Communication Sciences and Disorders

Chair
  • Carolyn J. Brown

Undergraduate major: speech and hearing science (B.A.)
Undergraduate minor: communication sciences and disorders
Graduate degrees: M.A. in speech pathology and audiology; Au.D.; Ph.D. in speech and hearing science
Faculty: https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/people
Website: https://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/

The courses and degree programs of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are designed to meet the needs of students preparing for careers in clinical service, college and university teaching, and research concerned with speech, language and/or hearing processes and disorders. The department also offers courses for students with vocational and professional goals in other fields—for example, engineering, psychology, education, speech, theatre arts, dentistry, and medicine—whose preparation may be enriched by the study of speech and hearing processes and their disorders.

Advanced degree holders in communication sciences and disorders provide clinical services for people with speech, hearing, or language problems in hospitals, community clinics, rehabilitation facilities, elementary and secondary schools, and private practice. They teach in colleges and universities and conduct research in laboratories concerned with communication processes and disorders.

The department's programs leading to the M.A. with professional emphasis and the Au.D. are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

Programs

Undergraduate Programs of Study

Major
  • Major in Speech and Hearing Science (Bachelor of Arts)
Minor
  • Minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Graduate Programs of Study

Majors
  • Master of Arts in Speech Pathology and Audiology
  • Doctor of Audiology
  • Doctor of Philosophy in Speech and Hearing Science

Facilities

Clinical Facilities

The clinical training program benefits greatly from Iowa City's standing as the most comprehensive health sciences center in Iowa and from the ready availability of health service facilities for clinical training of students in speech-language pathology and audiology.

The University of Iowa Affiliated Speech and Hearing Services include the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic; the division of speech and hearing in University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics (UIHC) Department of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery; UIHC Consolidated Speech and Swallowing Services, which provides services to the Departments of Neurology and Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery; child psychiatry speech and hearing services in the Center for Disabilities and Development; and the audiology and speech pathology service in the Iowa City VA Health Care System.

The Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic serves the University and the general public. Included in its services are outpatient evaluation and rehabilitation programs for speech, voice, swallowing, hearing, and language problems; intensive summer camps in stuttering, a six-week summer preschool program for hearing-impaired children, and group therapy for children working on speech sounds. These clinical programs give students supervised clinical experience with a wide variety of speech, hearing, and language disorders.

In addition to the clinical training in the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic, training also may be acquired in supervised clinical practice with elementary school children through various state area education agencies; and in supervised clinical practice in speech, language, and hearing services provided by University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics Consolidated Speech and Swallowing Services, the Regional Child Health Specialty Clinics, Center for Disabilities and Development, and the Iowa City VA Health Care System.

Public and private departments and programs in addition to those mentioned above often contribute to the cooperative professional training, research, and service programs.

Research Facilities

The Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Center includes facilities for clinical diagnosis and intervention (audiometric testing suites, diagnostic and remediation suites for speech-language intervention, and a classroom video recording system), as well as state-of-the-art facilities for research (audiologic, psychoacoustic, and neurophysiologic studies of hearing; acoustic, physiologic, and perceptual studies of speech and voice; electroencephalography and eye-tracking studies of real-time language processing; and computers and recording equipment for the administration of language production experiments).

Collaboration with departments in the Carver College of Medicine, the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, and the University of Iowa DeLTA Center makes additional laboratory facilities available for research on problems in speech and hearing. The participation and cooperation of specialists from varied fields, including psychology, child development, education, engineering, statistics, and medicine, further broaden the scope of research activities in speech, language, and hearing.
Courses

Communication Sciences and Disorders Courses

CSD:1000 First-Year Seminar 1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

CSD:1015 Introduction to Speech and Hearing Processes and Disorders 2 s.h.
Introduction to communication sciences and disorders field; clinical and research works; wide range of readings; survey course with less emphasis on specific disorders.

CSD:1200 Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities 3 s.h.
Introduction and overview of issues pertaining to children and adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD); focus on their communication needs, relationship with the broader community, and careers which serve this population; interaction with individuals with IDD, their family members, professionals; lifespan and health issues, genetics, diagnosis, literacy, historical perspectives, adaptive arts and theater, disabilities in the media, social life and sexuality, issues specifically relevant to aging, and controversial topics. GE: Diversity and Inclusion.

