

Course Testimonials... Here's what previous attendees had to say

“This course has given me more useful information in my treatment of dysphagia than any other single course I have attended in the past few years. I have been encountering so many patients with symptoms I felt were probably esophageal in origin and now I have the supporting documentation/research. I have started asking for an esophageal sweep during MBS studies.... especially in patients with an oral history of esophageal symptoms and have seen evidence to support underlying esophageal problems! I am also using the dietary recommendations in my hand-outs and find that even though patients may be on medication for reflux they are rarely given information on dietary/behavioral changes that may be helpful. Thanks!”

Marcia Austin MA, CCC-SLP (acute care and OP)

“Finally a wonderful course on esophageal dysphagia! I've been waiting for years for this information! Ms. Huffman is exceptionally informed about esophageal dysphagia, including current literature on the subject. She is also able to relate the information with knowledge and humor! I will find all of the information useful- it will add tremendously to my treatment of persons with swallowing disorders.”

Cindy Ellermeyer, SLP, Grove City Medical Center

“This was a very beneficial course that helped me broaden my horizons in dysphagia—it is so good, I took it twice! From taking this course previously I know that I look at every dysphagia evaluation from a different prospective. I am now able to recognize the classic symptoms of esophageal disorders and realize they may be the primary dysfunction, affecting the oropharyngeal function secondarily.”

Wendi Gibson, MA, CCC-SLP, Bristol, TN (acute care, homecare)

“I want to tell you what a superb job you did on the esophageal swallow course at Rex last month. You were worth the trip! Been singing your praises since I returned. Think you're the only one out there that actually goes in depth on esophageal swallow. Attended a Bedside and MBS review in Baltimore over the weekend – just to see what else was out there. No where NEAR anything you present, naturally. You speak to the SLP. Your info was solid, educational, and the furthest from redundant. You speak to the medical professional – and you do it beautifully! But Raleigh's a long haul! Please let me know when you get closer to DC, Baltimore. Want to return to hear a replay. So much info – too little time!”

Susan I. Wranik Associates, L.L.C., Baltimore, MD

“I am in the process of digesting (pun intended) all the wonderful information from last weekend (and will be for a while). In retrospect, the importance and implications for going "beyond the cricopharyngeus" is JUST HUGE!! Thank you for all the years, time, effort, and I'm sure sacrifice, you have invested to bringing your work/research to fruition: at least to this point...(I'm sure it's not finished). Most of all, thank you for your *willingness* to share with the "rest of us." Our profession, each of us and our patients/residents (your beneficiaries), are far, far richer now than ever before given the invaluable "tools" and insights you have so graciously provided. Pray we use them judiciously and efficaciously. I

look forward to "part 2." I just wanted to let you know that your workshop was most appreciated and just awesome!!!!

Lonnie Marsh, Greensboro, NC

"The course content was so applicable for acute care SLPs. Julie was a super engaging speaker, knowledgeable, incredibly funny, and encouraged participants to ask questions. This was, without a doubt, the BEST course I have taken and I have done over 75 hours in the past year!" *Anonymous*

"Julie has extensive knowledge and experience. She provided new insight into common disorders I see every day. I feel new enthusiasm and expertise I can share with patients and colleagues. It was an excellent presentation in every way!" *Anonymous*

"As a public school SLP for ECSE, I believe the information I obtained from this course will help me serve my more involved students with dysphagia. Julie has great resources provided in her course." *Jane F. Ledbetter*

"From every perspective, this course ranks as the best I have attended and I have attended more than I can recall. I can think of some MD friends of mine that could benefit from this course. You might consider that in your marketing. Great job, Julie."

Bertrand Reese, Margate, FL

"Julie, the conference was amazing. The handouts were awesome. We really feel like we got a ton of reusable resources that are extremely valuable. I have had all of the staff come to me and comment on how much they got out of it. Lots of ideas and programmatic changes may come soon! We just had a new group of GI doc join Shepherd and we were able to go to the meet and greet with them yesterday....threw around power words like LPR, manometry, transnasal esophagoscopy, and impedance testing :o) Thank you."

Jennifer Douglas, Shepherd Center, Atlanta, GA

"Very thorough presentation of the function of the esophagus and how it relates to oropharyngeal functioning. This course was excellent. Ms. Huffman invested a great deal of time getting together the many useful handouts. Before I took this seminar, my knowledge of the esophagus would have filled a thimble; it would easily now fill a 12 oz Budweiser can!"

Dan White, Assistant Director/ Speech- Pathologist, CMC, Crossville, TN

"Julie presented in a professional manner, yet was funny and able to captivate interest for 8 hours both days! Her knowledge base is most impressive and refreshing. The content is excellent and has not been covered in the general dysphagia seminars/ conferences. This is the best course I have attended! Content is useful, has practical application and good examples were provided. My recommendations will certainly change as I delve into the responsibility I have regarding the esophageal function of the swallowing process. Thank you, Julie!"

Theresa Paules, Evangelical Community Hospital, PA

“You have so much knowledge to share. I don’t know if this information is available anywhere else. It should definitely be part of the master’s curriculum! Your handouts are excellent. I will certainly view all of my dysphagia patients in a new light!”

