

**REGULATIONS AND SUMMARY OF
CURRICULUM OF STUDIES**

FOR

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN
AUDIOLOGY IN NIGERIA**

PREPARED

BY

**THE MEDICAL REHABILITATION
THERAPISTS (REGISTRATION)
BOARD OF NIGERIA (MRTB)**

CURRICULUM OF STUDIES FOR AUDIOLOGY TECHNICIANS TRAINING PROGRAMME IN NIGERIA

INTRODUCTION

The first resolution on hearing impairment and deafness was passed in 1985 at the 38th World Health Assembly. The resolution highlighted the fact that most causes of hearing impairment in developing countries are preventable at primary level. The second resolution on prevention of hearing impairment was passed by the 48th World Health Assembly in 1995. This resolution stated that there were 120 million people in the world with disabling hearing difficulties. It requested WHO to help countries assess hearing loss as a public health problem and set up national plans, develop guidelines for prevention and mobilize resources. The WHO has since set up a department for the prevention of deafness and hearing impairment with the aim of assisting member states to eliminate avoidable hearing impairments through appropriate preventive and curative measures. It is estimated that two-thirds of people with hearing impairment in the world are in developing countries.

PHILOSOPHY OF CURRICULUM OF STUDIES FOR AUDIOLOGY TECHNICIANS TRAINING PROGRAMME IN NIGERIA

A programme for preventive and curative measures to reduce the burden of hearing impairment in developing countries requires the training of relevant manpower for the assessment of hearing at primary care level. In Nigeria, there are very few trained Audiologists and these Audiology professionals work at the tertiary health care level. It is therefore imperative that a cadre of personnel be trained as Audiology technicians with relevant knowledge and skill to perform hearing assessments, detect the hearing impairment and be able to dispense and fit hearing aids, provide counseling and monitor hearing-impaired at the primary health care level. There is no such training programme in Nigeria. This forms the background for the development of this programme in Nigeria, as the profession, Audiology, requires manpower development that will function effectively at this level of health care delivery.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

To train a low-level cadre of dedicated and committed Audiology professionals with relevant skills and knowledge in biological and behavioural science, that will function effectively at primary health care and who would provide Audiological services under the supervision of a qualified and Board-certified Audiologist.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING AUDIOLOGY TECHNICIANS PROGRAMME

1. DESIGNATION

A programme of studies shall be provided that would lead to the award of diploma in Audiology, to be denoted by the letters – DIP. AU. It shall be a classified degree i. e. with class – *distinction, upper credit, lower credit and pass.*

2. ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum entrance requirements are as follows:

- i. Three (3) credit passes in English Language, Mathematics, Biology/Health Science and two (2) passes in any other two (2) subjects at Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSSCE) or General Certificate of Education (GCE 'O' Level) or its equivalents at not more than two (2) sittings. In addition, a candidate must have passed the school's entrance examination with a score acceptable to the school's admission policy.
- ii. In addition to the above prerequisites, candidates seeking admission must not be less than 18 years of age in the year of his/her candidature, though there is no upper age limit.
- iii. Prospective students must have interest in working with people with disabilities.

- iv. Intending students must be interested in working in the local communities and community-based rehabilitation programmes.
- v. Three (3) letters of recommendation from reputable Medical Rehabilitation Therapists.

3. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The programme is made up of two (2) years of formal studies in the school to study basic science and basic medical science subjects. This shall be followed by one (1) year for the practical of the techniques in Board's certified training institutions. The certificate awarded qualifies the would-be students to practice Audiology in any of the Board's accredited institutions, under the supervision of a qualified and registered Audiologist. A graduate of this programme herein called *Diplomates* shall be referred to as a basic grade Audiologist and is qualified to be admitted into a degree programme in Audiology in any of the Board's approved institutions of higher learning, in order to become a full-fledged Audiologist, provided he/she satisfies the admission requirements of his/her school of choice.

4. LENGTH OF COURSE

The diploma programme in Audiology shall normally extend over four (4) semesters (2 academic sessions) for all candidates. The maximum number of semesters allowed for the programme shall be 8 semesters (4 academic sessions).

5. MODE OF STUDY

The programme shall be run on a full-time basis. No part-time registration is allowed.

6. EXAMINATIONS AND AWARD OF DEGREE

- (a) All courses taught during each semester shall be examined at the end of each semester. Candidates shall be required to take

written examinations only (made up of essay type questions or multiple choice questions). Candidates will be credited with the number of course units assigned to the courses in which they have passed the examinations.

