COMMUNICATION DISORDERS, M.S. - SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

For further information: CommunicationDisordersGrad@southernct.edu
Or visit the Department website: southernct.edu/cmd

APPLICATION DEADLINE
February 1 for fall semester

Master of Science Degree in Speech-Language Pathology

The Department of Communication Disorders offers a program leading to the Master of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Special Service Endorsement from the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Speech-language pathologists evaluate, treat and conduct research into human communication and its disorders. The practice and work of these individuals may take place in many types of settings: hospitals, schools, universities, private practice, research laboratories and industry. These individuals may collaborate with medical specialists, educators, engineers, scientists and other allied health professionals and technicians.

Speech-Language Pathologists:

• Improve the oral and written language skills of children
• Help those who stutter to increase speech fluency
• Assist with developing control of vocal and respiratory systems for correct voice production
• Treat people who have experienced brain trauma to regain speech, language, cognitive, and swallowing abilities
• Help individuals use technology to assist communication
• Counsel individuals and families so that they may better cope with communication disorders
• Counsel individuals on prevention of communication disorders

The graduate program of the Department of Communication Disorders is accredited in speech-language pathology by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Clinical services offered by the departmental Center for Communication Disorders rigorously adhere to quality standards recommended by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Departmental Admission Requirements

Department Application: February 1.
Students may be admitted to graduate study from a variety of undergraduate majors. For students without an undergraduate degree in communication disorders, programs are developed to include prerequisites courses.

Candidates must meet the Graduate School requirement of a cumulative undergraduate quality point ratio of 3.0 or higher, as well as professional promise and scholastic ability.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Review BOTH the application procedures below AND visit the Office of Graduate Admission's website for detailed document submission information.

**Submit to the Office of Graduate Admissions:**

- The Graduate school application and fee (online submission)
- Official undergraduate and graduate degree transcripts from **all accredited colleges or universities attended.** Any transcripts submitted from education completed outside the United States must be evaluated by an appropriate accrediting agency (e.g. World Education Service, WES).
- Recent scores obtained on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), including Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical Writing sections.
- All students for whom English is not their first language must submit recent scores of at least 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Follow guidelines regarding who should take the TOEFL.
- A resume, no more than 2 pages, highlighting personal strengths with a specific focus on leadership, volunteer efforts, extracurricular activities and work experiences must be submitted.
- A 250-300 word well-written essay on a personal challenge and how it was handled or a project initiated and maintained independently that demonstrated your skills in interpersonal communications, initiative, problem solving and/or organization.
- Three letters of recommendation attesting to professional promise and academic ability.

Once the Graduate Application is submitted, applicants are given access to the Graduate Admissions portal. Applicants **MUST** check the Graduate Admissions portal to make sure all materials are processed by the Office of Graduate Admissions. Any materials not listed as “received” on the Graduate Admissions portal have not been processed. It takes up to 2 business days to process materials once they are received, so please submit ALL materials well in advance of the deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make sure ALL required documents are received by the **February 1** deadline. Applications not completed by the deadline are not reviewed by the Admissions Committee.

For specific application requirements, please visit the Communication Disorders website [https://www.southernct.edu/academics/schools/health/academic-programs/communicationdisorders/grad-program/admission.html](https://www.southernct.edu/academics/schools/health/academic-programs/communicationdisorders/grad-program/admission.html) and look under “Application Procedures”.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR DOCUMENT SUBMISSION OUTLINED ON THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSION'S WEBSITE. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH APPLICANT TO REVIEW THE GRADUATE**
ADMISSIONS PORTAL TO VERIFY THAT ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS ARE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1.

Program Sequence- 69-72 credits

The program can be completed in six semesters, full-time (Fall, Spring, Summer, Fall, Spring, Summer). Individual programs for all students are designed to meet the requirements for certification in speech-language pathology by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Connecticut licensure and special service for Connecticut public schools.