Melissa Miller, Valley View Home, LTC

“I need to say how much I appreciate the information you shared with us. I felt so empowered today when I went back to work!”

Kenya Taylor, Greenville, SC (skilled-nursing)

“Julie, Great course I can't remember being involved in one that I enjoyed more. Anxious to put that knowledge to work and check out more info. Thanks!”

Connie McGahey, Greenville, SC (skilled nursing)

“I wouldn’t change a thing. The best presenter and presentation ever! Thanks for a wonderful conference and great handouts”

Barbara Shaw

“Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to educate other SLPs with your incredible knowledge. People like you, Julie, not only promote the competency of the overall speech profession, but also advocate for the patients/ residents functionality of life! Thank you”

Erin Brown, Lancaster General Hospital, PA

“This was one of the most rewarding and clinically functional courses I have attended. It was excellent!”

Amanda Dean

“This was an excellent course. The subject matter was truly cutting-edge.” *anonymous*

“Personality, personality! Julie is such a pleasant person with a great sense of humor. I enjoyed her expertise in this area and sharing personal experiences as well as case studies, thank you, thank you” *Anonymous*

“The instructor presented evidence based information with an excellent bibliography for further use. I have rarely attended a course where the instructor was so well informed. Thank you so much for all of your hard work and research.” *Anonymous*

“This was a great course! Very informative- almost too much information to digest, but you’ve provided a great resource binder to assist with carryover of information. Your presentation manner was fabulous! You are very easy to listen to and kept the audience engaged. Your passion for the field was easily detected during your presentation.”

Anonymous

“Both days of this course were great. Julie is fabulous. There have been so many courses where the time has just d-r-a-g-g-e-d on and I could not wait to get out- I have to say I wish this course was longer! I learned so much! I cannot wait to return to work and share and apply what I have learned with fellow SLPs, MDs and Radiologists... and my patients!

Anonymous

“Practical, useful information distributed; not much, if any ‘theory’. Thank you! ... No suggestions, great course! I hope Rex Hospital realizes how fortunate they are to have Julie on staff, very knowledgeable and well-read.” *Anonymous*

“The content is very valuable. I am looking forward to implementing the information and changing the way I do MBS and looking closer at the studies and my recommendations. Is there any way I can go back and repeat the last 5 years of MBS I have completed?!?! Thank you! *Anonymous*

“Working in DD, this course confirmed what we have been dealing with with GERD/LPR, but gave us a tremendous amount of information to support the assessment for esophageal problems and assess for GERD especially when we don’t always get the support of our medical staff. I’m so glad that FINALLY someone is addressing esophageal dysphagia! Case studies; FEES and MBS videos were excellent and really helped to understand the info and visualize problems that were discussed.” *Anonymous*

“Forward thinking with research to back up her practice- I think Julie is ahead of her times and very nice to be a part of the learning this information.” *Anonymous*

“Finally a course appropriate for therapists who actually work in the medical setting! “I loved everything! Best course I have ever been to. The instructor was very knowledgeable, open to questions, etc...” *anonymous*

“Loved the real-life clinical examples and practical application- great info! Thanks for enlightening us and challenging us to really think about how we are making decisions. Also, thanks for empowering us to look below the pharynx!” *Anonymous*

“I wish I had ½ of you knowledge and ability to apply that knowledge to treatment. Wonderful course- great presenter! *Anonymous*

“I loved all of this course. I have a new way of thinking and a new approach that I will begin to integrate in my dysphagia therapy starting Monday. I think all SLPs should take this course so we can all get ‘on the same page.’” *Anonymous*

“I appreciated Julie’s extensive knowledge and ability to share it, including her enthusiasm and strong SLP advocacy.” *anonymous*

“Great course! I found the information on PEGs/ NGs, tube-feeding, drug, list of xerostomia product very helpful!” *Anonymous*

“The hand out was excellent... excellent course!” *anonymous*

“The course was great- well organized with tons of examples. Great presentation. A super workshop.” *anonymous*

“Excellent combination of clinical and research literature for evidenced- based practice.” *anonymous*

“Much needed information. A very functional presentation with very useful/ reproducible materials.” *anonymous*

“Excellent information and application to all my patients; great use of films and case studies. Excellent references and handouts. The course was great!” *anonymous*

“I learned so much about reflux, LPR that I never connected before. The course was awesome!” *anonymous*

“This course covered something new that we should have covered as professionals a long time ago.” *Anonymous*

“Superb knowledge base on the part of the presenter. Excellent content and presentation. Great FEES and MBS examples. Terrific information. Please “go on the road” with this one. Its information our profession really needs. Excellent workshop, thank you!” *anonymous*

“I felt this course was wonderful! I appreciate all of the articles cited and diversity of information provided.” *anonymous*

“Great to see this topic finally being taught. I have been known as the ‘GERD lady’ for years, but never had the research info to back me up. Outstanding!” *Anonymous*

“Present at NCSLHA or ASHA please!” *Anonymous*

“Julie’s letter to the radiologists was so helpful. I loved all of it! Especially the way the efficacy based information is provided in a short, direct way. It’s the best conference I’ve been to in 5 years! Great Job!” *anonymous*