CSD:1800 Aging Matters: Introduction to Gerontology 3 s.h.
Overview of the field of gerontology from a bio-psycho-social framework; how the human body and brain age, effects of these biological changes on physical and cognitive functions, and interaction of these individual factors with societal contexts; broad perspective to give students a foundation in gerontology, paving the way for more advanced courses in biology of aging, psychology of aging, and global aging; for students from a wide range of disciplines and levels, no prior knowledge of aging required. GE: Social Sciences. Same as ASP:1800, NURS:1800, SSW:1800, TR:1800.

CSD:2110 Phonetics: Theory and Applications 3 s.h.
Basic concepts: articulatory and acoustic description of speech sound production, dialect variations, and language differences; development of phonetic transcription skills with emphasis on English phonetics and clinical applications to developing and disordered speech.

CSD:2111 Basic Acoustics for Speech and Hearing 3 s.h.
Principles of sound, simple harmonic motion, sound pressure and intensity, decibels, complex waves, Fourier analysis, resonance and filters, distortion, transmission of sound. Requirements: completion of departmental math requirement (MATH:1440 or MATH:1460 or MATH:1850).

CSD:2140 Manual Communication 1 s.h.
Training in use of sign systems in manual communication.

CSD:3097 Honors Seminar 2 s.h.
Research topics and procedures in speech and hearing sciences; ongoing faculty research, research opportunities, possible research projects. Requirements: honors standing with intent to complete an honors thesis.

CSD:3112 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Production 4 s.h.
Normal anatomy and physiology of structures used to produce speech; principles and methods for instrumental study of speech production.

CSD:3113 Introduction to Hearing Science 4 s.h.
Normal auditory process; anatomy and physiology of auditory system; subjective correlates of auditory stimuli.

CSD:3116 Basic Neuroscience for Speech and Hearing 3 s.h.
Basic anatomy, physiology of central nervous system; emphasis on neural systems involved in normal and disordered communication. Offered fall semesters. Requirements: biology, zoology, or physiology course. Same as LING:3116.

CSD:3117 Psychology of Language 3 s.h.
Introduction to scientific study of language use; language approached from a multidisciplinary perspective, integrating theories and methods of psycholinguistics, neuropsychology, and communication sciences and disorders. GE: Social Sciences. Same as LING:3117.

CSD:3118 Language Acquisition 1-3 s.h.

CSD:3122 Speech Production: Anatomy and Physiology 4 s.h.
Anatomy and physiology of respiratory, phonatory, and articulatory systems; systems’ roles during speech production; approaches to instrumental assessment of speech physiologic events. Requirements: nonmajor.

CSD:3185 Hearing Loss and Audiology 3 s.h.
Introduction to profession of audiology; overview of hearing disorders, evaluation, and treatment; basic pure-tone and speech audiometry.

CSD:3187 Early Literacy Instruction for Young Children 3 s.h.
Service-learning involving lecture, class discussion, and student participation in an early literacy program for preschoolers; concepts and skills necessary to conduct story time groups with young children that target development of print knowledge; application of learning by reading to small groups of preschool children. Recommendations: CSD:3118. Same as EDTL:3187.

CSD:3993 Research Practicum arr.
Individual or small group participation in faculty research projects.

CSD:4098 Honors Thesis 2 s.h.
Close work with a faculty mentor.

CSD:4114 Introduction to Voice Disorders 2 s.h.
Basic foundations for management of voice disorders.

CSD:4115 Structural Disorders 2 s.h.
Therapy approaches used to treat speech production and swallowing disorders associated with disorders that affect structure and physiology of the speech and swallowing mechanism; basic knowledge necessary for clinical practice by clinicians who do not specialize in management of patients with head and neck cancer, cleft palate, or neurological disorders.
CSD:4120 Introduction to Clinical Methods and Observation 3 s.h.
Observation of the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of speech, language, or hearing disorders in a variety of settings; basic understanding of evaluation process, goal setting, behavior management, pacing of therapy, shaping of behavior, tracking performance/learning, and professional and ethical behavior through observation of clinical interactions; completion of 25 hours of observation as required by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for obtaining national certification. Recommendations: senior or graduate standing in communication sciences and disorders.

CSD:4145 Developmental Language Disorders 3 s.h.
Nature of developmental disorders; basic concepts including behavioral characteristics, developmental patterns, and etiology theories; assessment and intervention principles in semantics, morphology, and syntax.

CSD:4148 Developmental Speech Disorders 3 s.h.
Review of typical phonological development in children; introduction to assessment and intervention practices for articulation and phonological disorders in children; may include apraxia, cerebral palsy, and cleft palate.

