph.D. programs. Graduate Assistantships are awarded by the Department, with some assistantship lines designated for Au.D. students and some assistantship lines designated for Ph.D. students. Au.D. students are eligible for these Graduate Assistantship lines as described below.

### GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Students accepted into the Au.D. program are eligible for Au.D. Graduate Assistantship lines during their first four years in the program. Thereafter, students in the program are eligible for Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship lines. Exceptions to this model will require approval by the student's Ph.D. mentor, the Au.D. Program Director and the Department Chair.