



# ASAHP 2020

*Workforce Ready Solutions to Treating Patients Post COVID-19*

Bari Hoffman, Ph.D., CCC-SLP & Vicki Lewis, M.A., CCC-SLP



**College of Health  
Professions and Sciences**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

# The Charge

- The President of UCF asked administration and faculty to consider ways to prepare the community and UCF students to provide needed services for the emerging COVID-19 pandemic.
- Members of the Communication Sciences and Disorders faculty began to brainstorm:
  - *What programming could be offered to meet the challenges and prepare students / retool practicing professionals?*
  - *How could current students obtain clinical experience without outside externship opportunities due to COVID-19?*

# The Course

- Goals

- Provide up-to-the-minute information to fill a need in the education of both practicing clinicians, and students about to enter the field.
  - Graduate students either moving on to full-time externships or graduating at the end of the semester
- Create a specialized curriculum focused on managing the potential medical issues patients may experience across the continuum of healthcare.
- Provide content not readily available and ever-evolving information as new data emerges.
- Yield workforce ready clinicians who are prepared to meet the challenges in today's complex healthcare environment.



UCF

College of Health  
Professions and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

[healthprofessions.ucf.edu](http://healthprofessions.ucf.edu)

# The Course

- Topics
  - Physiological bases of the respiratory, cardiopulmonary, metabolic and central nervous systems and the impact of COVID-19 on those symptoms.
  - The impact of COVID-19 on SLP clinical practice across the continuum of care.
    - Guest speaker from a local Cancer Institute
  - Discussion of recent research findings regarding COVID-19.
  - In-class labs for hands-on learning and introduction to clinical care in a medical setting along with practical assignments.
    - Oral care
    - Liquid thickening
    - Mask wearing
    - Tracheostomy care/speaking valves



UCF

College of Health  
Professions and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

[healthprofessions.ucf.edu](https://healthprofessions.ucf.edu)



# Course Materials / Labs



# Student Lab



# Student Discussion Post – Mask wearing



Search entries or author

Unread



Jun 25, 2020

I have been doing teletherapy with high school students during the extended school year period. I decided yesterday that I would wear my mask for the 5 hours I was doing therapy! It started at 8:00 and I immediately began to feel like I was struggling. I felt like my students had difficulty understanding me by not having the visual cue of seeing my mouth! As my sessions went on I began to feel a little claustrophobic wearing it, I feel like that will just take some getting used to! Many of my kids did ask me to repeat myself frequently and asked why I was wearing a mask in the first place! It gave me an opportunity to educate them about why people are wearing masks more often now and how important it is for us to do our part to keep ourselves and others safe!

After wearing it for the full 5 hours of therapy, I was felt very warm and was excited to breathe in FRESH air! This assignment really made me think about other healthcare workers who are wearing these masks all day long, I'm sure it gets easier the longer you do it, but I had trouble wearing it for 5 hours!! I enjoyed how eye opening this assignment was!

← Reply






# Student Discussion Post – Mask wearing

← → ↻ 🔒 [https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1358042/discussion\\_topics/5960692](https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1358042/discussion_topics/5960692) ☆ ☆ 🏠 👤 ⋮

Search entries or author Unread 👁️ 📄 📄


UCF

📅 📅 159 🕒 ↻ ?

○  [Redacted] Jun 25, 2020 ⋮

I purposefully avoided wearing my mask while doing teletherapy, so I am impressed that you powered through that. It was such a good idea to take that time to educate your students on the importance of wearing the mask.