CSD:4165 Communication Disorders and Aging 2 s.h.
Introduction to speech, language, and hearing processes and disorders among older adults; survey of characteristics of communication and communication breakdown, remediation, and strategies for improving communication with older adults with communication disorders; primarily for nonmajors and service providers other than speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Same as ASP:4165.

CSD:4183 Introduction to Stuttering 2 s.h.
Theoretical perspectives on the nature of stuttering including onset and development, basic phenomena, and beginning treatment principles.

CSD:4186 Problems: Speech/Hearing Processes and Disorders arr.
Independent readings or research experience through mutual arrangement between student and faculty; goals and requirements determined by participating faculty member.

CSD:4244 Rehabilitative Audiology 3 s.h.
Theory, procedures for assessment, and rehabilitation of speech, hearing, and language deficits of people with hearing impairment.

CSD:5104 Language Disorders in School-Aged Children 3 s.h.
Emphasis on elementary grades; usually taken in conjunction with EDTL:4192, which provides approximately 70 hours of supervised clinical practice in elementary schools. Recommendations: primarily for communication sciences and disorders majors. Same as EDTL:5104.

CSD:5135 Foundations of Clinical Practice I 2 s.h.
Basic concepts of clinical practice including models of diagnosis, fundamentals of clinical data collection and measurement, treatment planning, and professional writing. Corequisites: CSD:4145.

CSD:5136 Foundations of Clinical Practice II 1 s.h.
Advanced concepts of clinical practice including professionalism, clinical decision making, developing client-clinician alliance, examining biases and prejudices in clinical practice, and developing empathy.

CSD:5137 Foundations of Clinical Practice III 1 s.h.
Advanced principles of clinical practice including risk management, public policy, and models of third-party reimbursement; professional issues.

CSD:5146 Neurogenic Disorders of Language 3 s.h.
Overview of communication disorders secondary to acquired brain damage in adults; focus on aphasia, communication disorders arising from dementia, right-hemisphere stroke, traumatic brain injuries; general principles of diagnosis and intervention.

CSD:5203 Counseling in Communication Disorders 1 s.h.
Development of appropriate intervention plans that meet client/patient needs in collaboration with client/patient and relevant others; communicating effectively and recognizing needs, values, preferred mode of communication, and cultural linguistic background of client/patient, family, caregivers, relevant others; providing counseling to clients/patients, family, and caregivers regarding communication and swallowing disorders.

CSD:5206 Language Disorders: Birth to Five Years 3 s.h.
Disorders resulting from phonological, semantic, pragmatic, and morphosyntactic deficits; receptive and expressive problems; special assessment and intervention procedures.

CSD:5213 Voice Habilitation 2 s.h.
Application of methods of intervention in development, training, rehabilitation of vocal behavior; motor learning, efficacy of treatment strategies, factors affecting compliance with recommended therapy. Offered fall semesters. Same as MUS:5555.

CSD:5219 Fundamentals of Laboratory Instrumentation 2 s.h.
Introduction to instrumentation commonly used in research in speech and hearing sciences; basic audiometric calibration.

CSD:5222 Gross Anatomy of Speech/Voice Production 2 s.h.
Anatomy of speech and hearing mechanisms; instruction in dissection techniques; laboratory.

CSD:5223 Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Disorders 1 s.h.
Development of anatomy and physiology of feeding and swallowing in infants and children; assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding and swallowing disorders. Prerequisites: CSD:4115.

CSD:5224 System and Signal Theory for Speech and Hearing Science 3 s.h.
Introduction to signals and systems with emphasis on their relevance to the fields of audiology and speech-language pathology. Requirements: introductory calculus.

CSD:5233 Aphasia 2 s.h.
Assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of aphasia and other acquired language and cognition-based communication disorders. Corequisites: CSD:5136. Requirements: CSD:5146 or a course that provides an overview of acquired language disorders.

CSD:5234 Acquired Cognitive-Communication Disorders arr.
Cognitive, neuropsychological, and social aspects of communication and the management of acquired cognitive-communication disorders associated with traumatic brain injury, right hemisphere damage, and neurodegenerative diseases.

CSD:5236 Neurogenic Disorders of Speech and Swallowing 3 s.h.
Provides future speech-pathologists with a strong foundation for career-long learning about the nature and classification of neurogenic motor-speech and swallowing disorders, symptomatology, etiology, diagnosis, treatment, and management options.
CSD:5237 Cleft Palate and Related Disorders 2 s.h.

CSD:5240 Hearing Aids I 3 s.h.
Hearing aids and diagnostic procedures; laboratory emphasis on measurement procedures.

