

Communication Sciences and Disorders Degree Program (Master of Science)

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers a graduate program that provides academic and clinical training for professional practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist. The curriculum provides educational opportunities to work with communicatively impaired individuals across the lifespan and in various environments.

The program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (CAA) and meets all requirements for obtaining Wisconsin licensure as a Speech-Language Pathologist and as a Public School Practitioner.

An undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders is NOT a prerequisite for admission. However, Students without an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders must take requisite pre-graduate course work as a Candidate for Non-Degree and then apply for the graduate program. Normally, the pre-graduate course work may be completed in one year. An individualized pre-graduate program curriculum will be devised by the Graduate Program Coordinator or a faculty adviser.

The graduate program is designed for completion in two years including two summers for students with an undergraduate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. UW-Whitewater undergraduates who are accepted for early admission may finish the graduate program in one year including two summers. Full-time enrollment is 12 credits during the academic year and 9 credits during the summer. Only students admitted to the graduate program may enroll in 700 level courses. Exception may be granted by the Graduate Program Coordinator. Comprehensive examinations, clinical performance reviews, and portfolio presentations are an integral aspect of determining academic and clinical competence and must be successfully completed for the degree.

The curriculum prepares students for the PRAXIS Examination in Speech-Language Pathology — leading to a Certificate of Clinical Competence. In preparing to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist, students will learn such skills as: conducting formal and informal measures to diagnose and implement goals for the treatment of individuals of all ages with disorders of articulation, language, voice, fluency, and hearing; theorizing about disorders of articulation, language, voice, fluency, and hearing; engaging in self and client evaluations utilizing objective behavioral measurements; and presenting client-related information in both written and oral communication.

Graduate Program Coordinator:

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Additional Admission Requirements:

Students must obtain and complete two separate applications for admission. The program application is completed and mailed directly to the Department of Communicative Disorders (program application form, letter of intent and recommendations); and the Graduate School application is returned directly to the Graduate Studies Office (Graduate Studies application form, fees, transcripts). Both applications must be obtained from the Graduate Studies Office or downloaded from <http://academics.uww.edu/commdis>. To be considered for admission, both applications must be completed and returned to the Department of Communicative Disorders by the deadline of February 1 for September admission.

All applicants are encouraged to apply for graduate assistantships administered through the Graduate Studies Office. Many graduate students have received financial support as a result of this funding.

Degree Requirements:

A minimum of 27 academic units, excluding practica, enrollment in practicum every semester, and successful completion of a comprehensive examination is required.

COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS (M.S.)

REQUIRED IF NOT TAKEN AS UNDERGRADUATE

SELECT 0-27 UNITS IF NOT TAKEN AS UNDERGRADUATE

- COMDIS 577 DISORDERS OF SPEECH PRODUCTION
- COMDIS 580 SPEECH & LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
- COMDIS 585 FLUENCY DISORDERS
- COMDIS 624 COMMUNICATION DISORDERS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN
- COMDIS 626 NEURAL BASES OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE
- COMDIS 672 ASSESSMENT IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
- COMDIS 681 LANGUAGE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN
- COMDIS 682 AUDIOMETRY
- COMDIS 683 AUGMENTATIVE & ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

REQUIRED COURSES-27 UNITS

1. COMDIS 710 PROFESSIONAL ISSUES & ENVIRONMENTS IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
2. COMDIS 711 MOTOR SPEECH DISORDERS
3. COMDIS 712 RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
4. COMDIS 713 LANGUAGE LEARNING DISORDERS IN SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN
5. COMDIS 714 SUPERVISION IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
6. COMDIS 720 VOICE DISORDERS
7. COMDIS 722 LANGUAGE AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS IN ADULTS
8. COMDIS 724 AURAL REHABILITATION
9. COMDIS 730 SWALLOWING AND DYSPHAGIA

PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS

1. SELECT FROM:
 - COMDIS 660 PRACTICUM IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
2. SELECT FROM:
 - COMDIS 660 PRACTICUM IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
 - COMDIS 793 PRACTICUM: FIELD EXTERNSHIP SECTION 2

DPI LICENSURE - CHECKLIST ONLY

1. COMDIS 798 INDIVIDUAL STUDIES (POST STUDENT TEACHING SEMINAR)
2. COMDIS 450 METHODS: COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS
3. COMDIS 793 PRACTICUM: FIELD EXTERNSHIP SECTION 2
4. THE FOLLOWING COURSES OR EQUIVALENTS UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE):
 - - AN APPROVED COURSE IN READING OR LITERACY
 - - THE WISCONSIN HUMAN RELATIONS REQUIREMENT
 - SPECED 205 PSYCHOLOGY OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILD
 - EDFOUND 230 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

NOTE: CONTACT PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING LICENSURE AND CAA ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS. LICENSURE INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION ONLY. LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS AND ACCREDITATION ARE NOT CHECKED BY THE GRADUATE AUDIT SYSTEM.