Module Specification

1	Module Title	Appraising Communication and Swallowing Needs
2	Module Credits	20 credits
3	Module Level	5
4	Module Code	SPR5036

5	Module Overview

This module builds on the knowledge and skills acquired at level 4 within the Communication and Swallowing Needs strand. You will build on the learning from the modules of Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Communication and Swallowing Impairments and their Impact and Foundations in Phonetics and Linguistics as you learn the principles of appraisal in speech and language therapy across a range of acquired and developmental client groups (as specified in the RCSLT Curriculum Guidelines, 2010).

The module will help you develop your clinical decision-making skills, through the generation of clinical questions, and consideration of the best methods to investigate these. You will be supported to develop your own framework for appraisal that can be applied to, and adapted for, any client group (and therefore contributes to programme aims 1, 2 and 4).   You will explore the use of published assessment materials for assessing a client's communication and swallowing needs; you will also critique and develop self-generated assessments that investigate specific aspects of a client's communication or swallowing needs (including structured observation).In collaboration with the module 'The Intermediate Professional', you will learn how to administer, record, score and interpret a range of published and self-generated assessment tools to describe and analyse service users' abilities and needs, using phonological and linguistic analysis (HCPC SOP 14.7). You will be using these skills to build a client profile (identifying an individual's strengths and needs) and a differential description of the client's communication and swallowing needs. This module leads you directly in to your first block clinical placement experience.

This module contributes towards the programme aims in the following ways:
1. Pursuing excellence: Your appraisal framework and self-generated assessment skills will be built using best practice in the field of speech and language therapy and expert knowledge of service users, ensuring you are able to pursue excellence in the appraisal of your clients.
2. Practice-led, knowledge applied: You will have opportunities to develop your knowledge and skills in the appraisal of clients through workshops, skills practice and simulations (on-line and face-to-face).
3. Interdisciplinarity: Within this module your role, as part of an interdisciplinary team around any client, will be developed alongside the module 'The Intermediate Professional'. You will also work in small teams within the module developing your own team working abilities.
4. Employability-driven: The learning outcomes of this module align with HCPC Standards of Proficiency, therefore supporting your development towards qualification and registration as an SLT.
5. Internationalisation: You will be required to keep up with global developments related to appraisal of clients for example through reading journal articles and following professional social media forums.

A variety of delivery methods will be used in this module, which align with the Learning, Teaching and Assessment strategy for the Programme, for example service user-led sessions, skills workshops, interactive lectures/workshops, podcasts/audio lectures, online and face-to-face simulations, group and independent self-study tasks (on-site using the resource room, and off-site using the Virtual Learning Environment, Moodle). You will also be provided with peer, tutor and service user feedback to support and extend your learning, for example through on-line, and face-to-face simulation sessions.

This module is aligned with the QAA benchmarks for SLT (B1, B2 and B4), HCPC Standards of Proficiency (2013), standards 9.3, 13.6, 14.2 to 14.9, 14.16 and 14.21 and the RCSLT Curriculum Guidelines and Standards of Practice Based Learning (2010)

6	Indicative Content

This module includes content related to clinical reasoning, appraisal methods in speech and language therapy, analysis of and integration of clinical information to create a profile of a client, and what a differential description is.

7	Module Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:
1	Select and appraise appropriate assessment tools/methods for clients with speech, language, communication and swallowing needs based on available information
2	Design self-generated assessment tasks to profile a client's communication and/or swallowing needs
3	Interpret and integrate available data from a variety of sources to inform clinical decision-making

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	**Exam**	**In-Person**
1, 2, 3	X		

9	Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities	
Learning Activities	**Hours**	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	90	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	70	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	40	
Total Study Hours:	200	