CSD:5246 Advanced Audiology 3 s.h.
Theory and procedures for assessment of hearing loss in adult and pediatric populations; experience in test administration through supervised laboratory sessions.

CSD:5253 Speech Perception in Listeners with Hearing Loss 1-2 s.h.
Introduction to study of speech perception in listeners with normal hearing and those with hearing loss; overview of speech acoustics; theories of speech perception; contributions of auditory, visual, and indexical (talker-specific) information in speech signal; assessment techniques; benefits of hearing aid and/or cochlear implant use; factors influencing speech perception by children and adults with hearing loss.

CSD:5255 Educational Audiology 2 s.h.
Training in skills necessary for working with school-age population; case management and aural rehabilitation, amplification and classroom hearing technology, identification and assessment practices, federal legislation that affects services. Requirements: CSD:5240 for Au.D. students.

CSD:5256 Anatomy and Physiology of Hearing 3-4 s.h.
Anatomy of auditory system, cochlear mechanics, and electrophysiology of peripheral and central auditory nervous system; laboratory emphasis on physiological techniques for study of ear.

CSD:5260 Augmentative and Alternative Communication 2 s.h.
Theories, assessment, and intervention in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) for individuals with severe communication disorders resulting from a variety of developmental and acquired conditions.

CSD:5282 Phonological Development and Disorders 2 s.h.
Advanced topics in phonological development and disorders; current theoretical approaches to phonological analysis and typical phonological acquisition applied to assessment and intervention with children who have phonological disorders.

CSD:5283 Clinical Problems 1-2 s.h.
Issues and approaches to treatment of children and adults.

CSD:5301 Practicum: Speech-Language Pathology arr.

CSD:5304 Speech Pathology Outplacement: School 0-4 s.h.
Supervised teaching and observation in speech-language pathology in an elementary school setting.

CSD:5305 Speech Pathology Outplacement: Non-School 0-4 s.h.
Supervised clinical work and observation in speech-language pathology in a non-school setting.

CSD:5310 Scientific Writing 2 s.h.
Principles of writing for scientific posters, journal articles, grant proposals; effective communication of concepts and data. Requirements: Ph.D. standing.

CSD:5311 Audiology Clinic Management and Community Engagement 2 s.h.
Variety of professional issues important to clinical practice; incorporates professional and community engagement as well as service learning; topics directly related to clinical work and covered by clinical faculty and guest speakers with special expertise in each area; student presentations. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. enrollment.

CSD:5313 Accounting and Marketing in Audiology Business Practice 2 s.h.
Introduction to business aspects of developing and managing an audiology practice related to accounting and marketing; varied professional issues important to clinical practice; topics covered by clinical faculty and guest speakers with special expertise in each area; student presentations. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. enrollment.

CSD:5314 Audiology Student Teaching arr.

CSD:5315 Clinical Rotations in Audiology arr.

CSD:5316 Professional, Ethical, and Legal Issues in Audiology Business Practice 2 s.h.
Introduction to business aspects of developing and managing an audiology practice related to professional liability, certification, and licensure; legal and ethical issues in business practice; varied professional issues important to clinical practice; topics directly related to clinical work and covered by clinical faculty and guest speakers with special expertise in each area; student presentations. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. enrollment.

CSD:5317 Compliance, Billing, Coding, and Reimbursement in Audiology Business Practice 2 s.h.
Introduction to business aspects of developing and managing an audiology practice related to compliance, billing, coding, and reimbursement; varied professional issues important to clinical practice; topics covered by clinical faculty and guest speakers with special expertise in each area; student presentations. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. enrollment.

CSD:5320 Applied Statistics and Principles of Evidence-Based Practice in Audiology 3 s.h.
Combination of applied statistics and principles of evidence-based clinical practice with emphasis on applications in audiology and hearing science; review of statistical techniques widely used in audiology research including nonparametric and descriptive statistics, correlation, regression, and ANOVA; examples taken from studies published in scientific journals in communication sciences and disorders; principles of evidence-based practice that focus on topics and methods of establishing treatment efficacy, meta analyses, levels of evidence, and methods of assessing research quality. Requirements: introductory course in statistics.

CSD:5350 Seminar in Supervision 1 s.h.
Process and procedures in clinical education and supervision in a graduate program.
CSD:5511 Introduction to Doctoral Research 1 s.h.
Topics related to development and execution of research; doctoral program, use of library, human and animal subject issues, philosophy of science, use of common research tools, reading and writing research papers, and research grant preparation.

