

Speech Language Pathology, MS

The Master of Science program in speech language pathology provides training for individuals who wish to do clinical work in speech language pathology. Graduates of the MS program meet all academic and practicum requirements for clinical certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and for licensure by the State of Iowa. Students preparing for clinical positions in public schools must meet school licensure or certification requirements of the states in which they plan to work.

Programs designed to lead to professional licensure are subject to federal regulations regarding informational disclosures. Please see Professional Licensure Disclosures by Program for further information.

Learning Outcomes

Graduating MS students in speech language pathology will:

- demonstrate knowledge and skills specified in the Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) competencies for speech-language pathology professions;
- use critical thinking skills to apply theory and knowledge to clinical decision making to provide patient-centered care;
- use evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence to make clinical decisions regarding the diagnosis and treatment of persons with communication disorders; and
- adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics, acting in an ethical and professional manner while providing patient-centered care.

Requirements

The Master of Science in speech language pathology requires a minimum of 53 s.h. of graduate credit, which may include approved graduate transfer credit. Students must maintain a Graduate College program grade-point average of 3.00. The program prepares clinicians to function independently in a variety of clinical settings. The program is designed to ensure that upon graduation, a student will meet the requirements for immediate professional employment. A typical program takes two calendar years to complete.

Candidates for the MS are not required to complete a thesis, although all interested students are encouraged to do so.

The MS in speech language pathology requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Core Courses	30
Practicum and Outplacement	17
Electives	6

Core Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these (30 s.h.):		
CSD:5104	Language Disorders in School-Aged Children	3
CSD:5114	Introduction to Voice and Resonance Disorders	3

CSD:5135	Foundations of Clinical Practice I	2
CSD:5136	Foundations of Clinical Practice II	1
CSD:5137	Foundations of Clinical Practice III	1
CSD:5183	Introduction to Stuttering	2
CSD:5203	Counseling in Communication Disorders	1
CSD:5233	Aphasia	2
CSD:5234	Acquired Cognitive-Communication Disorders	2
CSD:5236	Neurological and Structural Disorders of Swallowing	3
CSD:5238	Motor Speech Disorders	2
CSD:5258	Multilingualism and Culturally Responsive Practice in Communication Sciences and Disorders	2
CSD:5260	Augmentative and Alternative Communication	2
CSD:5282	Clinical Phonology and Speech Sound Disorders	2
CSD:6519	Evidence-Based Practice	2

Practicum and Outplacement

Students must complete at least 17 s.h. of practicum and outplacement registration sufficient to meet supervised, direct clinical experience requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the Iowa license, and to provide broad, supervised practicum experience.

Practicum and outplacement courses may be repeated.

Course #	Title	Hours
12 s.h. from these:		
CSD:5301	Practicum: Speech-Language Pathology	arr.
CSD:5308	Practicum: Speech-Language Pathology Multilingual/Multicultural	arr.
CSD:5309	Practicum: Speech-Language Pathology International	2
5 s.h. from these:		
CSD:5304	Speech Pathology Outplacement: School	0-4
CSD:5305	Speech Pathology Outplacement: Non-School	0-4
CSD:5306	Speech-Language Pathology Multilingual/Multicultural Outplacement: School	arr.
CSD:5307	Speech-Language Pathology Multilingual/Multicultural Outplacement: Non-School	arr.

Electives

All nonthesis students preparing to be speech language pathologists must earn a minimum of 6 s.h. from the following electives. Thesis students earn a minimum of 2 s.h. from the following, plus 4 s.h. in CSD:7590 Research. Students may select courses not listed here with their advisor's permission.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSD:4130	Reducing Disparities and Inequities in Communication Sciences and Disorders	1
CSD:4140	Manual Communication (required for students without an undergraduate equivalent)	1
CSD:5223	Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Disorders	1
CSD:5237	Cleft Palate and Related Disorders	1-2
CSD:5318	Literacy: Emergent and School Aged	1
CSD:5319	Head and Neck Cancer and Instrumentation	2
CSD:5350	Seminar in Supervision	1
CSD:6294	Advanced Rehabilitative Audiology: Pediatric	1
CSD:6538	Advanced Topics in Speech, Language, and Hearing Research	1
EDTL:4990	Interdisciplinary Issues in Disabilities (for Iowa Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (IEND) trainees)	1-3
PSQF:7255	Autism Spectrum Disorders	2

Professional Licensure

State Licensure

A number of states, including Iowa, require a state license in speech language pathology or audiology. Students who meet the requirements listed for the MS in speech language pathology also meet the academic requirements for license in Iowa as well as most other states. For more information, visit Iowa Licensing Requirements for Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association website.

Public School Licensure

Students preparing for clinical positions in public schools typically must meet school licensure or certification requirements of the states in which they plan to work. The following criteria meet the requirements for endorsement as speech language pathologists in Iowa and most other states:

- a master's degree with a professional emphasis in speech language pathology or the equivalent; and
- completion of coursework described in School Speech Language Pathologist Licensure Preparation/Added Endorsement Program K-12 on the College of Education website.

Admission

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.

Admission to the program is competitive; applicants' credentials are considered in relation to those of others in the applicant pool and a limited number of individuals are

admitted to each program. Applicants whose undergraduate grade-point average is below 3.30 are rarely admitted.

The deadline for application is Jan. 15. All applications to the MS program must be submitted through the Central Application Service for Communication Science and Disorders (CSDCAS) and to the graduate program at the University of Iowa.

For detailed information regarding the evaluation of applicants, application materials and requirements, and other matters, see Graduate Programs on the department's website.

MS students usually have a background of undergraduate courses in speech and hearing science, psychology of language, and human behavior that is equivalent to an undergraduate major in speech and hearing science at the University of Iowa.

Prerequisite Coursework

Before registering for the program, entering MS students receive descriptive materials about basic core science courses considered to be required preparation for the MS and required MS clinical core courses for which the department may accept comparable courses taken at the undergraduate level. Decisions about incorporating background coursework in these areas are made by the faculty advisor in consultation with the student and the instructors of the basic science or clinical core courses. Entering students must have completed the following courses or their equivalents.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSD:2110	Phonetics: Theory and Applications	3
CSD:3112	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Production	4
CSD:3113	Introduction to Hearing Science	4
CSD:3116	Basic Neuroscience for Speech and Hearing	3
CSD:3118	Language Acquisition	3
CSD:3185	Hearing Loss and Audiometry	3
CSD:4145	Developmental Language Disorders	3
CSD:4148	Developmental Speech Disorders	3
CSD:4244	Rehabilitative Audiology	3
PSQF:1020/ STAT:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
	A biological science course (human or animal biology)	3
	A physical science course (physics or chemistry)	3
	A social/behavioral science course	3
	25 hours of observation documented by a practitioner with ASHA certification	

Career Advancement

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders provides excellent preparation for a career as a speech language pathologist or audiologist. There continues to be a strong demand for professionals in these fields, and both speech pathology and audiology rank highly in "best job" surveys.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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This sample plan is currently being reviewed and will be added at a later date.