Students must maintain an overall and departmental GPA of 3.0 to remain in the program. A “C+” or higher must be achieved in all academic courses, and a “B-” or higher is required in all clinical practica.

As sequencing changes, it is highly recommended that students meet with their program advisor to finalize a list of requirements for graduation.

Prerequisite Coursework

For students without an undergraduate degree in communication disorders, individualized programs are developed to include prerequisite courses listed below:

ASHA Prerequisite Courses
Biological (human or animal) (BIO 100, 102, 104, 110, 120) - 3 credits
Physical Science (physics or chemistry) (CHE 100,101, 103 120, 121; PHY 100, 101, 103, 111, 200, 210) - 3 credits
Statistics (MAT 107; PSY 259) - 3 credits
Social/Behavioral Science I (psychology, sociology, anthropology, public health) - 3 credits

School Certification Courses
Speech-language pathologists who work in Connecticut public schools must have school certification (Special Endorsement in Speech-Language Pathology)

Special Education (choose one-SED 481, 482, or 225) - 3 credits
Course I (Choose one from: PSY 210, 215, 311, 313, 370; EDU 301, 309, 311, 312, 314, 318; SED 325, 375) - 3 credits
Course II (choose one from above) - 3 credits

Pre-Program Course Prerequisites
CMD 200 — Introduction to Developmental Communication Disorders - 3 credits
CMD 201 — Introduction to Communication Disorders in Medical Settings - 3 credits
CMD 203 — Phonetics and Phonological Systems - 3 credits
CMD 317 — Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism - 3 credits
CMD 319 — Language Development: Ages Birth to Five - 3 credits
CMD 320 — Introduction to Hearing Science - 3 credits
CMD 321 — Introduction to Audiology - 3 credits
CMD 418 — Neurological Bases of Communication - 3 credits
CMD 419 — Language Acquisition: School-Age — Adolescence - 3 credits
CMD 420 — Speech Science - 3 credits
CMD 461 — Clinical Practice of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology - 3 credits
Program Requirements 69-72 Credits

Please note, registration for all departmental courses requires departmental permission.

Required coursework
CMD 503 – Research Methods in Communication Disorders – 3 credits
CMD 527 – Neurogenic Speech and Language Disorders – 3 credits
CMD 531 – Disorders in Psychology – 3 credits
CMD 537 – Cognitively Based Communication Disorders in Adults – 3 credits
CMD 545 – Disorders in fluency – 3 credits
CMD 550 – Language Acquisition Disorders: Birth to Five – 3 credits
CMD 551 – Language Disorders: School-Age – 3 credits
CMD 583 – Voice & Velopharyngeal Disorders – 3 credits
CMD 627 – Dysphagia – 3 credits

Speech Language-Pathology Electives (choose two)
CMD 602 – Augmentative & Alternative communication – 3 credits
CMD 610 – Developmental Disabilities – 3 credits
CMD 656 – Literacy for the SLP – 3 credits
CMD 652 – Autism Spectrum Disorders – 3 credits
CMD 665 – Counseling & Guidance Procedure in Speech & Hearing – 3 credits

Audiology Electives (choose one)
CMD 559 – Educational Audiology – 3 credits
CMD 575 – Central Audiology Processing Disorders in Children – 3 credits

Program Practicum Courses
A total of 375 hours of supervised clinical experience and 25 hours of observation are required for graduation with a minimum of 325 hours obtained at the graduate level.
CMD 560 – Speech & Language Practicum-A – 5 credits
CMD 561 – Speech & Language Practicum-B – 5 credits
CMD 562 – School Practicum – 6 credits
CMD 564 – Speech & Language Practicum-C – 5 credits
CMD 568 – Audiology Practicum – 3 credits
CMD 569 – Advanced Clinical Practicum – 6 credits

Capstone Experience Courses-Choose Thesis (6 credits) OR Special Project (3 credits)
CMD 590 – Thesis Seminar I – 3 credits
CMD 591 – Thesis Seminar II – 3 credits
CMD 605 – Special Project – 3 credits