- (b) Continuous assessment shall constitute 30% of marks for all courses, 40% practical examination and 30% written examination.
- (c) Pass mark for each course shall be 40%.
- (d) The aggregate marks will be used in determining candidate's performance in each course unit shall be as follows:
 - 70% above Distinction
 - 60 – 69% Upper Credit
 - 50 – 59% Lower Credit
 - 40 – 49% Pass
 - Less than 40% Fail

Result shall be computed using the cumulative grade point average (CGPA).

- (e) A distinction mark shall be awarded to a candidate who scores an average of 70% and above in all the courses in a subject area, provided that all the courses are passed at the first attempt.
- (f) The list of successful candidates for the degree shall be published in alphabetical order, indicating those who pass with distinction in any subject. Candidates who for no acceptable reason absent themselves from any examination shall be deemed to have failed the examination.
- (g) Candidates who fail any of the examinations may be re-examined in each of the courses he/she fails during a re-sit examination, which shall be conducted not earlier than six (6) weeks after the main examination.

7. REGISTRATION OF COURSES

- (a) Candidates shall normally be required to register for not less than a prescribed minimum number of units.
- (b) The course codes, course titles and credit units for each academic session are displayed on pages 6 – 13.

8. CRITERIA FOR MOVING FROM YEAR I TO YEAR II

- (a) Candidates shall not normally proceed to year II, until they have passed all relevant courses at year 1.
- (b) Students who fail to pass General Studies (GNS) at year 1 shall have to pass them before they can be allowed to graduate.

9. CLINICAL ATTACHMENT

In order to qualify for the diploma certificate in Audiology, employment and for further studies in Audiology at degree level, a student must have satisfactorily completed one (1) year of consistent clinical attachment in Board's accredited institution under the student industrial work experience schemes (SIWS) in at least 4 – 6 Audiology facilities.

10. WARNING FOR STUDENTS WITH POOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

A student shall be given a written warning or be required to withdraw from the programme of studies, if he/she fails to achieve the minimum standards stated below:

- (a) Candidates who fail a year twice shall be asked to withdraw from the programme.
- (b) Candidates who cannot satisfy the minimum requirements to

proceed to the next academic level after repeating the class, are to be asked to withdraw from the programme.

- (c) A student who after eight (8) semesters has not completed his/her programme shall be asked to withdraw from the programme.
- (d) A student who spends more than six (6) semesters shall be awarded pass.
- (e) Candidates who obtain less than 10 credit units in a semester shall be given a written warning.
- (f) A mandatory attendance in all courses, theoreticals, practicals/clinicals with allowances for reasonable absence is required for all candidates. Students must produce written requests for any and all absences. A student shall only be allowed to sit a final examination in a course provided he has fulfilled this requirement.
- (g) Students who for no acceptable reason absent themselves from any examinations shall be deemed to have failed the examinations.
- (h) A candidate who passes a course in a re-sit examination shall be credited with the average of the scores he obtained in the main and the resit examinations.
- (i) No candidates shall be allowed more than three (3) carry-overs in any academic sessions.
- (j) No candidate shall be allowed to repeat a year twice. If a candidate fails a year twice, he shall be asked to withdraw from the programme.

11. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND AWARD OF DIPLOMA CERTIFICATE IN AUDIOLOGY

This diploma certificate in Audiology shall be awarded provided candidates satisfy the following conditions:

1. He/she has satisfactorily completed all requirements for the award of the certificate.
2. He/she obtains not less than 70 credit units.
3. He/she completes one year of clinical attachment in Board's accredited training institutions.
4. He/she satisfies the professional conduct as required for registration with Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria.

Throughout the course of studies, the students are required to maintain a professional code of conduct as embodied in the fundamental ethical principles of the Audiology profession. The school, as guardian of these principles on behalf of the Board, Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria, therefore, reserves the right to refuse recommending through the department to the senate of the school, the award of diploma certificate to a student who has successfully fulfilled all academic requirements, but whose conduct does not conform to that expected of a prospective Audiologist.

DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY FIRST SEMESTER YEAR I

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
ANA 101	Anatomy and Physiology 1	2
GNS 101	Use of English	2
GNS 102	Communication in English	2
PHE 101	Health Education	1
AUD 117	Introduction to Medical Audiology	2
AUD 116	Introduction to Paediatric Audiology	2
SSC 101	Medical Sociology	2
AUD 104	Professional Issues in Audiology	1
AUD 101	Hearing Assessment	2
AUD 130	Neuro-Anatomy/Neurophysiology and Central Auditory Processing	2
AUD 103	Guidance and Counselling	2
PSY 101	Psychology - in the context of the African School environment	2
TOTAL CREDIT UNITS		22

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
SECOND SEMESTER YEAR I**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 102	Basic Sciences	2
CSC 101	Introduction to Computers	2
AUD 107	Ear Examination and Diseases of the ear	3
AUD 108	Hearing Screening	2
AUD 109	Hearing Measurement	2
AUD 110	Hearing Aids	2
AUD 111	Ear impressions and Ear mould	2
AUD 114	Clinical Observation	2
AUD 131	History of Audiology	1
AUD 135	Introduction to Instrumentation and Electronics in Audiology	2
AUD 140	Introduction to Amplification Technology	2
	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS	22

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
YEAR I**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
ANA 101	Anatomy and Physiology 1	2
AUD 101	Hearing Assessment	2
AUD 103	Guidance and Counselling	2
AUD 102	Basic Sciences	2
AUD 104	Professional Issues in Audiology	1
SSC 101	Medical Sociology	2
PSY 101	Psychology - in the context of the African School Environment	2
PHE 101	Health Education	1
GNS 101	Use of English	2
CSC 101	Introduction to Information Technology (Computers)	2
GNS 102	Communication in English	2
AUD 107	Ear Examination and Diseases of the Ear	3
AUD 108	Hearing Screening	2
AUD 109	Hearing Measurement	2

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
YEAR I (Contd.)**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 110	Hearing Aids	2
AUD 111	Ear Impressions and Ear Mould	2
AUD 114	Clinical Observation	2
AUD 115	Embryology and Genetics of the Audiology System	2
AUD 116	Introduction to Paediatric Audiology	2
AUD 117	Introduction to Medical Audiology	2
AUD 130	Neuro-Anatomy/Neurophysiology and Central Auditory Processing	2
AUD 131	History of Audiology	1
AUD 135	Introduction to Instrumentation and Electronics in Audiology	2
AUD 140	Introduction to Amplification Technology	2

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
FIRST SEMESTER YEAR II**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 201	Speech Language Development and Rehabilitation	3
AUD 202	Pre-School Hearing Assessment	2
AUD 211	Introduction to Gerontologic Audiology	2
AUD 215	Introduction to Medical Audiology	2
AUD 216	Sensory Processes	2
AUD 204	Hearing Aid Repair	2
AUD 203	Hearing and Fitting	2
AUD 220	Sensation and Perception	2
AUD 205	Audiology equipment use, maintenance and calibration	2
AUD 206	Hearing Conservation Programmes	2
AUD 219	Acoustics/Acoustic Phonetics	2
AUD 236	Clinical Experience	2
TOTAL CREDIT UNITS		25

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
SECOND SEMESTER YEAR II**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 230	Introduction to Essential Techniques in Audiometry	2
AUD 232	Introduction to Audition and Psychoacoustics	2
AUD 234	Introduction to Electrophysiologic Techniques in Audiology	2
AUD 235	Introduction to Investigation in Audiologic Practice	2
AUD 236	Clinical Experience	2
AUD 237	Term-paper Presentation	4
AUD 240	Project/Dissertation	5
AUD 210	Introduction to special topics in Audiology	2
AUD 220	Introduction to communication evaluation and training in the Geriatric population	2
	TOTAL CREDIT UNITS	23

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
YEAR II**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 201	Speech Language Development and Rehabilitation	2
AUD 202	Pre-School Hearing Assessments	2
AUD 203	Hearing and Fitting	2
AUD 204	Hearing Aid Repair	2
AUD 205	Audiology equipments use, maintenance and calibration	2
AUD 206	Hearing Conservation Programmes	2
AUD 210	Introduction to special topics in Audiology	2
AUD 211	Introduction to Gerontologic Audiology	2
AUD 220	Introduction to Communication Evaluation and Training in the Geriatric Population	2
AUD 215	Introduction to Medical Audiology	2
AUD 216	Sensory Processes	2
AUD 219	Acoustics/Acoustic Phonetics	2
AUD 220	Sensation and Perception	2
AUD 230	Introduction to essential techniques in Audiometry	2

**DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY
YEAR II (Contd.)**

COURSE CODES	COURSE TITLES	CREDIT UNITS
AUD 232	Introduction to Audition and Psychoacoustics	2
AUD 234	Introduction to Electrophysiologic Technique in Audiology	2
AUD 235	Introduction to investigation in Audiologic Practice	2
AUD 236	Clinical Experience	2
AUD 237	Term-paper Presentation	4
TUT 241	Tutorial	
AUD 240	Project/Dissertation	5