“As knowledgeable as the presenter is, a short course at ASHA would benefit other SLP’s in the field that are not on the same page.” *anonymous*

“All the while I thought that dysphagia was mostly oropharyngeal. This course gives me a whole new perspective.” *anonymous*

“An excellent presentation of previously known and unknown information. This is a great course for even the veteran dysphagia practitioner.” *Anonymous*

“I found the information provided essential material to better serve my patients. I will definitely look at other potential areas before making my treatment plans and recommendations.” *anonymous*

“Wow, a lot of new information I have never been exposed to before. Your friendly, upbeat personality made it easy to listen to! All information given was research based.... Great!” *Anonymous*

“Julie was very personable and knowledgeable which made the course great!” *Anonymous*

“I actually learned new information to use with patients and directly impact my delivery of care... Wonderful!” *anonymous*

“You gave timely information straight to the current practice needs and shook up some former training. It is always good to stand back, re-evaluate basic practice and continue learning.” *anonymous*

“This information, which has been out there for years, is finally being applied to us as swallowing specialists. Thank you for bridging the gap.” *anonymous*

“The course was fabulous! I feel I have been missing the boat on a lot of patients.” *anonymous*

“I will now recognize s/s and treatment approaches to LPR/GERD. There are some patients that do not improve no matter what you do. Now I know why. I feel this course will make me a better SLP.” *Anonymous*

“Very interesting and exciting course! I now understand the impact of the esophageal stage of swallowing on oropharyngeal function. Every SLP needs to take this course.” *Anonymous*

“The binder, reproducible handouts and references were excellent.” *Anonymous*

“Every aspect of this course was great. I have to rethink what I’m doing and develop new policies and procedures. Handouts were excellent and very practical.” *Anonymous*

“New information! Extremely in-depth! Speaker was informative, pleasant and entertaining. Two days and I was definitely not bored!” *anonymous*

“I loved this course, I am so glad I was able to attend.” *Anonymous*

“So much new information- stimulating and well presented. The workbook is so well organized.” *Anonymous*

“This course opened my eyes to a new way of thinking. Although it makes me nervous, I feel like I have learned so much and my confidence will grow. I wish both the SLPs at our facility could have come.” *Anonymous*

“This course was excellent. I was extremely impressed with your knowledge! Your determination to be a “top grade” therapist is evident. You have inspired me! You are a great presenter! *Anonymous*

“Instructor is extremely knowledgeable and very good at teaching- very accessible and funny as well as thorough and sharp. Lots of examples to illustrate material. Really an excellent course- one of the best I’ve attended.” *Anonymous*

"I really liked how Julie incorporated a very holistic approach to treating the patient with dysphagia considering concomitant medical issues..." *Anonymous*

"Lots of GREAT info that I will use EVERY day in my work. I came to your course about 8 or more years ago and wanted a refresher. It was EVEN BETTER this time!!" *Anonymous*

"I could listen to this stuff all day! I really liked how extensive the references were and the quality of handouts/ addendum. I am fascinated by esophageal dysphagia and the influence on the oropharynx. I thought I knew a fair amount coming in- but the quality and breadth of the presentation was fantastic. I learned a lot." *Anonymous*

"This course was so wonderful and my brain is so happy and full- I can't think of a thing I would change! This is the best and most useful course I have ever taken. Thank you!" *Anonymous*

"The instructor was both supremely knowledgeable and extraordinarily competent. Thank you for your independence of thought. Your example of persistence and self-delineation of approach and content was inspiring." *Anonymous*

"Excellent course. Should be part of our Master's program curriculum!" *Anonymous*
"*My favorite part of this course was the content, this will be immediately applicable to my practice, and Julie, you are and amazing and engaging presenter!*"

"*Julie you are amazing! Don't stop teaching- so many SLPs need this information.*"

"*Literally everything! I can't think of one piece of information in this course that I won't use. Once my brain is fully functioning again, i'll send you a more thoughtful review because I want everyone to take this course.*"

"*The presenter was extremely knowledgeable. She answered questions clearly and concisely. Material presented demonstrates hours of preparation and was up to date with current research.*"

"*No criticisms, Best course ever!*"

"*Really enjoyed the course and excited to teach my co-workers what I learned!*"

"*Loved the RFS exercise and case studies!*"

"*Enjoyed your passion and personality, as well as your expertise of course. Thank You!*"

"*Julie is a great teacher! Very personable and entertaining!*"

"*This was a fantastic course. It was very adult oriented.*"

"*This was very helpful! Loved practicing the reflex scale.*"

“Rare to find CEU’s on this topic but extremely important and applicable to daily practice.”

“Fantastic, Great teacher, approachable, relatable, and knowledgeable!”

“Time goes fast because the content is so interesting. Love the case examples, and anecdotes!”

“I never knew how much the esophagus could negatively affect the pharyngeal stage. Your sink analogy ha a “light bulb” affect.”

“Best conference I have been to in a very long time!”

“This will change the way I approach/treat and make referrals collaboratively with other health professionals!”

The course was brilliant! Very informative and clinically relevant!