Speech and Hearing Science, BA

Honors in the Major

The departmental honors program provides students the opportunity to conduct research in the field of communication sciences and disorders, gain experience presenting research ideas in public settings, and work closely with a faculty mentor.

In order to be eligible, students must have a cumulative and major grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.60 at the end of the spring semester of their sophomore year, when top-ranking eligible students will be invited to apply for the program. Interested students should complete and return the application. A limited number of spots are available, based on the availability of mentors. Applications will be reviewed, and a select number of students will be admitted to the program.

After entering the departmental honors program, students enroll in CSD:3097 Honors Seminar in the fall semester of their junior year. The seminar provides an introduction to research philosophies, research design and implementation, and a chance for each student to critically evaluate existing research literature. In addition, the seminar provides an introduction to the department’s research facilities and potential thesis advisors.

By the beginning of the spring semester of their junior year, students will have selected project areas and thesis advisors. During their final three semesters, honors students register for a total of 4 s.h. of CSD:4098 Honors Thesis and work on their projects/theses with their mentors. During the spring semester of their senior year, honors students present their projects at a university-wide forum (such as the UI Spring Undergraduate Research Festival) and at a departmental event (such as ProSem). Students must maintain a cumulative and major GPA of at least 3.60 in order to graduate with honors in the major. As a final recognition of the completion of the departmental honors program, honors students’ diplomas bear a special notation.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the speech and hearing science major.