

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS, RESIDENTIAL - MASTER OF SCIENCE

(Code 622-806)

The program leading to the degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders is designed to prepare the student to function independently as a speech-language pathologist within the profession of communication disorders. To accomplish that objective, it is necessary that the student develop knowledge and/or competencies in several areas:

1. normal speech, hearing, and language development and behavior;
2. nature, evaluation, and management in various work settings of the disorders of speech, hearing, and language in children and adults; and
3. investigative procedures in communication disorders.

Completion of a master's degree is required prior to earning certification in speech-language pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and prior to earning a license from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for employment in public schools. Almost all employment in speech-language pathology requires the master's degree. The master's degree program in speech-language pathology at this University is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and is approved by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. There is no program in audiology at UW-Eau Claire.

Practicum experience is planned to serve the needs and interests of graduate students in communication sciences and disorders. They may obtain a diversity of clinical experience through the Center for Communication Disorders on campus and its many affiliated practicum sites. Under the supervision of qualified University personnel and qualified on-site employees at affiliated practicum sites elsewhere, students have opportunities to encounter clients ranging in age across the lifespan who exhibit all types of communication disorders. The affiliated practicum sites are varied, including hospitals, clinics, community agencies, and schools.

To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the following minimal criteria:

1. a baccalaureate degree, from a regionally accredited university;
2. a minimum of 30 earned semester credits in specific communication sciences and disorders coursework prior to matriculation into the graduate program;
3. a total GPA of 2.75 for each post-secondary degree earned, and a minimum GPA of 3.25 in communication sciences and disorders coursework;
4. a grade of B or above in any graded practicum experience; and
5. submission of all required application materials prior to the application deadline.

These application materials include: application to the CSD department, university application with official undergraduate transcripts, three letters of recommendation and GRE scores.

The fact that a student has met the minimal criteria listed above does not guarantee admission to the program. The enrollment in the graduate program is limited to a maximum number of students determined annually by the program faculty. In recent years, the number of students admitted annually has

been 18 to 25. Applications for admission are reviewed only once per year for each program.

UW-Eau Claire has 2 master's programs in CSD. Both require successful completion of at least 54 CSD graduate credits.

Full-time residential MS program

Application materials for our full-time program are due January 1st every year and students begin the program in the fall. This program requires that each student complete the following academic courses in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the graduate level unless equivalent courses have been taken previously:

Fifty-four required semester credits, including:

Required Courses (Twenty-five credits):

CSD 648	Aphasia and Related Disorders	2
CSD 706	Language Assessment	3
CSD 715	Research in Communication Sciences and Disorders	2
CSD 716	Essential Applications for Graduate Studies in Communication Sciences and Disorders	1
CSD 725	Counseling in Communication Disorders	2
CSD 726	Organic Voice and Speech Disorders	3
CSD 729	Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Assistive Technology for Speech-Language Pathologists	3
CSD 737	Dysphagia	2
CSD 748	Motor Speech Disorders	3
CSD 754	Acquired Cognitive-Communicative Disorders	3
CSD 774	Pediatric Dysphagia	1

Clinical Practicum

Select six credits from the following:

CSD 769	Graduate Clinical Practicum	6
CSD 770	Clinical Practicum in Communication Disorders II	
CSD 771	Clinical Practicum in Communication Disorders III	

Externships ¹

Select two externships (12 credits combined), which may be located in schools and/or rehabilitation settings:

CSD 780	Externship in Communication Disorders-Educational Settings	12
CSD 781	Externship in Communication Sciences and Disorders---Non-School Setting	

Electives

Select at least four credits from the following:

CSD 673	Applications in Audiology	4
CSD 731	Seminar: Child/Adolescent Language Intervention	
CSD 732	Seminar: Child/Adult Speech Intervention	
CSD 746	Seminar in Language Disorders	
CSD 747	Seminar in Speech Disorders	
CSD 799	Thesis	

Additional Electives from the above list or from the following:

CSD 521	Aural Rehabilitation
CSD 526	Voice and Resonance Disorders
CSD 552	Fluency Disorders
CSD 558	Phonological Disorders
CSD 578	Introduction to Sign Language
CSD 610	Communication Changes and Disorders of the Older Adult
CSD 611	Facilitating Communication in Preschool Children
CSD 640	Neurological Aspects of Communication
CSD 685	Serving Diverse Populations
CSD 695	Directed Studies
CSD 730	Seminar: Language Theories
CSD 745	Topics in Speech-Language-Hearing
CSD 749	Birth to 21 Methods in Communication Disorders ¹
CSD 750	Rehabilitation Methods in Communication Disorders ¹
CSD 793	Seminar: Selected Topics
CSD 797	Independent Study

¹ Prior to the externship, the student must complete the methods course for that setting (CSD 749 and/or CSD 750).

In total, there are 18 required clinical practicum credits in the graduate program, including externships and practicum enrollments. The remaining credits in the graduate program may be from a list of designated elective courses shown above. Typical program duration encompasses four semesters and the summer session midway through the program. Students must enroll in a full-time schedule unless special permission is granted by the Communication Sciences and Disorders graduate faculty to work toward the degree on a part-time basis. Students may elect either a thesis or non-thesis option. All students must successfully complete an oral comprehensive examination prior to graduation, including students writing theses.