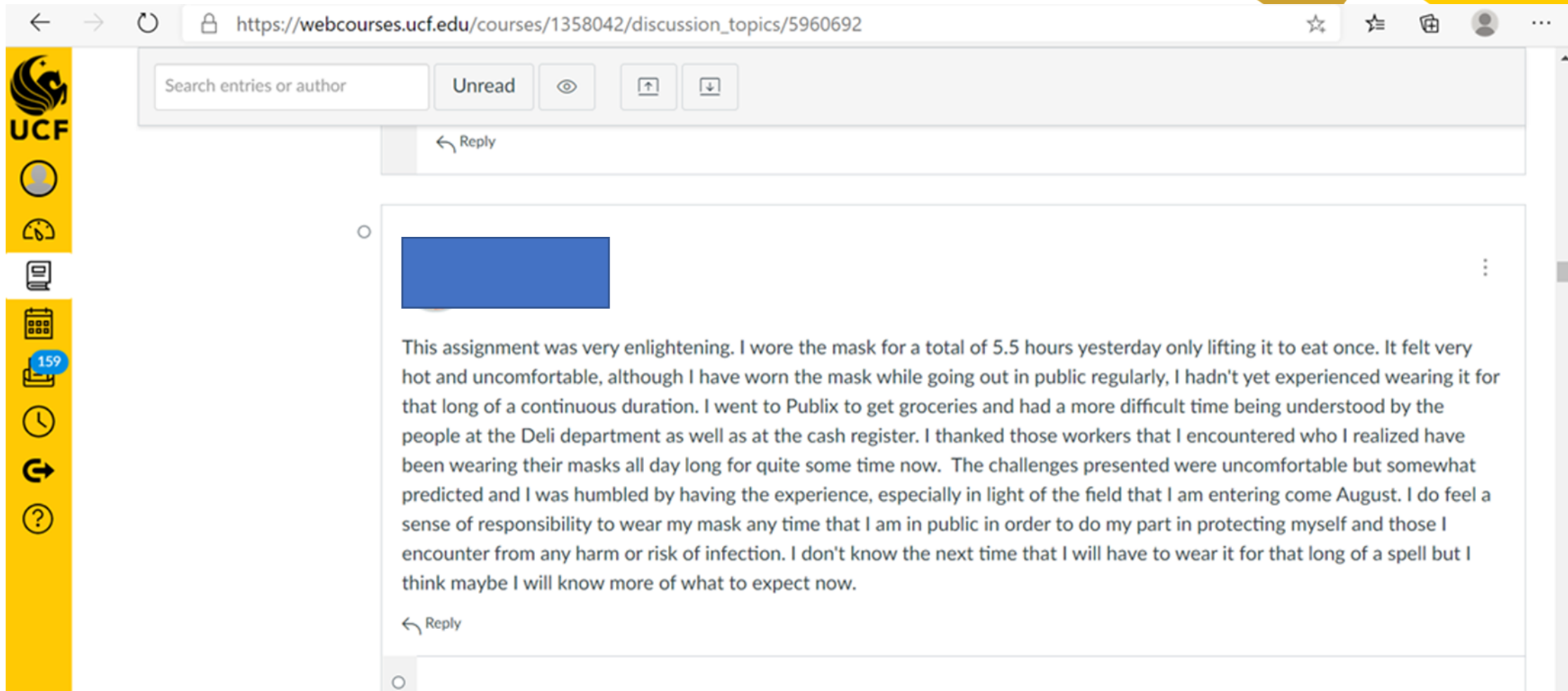
← Reply

○  [Redacted] Jun 25, 2020 ⋮

Wow Sam, I really loved reading your post about how you wore it all day during teletherapy!! I didn't even think about doing that. When I do teletherapy every day, my children struggle to understand what I am saying as it is, so I truly can't imagine them not being able to see my mouth as I talk over webcam. What an amazing opportunity though to educate your students!! I also agree - at the end of this assignment yesterday, I couldn't wait to take off my mask and breathe some fresh air - lol!

← Reply

# Student Discussion Post – Mask wearing



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a discussion post on the UCF webcourse platform. The browser's address bar shows the URL: [https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1358042/discussion\\_topics/5960692](https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1358042/discussion_topics/5960692). On the left side of the browser, there is a vertical yellow navigation bar with the UCF logo at the top and several icons below it, including a calendar icon with a blue notification bubble containing the number '159'. The discussion interface includes a search bar labeled 'Search entries or author', an 'Unread' button, and icons for visibility and download. Below these is a 'Reply' button. The main content area features a blue rectangular placeholder for a profile picture. The text of the discussion post reads: "This assignment was very enlightening. I wore the mask for a total of 5.5 hours yesterday only lifting it to eat once. It felt very hot and uncomfortable, although I have worn the mask while going out in public regularly, I hadn't yet experienced wearing it for that long of a continuous duration. I went to Publix to get groceries and had a more difficult time being understood by the people at the Deli department as well as at the cash register. I thanked those workers that I encountered who I realized have been wearing their masks all day long for quite some time now. The challenges presented were uncomfortable but somewhat predicted and I was humbled by having the experience, especially in light of the field that I am entering come August. I do feel a sense of responsibility to wear my mask any time that I am in public in order to do my part in protecting myself and those I encounter from any harm or risk of infection. I don't know the next time that I will have to wear it for that long of a spell but I think maybe I will know more of what to expect now." Below the text is another 'Reply' button.



# Community Interest

## Headlines:

New UCF class looks into lingering COVID-19 effects of those placed on ventilation

<https://www.wesh.com/article/new-ucf-class-looks-into-lingering-covid-19-effects-of-those-placed-on-ventilation/33372506>

New innovative course at UCF for speech pathologists to help Covid-19 patients

<https://www.wftv.com/news/video-new-innovative-course-ucf-speech-pathologists-help-covid-19-patients/JYEDEGPSJACQARHVC4EW2CG4XM/>



# Community Interest

## Headlines:

First-of-Its-Kind UCF Course Prepares Healthcare Experts for New COVID-19 Challenges

<https://www.mynews13.com/fl/orlando/coronavirus/2020/07/27/first-of-its-kind-ucf-course-prepares-healthcare-experts-for-new-covid-19-challenges>

UCF Develops a Course to Enhance the Care of Patients Recovering from COVID-19

<https://www.ucf.edu/news/ucf-develops-course-to-enhance-the-care-of-patients-recovering-from-covid-19/>

UCF as speech-pathology leader during the COVID-19 pandemic

[UCF as speech-pathology leader during the COVID-19 pandemic | Life | NSM.today \(nicholsonstudentmedia.com\)](https://nicholsonstudentmedia.com/life/ucf-as-speech-pathology-leader-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/)



UCF

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

College of Health  
Professions and Sciences

[healthprofessions.ucf.edu](https://healthprofessions.ucf.edu)

# Student Insights



<https://leader.pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/2020-0813-ashavoices-higher-ed-diversity-covid/full/>

Following the course: “The COVID course was one of the most beneficial courses to take, everything they did is something I am seeing in my full-time internship now.”

# The Future

This course and the bigger picture:

“While COVID-19 will eventually be downgraded from a pandemic, what is here to stay is how we train our healthcare providers to respond to these types of situations. This pandemic has forever changed how we deliver care. The course will meet both the short-term needs of the healthcare industry and strengthen the curriculum of future healthcare professionals at UCF.”

Bari Hoffman, Ph.D., CCC-SLP