

## **CAOHC- Approved Occupational Hearing Conservationist Certification Course**

**Online: April 12-14, 2021**

**Onsite (Davenport, IA): April 15, 2021**

**(Additional locations on request)**

**CAOHC Course Director Laura Kauth** presents a CAOHC-approved certification course for Occupational Hearing Conservationists. This 20 hour course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the basic components of hearing conservation in industrial settings and prepare participants to perform hearing testing and otherwise support their hearing conservation programs. This hybrid course provides 3 part-days of online instruction via Zoom, and a final day of hands-on, practical training. At the conclusion of the hands-on day, students will take the standardized CAOHC certification exam.

### **Covered topics include:**

- An overview of hearing conservation and the role of the Occupational Hearing Conservationist (OHC)
- Anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the ear
- Environmental factors which affect hearing health (including ototoxins and otoprotectants)
- Hearing and the physics of sound
- Noise measurement and control
- Audiometric equipment and testing procedures
- Audiometric maintenance and calibration
- Hearing test review, referral, and follow-up
- Federal and state regulations regarding hearing conservation
- Hearing protection device: types, purposes, fitting, and maintenance
- Education and motivation
- Recordkeeping

For further details on the curriculum, please visit: <http://www.caohc.org/occupational-hearing-conservationist/ohc-course-curriculum>

### **Additional resources:**

CAOHC offers both a Hearing Conservation Manual and a Study Guide for students. While class notes and presentations are designed to comprehensively cover hearing conservation in preparation for the certification exam, students may benefit from supplementing their course experience with one or both of these resources.

The CAOHC materials are available for order at: <http://www.caohc.org/educational-resources>

Note that the manual can also be ordered through the course director and picked up at the start of class to take advantage of CAOHC's course director discount; however, students may benefit from getting the manual in advance.

## **Certification Course Schedule**

### **Monday, April 12**

- 10:00 Introductions, CEU information
- 10:10 Hearing Conservation and Noise: an Introduction
- 10:45 Role of the Occupational Hearing Conservationist
- 11:30 Anatomy and Physiology of the Ears
- 12:15 Lunch
- 12:45 The Audiometer and the Test Environment
- 1:30 Audiometric Technique
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Physics of Sound and Hearing – *Guest speaker Matthew Nonnenmann*
- 4:00 Adjourn

### **Tuesday, April 13**

- 10:00 Regulations
- 11:15 Record-keeping
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Audiometric Equipment, Care, and Calibration –*Guest Speaker Brian Hough*
- 1:15 Audiometric Technique: Histories and Special Problems
- 2:00 Break
- 2:15 Audiogram Review: Referral and Follow up
- 3:15 Ototoxins and Otoprotectants
- 4:00 Adjourn

### **Wednesday, April 14**

- 10:00 Personal Hearing Protection
- 11:15 Education and Motivation
- 12:15 Lunch
- 12:45 Testing During the Pandemic: Discussion
- 1:15 Review
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Review
- 4:00 Adjourn

### **Thursday, April 15 (on site at the Village Theatre, Davenport)**

- 10:00 Otoscopy/ HPD practicum
- 11:00 Audiometric practicum
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:30 Audiometric Practicum/ practical exam
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 Last questions; exam prep
- 3:00 Exam

## About the Instructors:

**Laura Kauth:** The course director and primary instructor is Laura Kauth, MA, CPS/A. Laura has taught CAOHC courses since 2001 through the University of Iowa, the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council, and independently. She is an active member of the National Hearing Conservation Association, serving as President of that organization in 2012-2013. She has 20 years of experience as a professional supervisor for hearing conservation programs. Laura is committed to the effective prevention of hearing loss, and encourages students to consider her an ongoing resource in this important area of occupational health.

**Matthew Nonnenmann:** Hearing and Noise Measurement will be covered by Matt Nonnenmann, PhD, CIH. An Associate Professor at the University of Iowa College of Public Health (Department of Occupational and Environmental Health), Matt teaches courses on assessment of hazard from noise and other occupational exposures. His research interests focus on physical, chemical, and biological exposures among workers and families in agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries.

