

Speech Pathology and Audiology, MA

Requirements

The Master of Arts program in speech pathology and audiology requires a minimum of 44 s.h. of graduate credit, which may include approved graduate transfer credits. The program prepares clinicians to be able 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.

MA 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.

Before registering in the program, entering MA students receive descriptive materials about basic science core courses considered to be required preparation for the MA program, and required MA 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	

Candidates for an MA with a professional emphasis in speech-language pathology are not required to complete a thesis, although all students demonstrating research aptitude and interest are encouraged to do so.

A typical program takes two calendar years to complete.

Core Requirements

All students seeking an MA in speech pathology and audiology with a professional emphasis in speech-language pathology must take the following.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSD:5104	Language Disorders in School-Aged Children	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:5146	Neurogenic Disorders of Language	3
CSD:5203	Counseling in Communication Disorders	1
CSD:5236	Neurological and Structural Disorders of Swallowing	3
CSD:5238	Motor Speech Disorders	2
CSD:6519	Evidence-Based Practice	2

In addition, they must take the following courses unless they completed equivalent courses as undergraduates.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSD:4114	Introduction to Voice Disorders	2
CSD:4115	Structural Disorders	2
CSD:4140	Manual Communication	1
CSD:4183	Introduction to Stuttering	2

Also required are additional semester hours (typically 16 s.h.) of practicum 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.

In addition to the core requirements listed above, all nonthesis students preparing to be speech-language pathologists must earn a minimum of 10 s.h. from the following; thesis students must earn a minimum of 6 s.h. from the following. Thesis students also must enroll in 4 s.h. of research.

Course #	Title	Hours
CSD:4130	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Communication Sciences and Disorders	1
CSD:5213	Voice Habilitation	2
CSD:5223	Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Disorders	1
CSD:5233	Aphasia	2
CSD:5234	Acquired Cognitive-Communication Disorders	arr.
CSD:5237	Cleft Palate and Related Disorders	1-2
CSD:5258	Multilingualism and Culturally Responsive Practice in Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CSD:5260	Augmentative and Alternative Communication	2

CSD:5282	Phonological Development and Disorders	2
CSD:5350	Seminar in Supervision	1

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 above for the MA in speech pathology and audiology also meet the academic requirements for the license in Iowa as well as in 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 as described in School Speech Language Pathologist Licensure Preparation/Added Endorsement Program K-12 on the College of Education website.

GE CLAS Core courses (e.g., introduction to psychology, sociology, history, literature, and humanities) do not meet the requirements of the professional education sequence.

Alternatively, speech-language pathologists practicing in Iowa can obtain a Statement of Professional Regulation (SPR). In order to obtain the SPR, they must have a temporary or regular license from the State Board of Speech Pathology and Audiology Examiners, a master's degree in speech-language pathology, and have completed a human relations course. The SPR is valid for five years and does not transfer to other states.