CSD:6101 Cognitive Science of Language Proseminar I 3 s.h.
Survey of five major disciplines within language sciences: formal linguistic, communication disorders, psychological, neuroscience, and computational approaches. Requirements: graduate standing in communication sciences and disorders, linguistics, psychology, or neuroscience. Same as LING:6101, PSY:6101.

CSD:6102 Cognitive Science of Language Proseminar II 3 s.h.
Survey of five major disciplines within language sciences: formal linguistic, communication disorders, psychological, neuroscience, and computational approaches. Requirements: graduate standing in communication sciences and disorders, linguistics, psychology, or neuroscience. Same as LING:6102, PSY:6102.

CSD:6202 Methods of Teaching Voice 3 s.h.
Attitude, musicianship, foreign language aptitude, physical and emotional characteristics; mental images used to modify respiratory, phonatory, articulatory behavior; vocal hygiene; performance anxiety; student-teacher relationships; administration in vocal schools, professional organizations. Same as MUS:6520.

CSD:6230 Psychoacoustics 2 s.h.
Basic properties of auditory perception or psychoacoustics from material covered in CSD:5256; perception of loudness, masking frequency selectivity, temporal processing, and spatial perception; basic perceptual properties, methods of measurement, and physiological basis for performance; properties of perception in normal ears, hearing impairment, and auditory prostheses (e.g., cochlear implants).

CSD:6242 Hearing Aids II 3 s.h.
Evaluation and verification procedures; emphasis on advanced technologies and strategies.

CSD:6245 Pediatric Audiology 1,3 s.h.
Theory and procedures for assessment and rehabilitation of pediatric populations; laboratory emphasis on test administration.

CSD:6247 Medical Audiology 2 s.h.
Review of a wide range of pathologic conditions that have an impact on hearing; focus on understanding the underlying pathophysiology and how the disorder is diagnosed and treated.

CSD:6249 Cochlear Implants 1-3 s.h.
Introduction to cochlear implants; history of cochlear implantation, introduction to cochlear implant technology, basics of device programming and troubleshooting, candidacy issues, outcomes in children and adults; auditory rehabilitation specific to cochlear implant recipients.

CSD:6290 Auditory Evoked Potentials 3 s.h.
Introduction to the wide range of electrophysiologic measures of auditory function used in clinical practice.

CSD:6291 Vestibular Assessment 2 s.h.
Introduction to vestibular anatomy, physiology theory, and testing techniques.

CSD:6292 Advanced Rehabilitative Audiology 2 s.h.
Current and developing procedures for assessment and habilitation of adults and children with hearing losses.

CSD:6293 Vestibular Rehabilitation 2 s.h.
Introduction to vestibular management and rehabilitation.

CSD:6311 Professional Issues in Audiology 1 s.h.
Information on a variety of professional issues important to clinical practice; topics directly related to clinical work; written assignments required as a means for students to reflect on and share clinical experiences related to topics. Corequisites: CSD:6316. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. fourth-year enrollment.

CSD:6316 Advanced Externship in Audiology arr.

CSD:6317 Audiology Practice: Business Start-Up and Interprofessional Practice 1 s.h.
Introduction to business aspects of developing and managing an audiology practice related to business start-up as well as short- and long-range business planning; interprofessional education and practice; interprofessional education/interprofessional practice (IPE/IPP) training focuses on students’ collaboration with multiple service providers from other professions in order to improve outcomes for individuals, families, and/or communities served; topics are covered by clinical faculty and guest speakers with special expertise in each area; presentations by students. Requirements: M.A. professional emphasis or Au.D. enrollment.

CSD:6318 Occupational Audiology 2 s.h.
Incidence and prevalence of hearing loss; risk factors and assessment; noise exposure guidelines; hearing protection devices; education and motivation.

CSD:6515 Professional Seminar 0 s.h.
Weekly presentation of research projects, ideas, and clinical initiatives by faculty, students, and guests; required for Ph.D., Au.D., and M.A.-SLP first-year graduate students.

CSD:6519 Seminar: Evidence-Based Practice 2 s.h.
Introduction to design and conduct of research and evidence-based clinical practice. Offered fall semesters. Recommendations: clinical graduate standing in audiology or speech-language pathology.

CSD:6538 Seminar: Hearing Science 1 s.h.
Varied topics related to auditory function, assessment, and rehabilitation; discussion based.

CSD:7238 Capstone Requirement 1 s.h.
Work with a faculty mentor to complete a project that focuses on an area of student’s interest.

CSD:7590 Research arr.
Individual laboratory research training in speech-language pathology or audiology.