**Brian Hough:** Brian will be discussing audiometric equipment selection, maintenance, and repair. Brian has a background in audiology and trained at the University of Nebraska. He has worked in the instrumentation field for the past 14 years; as part of the Midwest Special Instruments team, he specializes in hearing testing equipment as well as other Occupational Health systems. Brian has been assisting with numerous CAOHC courses in the Nebraska and Iowa area for over 15 years, bringing his expertise in hearing testing and equipment to the class.

## Location:

The hands-on portion of the course will be held at the **Village Theatre**, located at  
**2113 E 11<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Davenport, IA 52803**

The Theatre offers ample space for distancing and robust ventilation. Parking is available on site. Class will run from 10 am to 4 pm each day (both online and the face-to-face), with breaks and lunch. Lunch is included in the course fee for the day. Neighboring Lindsey Park provides an inviting open space to take breaks (weather permitting).

Additional locations may include Des Moines and Cedar Falls; Please contact the course director if interested.

## Educational Credit:

The University of Iowa College of Nursing is Iowa Board of Nursing provider #1. With full attendance, 19.75 contact hours will be awarded.

## About the Exam:

The CAOHC online certification exam will be administered at the end of the class. **Students are responsible for providing their own laptop/tablet to access the exam.** The examination is a standardized form produced and graded by CAOHC, consistent with both American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards. Results are returned to the student via e-mail within 1-2 business days. In the event that a student does not pass the initial exam, there is a remotely proctored online retest. The class registration includes the CAOHC certification and exam fee; if a retest is needed, the first retest fee is waived.

## Cancellations:

In the event of significant changes in circumstances due to either COVID-19 or other severe circumstances, the face-to-face portion of this course may be rescheduled in a manner which best accommodates all students.

In the event that a student has been diagnosed with COVID-19, is experiencing symptoms, or is otherwise concerned about attending for COVID-19 related reasons, an alternate date for completion of the face-to-face portion will be scheduled, or a full refund will be provided. The priority is to limit spread of SARS-CoV-2, and every effort will be made to accommodate this priority, while completing student training.

Registrations which are cancelled for other reasons by April 2 will be refunded in full minus \$50; after that point, cancellations will be refunded 75% through April 9. No refund will be made after the course has commenced, except in case of emergency. Please contact the course director in that event.

## COVID-19 Measures:

To reduce risk and keep group size below ten, the face-to-face day will be capped at 8 attendees. If there is sufficient interest, additional face-to-face days and locations will be scheduled.

- Students will observe physical distancing as well as possible during all parts of the practicum.
- Masks are required. These may be cloth, medical, or higher grade. **Please remember to bring your own mask.**
- Restrooms adjacent to the class space provide for handwashing; hand sanitizer will also be provided.
- Sanitizing wipes for the audiometers, as well as earphone covers, will be provided.
- If you are experiencing respiratory issues, fever, or other symptoms**, please contact the Course Director to discuss scheduling an alternate date.

**Please contact Course Director Laura Kauth with any additional questions at (563) 499-6627, or email at [Lstkauth@gmail.com](mailto:Lstkauth@gmail.com).**

**This course is sponsored by the Heartland Center for Occupational Health & Safety.**



**Registration:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/ Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Any necessary accommodations? (ADA, Spanish test, etc):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Certification: April 12-15, 2021                      \$650

**Optional additions:**

CAOHC Hearing Conservation Manual              \$65

\_\_\_\_\_ CAOHC Study Guide                              \$10

**To pay via check (payable to Laura Kauth), mail registration and payment to:**

Laura Kauth  
PO Box 4181  
Davenport, IA 52808

**It is recommended that you confirm mailed registration via e-mail or phone.**

**For credit card transactions, please e-mail completed registration form to [Lstkauth@gmail.com](mailto:Lstkauth@gmail.com).**