

Master of Arts (MA)

The Communication Disorder Program is a nationally accredited program whose graduates are highly sought after by employers throughout the nation. Each year, over 100 applications are received for 15 graduate spots.

Graduates of the CD program find immediate employment, pass the national Praxis exam on the first attempt, and qualify for state and national certification. Scholarships and graduate assistantships are available for both 1st year and 2nd year graduate students

Communication Disorders Students will...

- Complete a minimum of 51 graduate hours
- Conduct research and present findings at national or state conferences
- Obtain a minimum of 375 clinical therapy hours

Career Planning

Employment rates are typically 100%, with graduates accepting positions in Missouri and several states around the nation. Employment of speech-language pathologists is projected to grow 19 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations.

As the large baby-boom population grows older, there will be more instances of health conditions that cause speech or language impairments, such as strokes and hearing loss. More speech-language pathologists will be needed to treat the increased number of speech and language disorders in the older population.

Increased awareness of speech and language disorders, such as stuttering, in younger children should also lead to a need for more speech-language pathologists who specialize in treating that age group.

In addition, medical advances are improving the survival rate of premature infants and victims of trauma and strokes, many of whom need help from speech-language pathologists.

Employment Opportunities of Recent Graduates

- Paragon Speech Pathology Services
Blue Springs, MO
- Pathways Health Center for Children
Sarnia, Ontario
- National Healthcare Corporation
Milan, TN
- Life Care Center of St. Louis
St. Louis, MO
- St. Francis Medical Center
Cape Girardeau, MO
- Rehabworks
Hilton Head, SC

Admission Requirements

1. An undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders (or equivalent area) from a regionally accredited college or university
2. A minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or a minimum GPA of 3.0 during the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate study
3. GRE scores (no minimum required)
4. Two letters of recommendation
5. Application with cover letter

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This is a guide based on the 2016-2017 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use DegreeWorks to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**Required Courses – 54 hours****1st Year, Fall Semester**

- CD625 Research Methodology in Communication Disorders (3)
- CD620 Developmental Articulatory and Phonological Disorders (2)
- CD635 Language, Cognitive, Social Communication Disorders in School-Age Children (3)
- CD603 Advanced Clinical Practicum in Communication Disorders (3)

1st Year, Spring Semester

- CD651 Neurogenic Speech Disorders (2)
- CD630 Language and Cognitive Disorders in Adults (3)
- CD656 Craniofacial Anomalies and Resonance Disorders (2)
- CD603 Advanced Communication Disorders Clinical Practicum (3)

1st Year, Summer Semester

- CD612 Instrumental Analysis of Speech (3)
- CD643 Augmentative, Alternative, and Assistive Communication Modalities (2)
- CD634 Language and Cognitive Disorders in Infants and Preschool Children (2)
- CD603 Advanced Communication Disorders Clinical Practicum (3)

2nd Year, Fall Semester

- CD641 Voice Disorders (3)
- CD652 Swallowing Disorders (2)
- CD642 Fluency Disorders (3)
- CD510 Multicultural Issues in Communication Disorders (3)
- CD669 Externship in Communication Disorders (3)
- CD683 Research in Communication Disorders (3)

2nd Year, Spring Semester

- CD525 Aural Rehabilitation (3)
- CD683 Research (3)
- OR**
- CD695 Thesis (3)

Degree Requirements

The degree requirements in Communication Disorders are designed to meet the academic and clinical standards established by the Council for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Completion of the degree requirements constitutes one component toward the establishment of the student's eligibility for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

It is the student's responsibility to confer with his/her academic advisor regarding recent changes (if any) in academic or clinical standards. Also, it is the student's responsibility to complete any additional requirements for the CCC-SLP beyond completion of the degree and to submit proper documentation of all required components