

ADVANCED MASKING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers basic and advanced concepts and principles related to masking. It provides video supplements to help you with important concepts like cross-hearing and the occlusion effect. Topics include when and how to mask, undermasking, overmasking, and masking dilemmas, formula masking and more. Included with each lesson in the course are simulation practice cases with Theta, a hearing test simulator. Using Theta, users can practice and experience these concepts (like occlusion, cross-hearing, masking dilemmas, and more) on a simulated patient, and gain confidence in masking with practice hearing tests that simulate human-like responses to basic and advanced masking scenarios. This course goes beyond the basics as we explore and experience advanced concepts related to masking, such as an in-depth look at the masking plateau as well as the simultaneous sensation levels of the signal and the masker in the test and non-test ear. This course is the first and only available online course in the field to dive into these concepts while providing a way to experience and practice each concept using a state-of-the-art simulator.

CURRICULUM

1. Unit 1: Introduction to Concepts

- a. What is Masking
- b. Masing with Theta
- c. Masking sounds
- d. Crossover and interaural attenuation
- e. The occlusion effect
- f. Check your understanding

2. Unit 2: Making Procedures

- a. When to mask – air conductions
- b. How to mask – air conduction
- c. When to mask – bone conduction
- d. How to mask – bone conduction
- e. SRT masking
- f. WRS masing
- g. Check your understanding

3. Unit 3: Understanding the plateau

- a. Undermasking
- b. Effective masking
- c. Overmasking
- d. Masking dilemmas

4. Unit 4: Advanced masking concepts

- a. Formula masking
- b. Sensation levels
- c. Masking certification

5. Unit 5: Appendices

- a. Appendix 1: Keyboard shortcuts
- b. Appendix 2: Masking shortcuts

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. By completing this course, you will gain the theoretical knowledge necessary to conduct masking during tone and speech audiometry. This includes an understanding of cross-hearing, interaural attenuation, mechanisms of hearing (air and bone conduction), and sensation levels.
2. By completing this course, you will gain practical experience with air, bone, and speech masking. This includes identifying when masking is required on unmasked audiograms, selecting initial stimulus and masking levels, and performing plateau or other masking procedures as appropriate.
3. By completing this course, you will gain advanced insight into additional masking theory. This includes visualization of sensation levels in the test and non-test ear for air and bone conduction tones, considerations for speech masking with different configurations of hearing loss and the introduction of formula methods for masking.