

What is Audiology?

Audiology is the profession dealing with the assessment and management of hearing, hearing loss, and ear-related balance disorders.

The audiologist is also involved in promoting healthy ear and hearing habits, and preventing or minimising disability due to hearing loss or balance disorders. Audiology is one of the fastest-growing health professions, due to rapid technological advancements.



Audiologists:

- measure and diagnose hearing ability
 - provide rehabilitative services to children and adults with a hearing loss
 - fit hearing aids and assistive listening devices
 - consult on issues concerning noise-induced hearing loss, and develop hearing conservation programmes
 - manage individuals with auditory processing difficulties
 - manage people with ear-related balance problems
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- serve as expert witnesses in litigation related to their areas of expertise
 - aim to prevent and/or minimise hearing loss and its effects
 - conduct research on hearing and the balance system.

Is Audiology for me?

If you thrive on challenges and want to assist people in improving their quality of life, Audiology is a profession that could fulfil those needs. You can choose to work across the age-spectrum, or work only with adults or children (an audiologist can even do a hearing test on a one-hour old baby).

The ability to speak African languages, in addition to English, is a valuable resource in providing audiology services.

The BSc in Audiology is a four-year course of full time study. Your training involves the medical, scientific, social and psychological aspects of hearing, speech and language. You will learn about the anatomy and physiology of hearing; normal communication development; early intervention; assessment and management for child and adult clients with different hearing or balance problems.

If you obtain the BSc Audiology degree, you will be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as an audiologist.