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Communication Disorders and Sciences

The Communication Disorders and Sciences (CDS) program offers graduate work leading to the Master of Science degree. The program is designed to develop competence in the assessment and treatment of persons with communication disorders.

The degree requires 63-71 credit hours of study, depending on the students' course of study. Students have the option of a comprehensive exam or a thesis. Coursework is planned to meet the academic and professional requirements for state and national certification, which are required for professional employment. These requirements comprise the minimum course work. At least 50% of the courses earned toward the degree must be at the 500-level. The M.S. in Communication Disorders and Sciences degree program will culminate in eligibility for the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and state licensure. ASHA certification is required for work in agencies, hospitals, medical centers, and higher education. Students may take additional course work to qualify them for the program. The School of Health Sciences maintains active research facilities which provide laboratories and specialized equipment for the study of both the normal and impaired functions of the speech, language, and hearing processes. Students may be required to purchase and develop an account within a clinical management system for clinical placements.

Communication Disorders and Sciences is a competitive admissions program.

Competitive Admission Process – Communication Disorders and Sciences Graduate Program: SIUC Undergraduate GPA of 3.5 or higher at the end of Fall Semester prior to graduation, offered admission.

Standard admission criteria:

1. GPA last 45-60 credit hours of 2.7 as indicated by the SIUC Graduate School - requests for exception to the 2.7 GPA may be possible if admissions committee identifies additional strengths such as trending positive GPA, strong GPA in communication disorders and sciences courses, or other than academic experiences that strengthen a packet.
2. GRE is not required, but is optional, for students applying to the CDS program.
3. Students write a personal statement that is reviewed by the admissions committee members.
4. Students complete a resume portion of the online application through communication sciences and disorders application system (CSDCAS).
5. Students supply a minimum of three reference letters through CSDCAS.

Master of Science (M.S.) in Communication Disorders and Sciences

The M.S. in Communication Disorders and Sciences degree is a six semester course of study of approximately 63 to 71 credit hours. Specific course requirements and total number of hours are generally determined by advisement after consultation with the graduate student. The M.S. in Communication Disorders and Sciences degree also requires that each student either successfully pass a comprehensive examination or successfully complete an approved thesis. Students must select one of the following plans:

Thesis Option

Required Core Courses (29 CH)

- **Speech** (12 CH)
 - CDS 505: Phonological Development & Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 510: Stuttering: Behavior Assessment and Therapy (3 CH)
 - CDS 512: Voice Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 541: Neurogenic Disorders of Communication II (3 CH)
- **Language** (9 CH)
 - CDS 507: Language Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 517: Seminar: Language Disorders Birth to Three (3 CH)
 - CDS 540: Neurogenic Disorders of Communication I (3 CH)
- **Speech or Language** (6 CH)
 - CDS 485: Special Topics (Counseling) (3 CH)
 - CDS 485: Special Topics (Medical Speech) (3 CH)
- **Speech, Language or Hearing** (2 CH)
 - CDS 485: Special Topics (Advanced Aural Rehabilitation) (2 CH)
 - Optional Electives: CDS 408, CDS 450, CDS 460, CDS 590

Required Clinical Courses (30-32 CH)

*varies depending on selection of CDS 598 or CDS 597

- CDS 594 (A) (3 CH), CDS 594 (B) (3 CH), CDS 594 (C) (2 CH)
- CDS 598: Internship Communication Disorders (9 CH)
- CDS 598: Internship Communication Disorders (9 CH) -OR-
- CDS 597: Public School Practicum (12 CH)
- CDS 591 (1 CH), CDS 591 (1 CH), CDS 591 (1 CH)

Required Research Tools (6 CH)

- CDS 500: Research Design in Speech Pathology & Audiology (3 CH)

Thesis (3 CH)

- 3 credit hours from CDS 599

Total: 68-71 Credit Hours

Comprehensive Examination Option

Required Core Courses (29 CH)

- **Speech** (12 CH)
 - CDS 505: Phonological Development & Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 510: Stuttering: Behavior Assessment and Therapy (3 CH)
 - CDS 512: Voice Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 541: Neurogenic Disorders of Communication II (3 CH)
- **Language (9 CH)**
 - CDS 507: Language Disorders (3 CH)
 - CDS 517: Seminar: Language Disorders Birth to Three (3 CH)
 - CDS 540: Neurogenics Disorders of Communication I (3 CH)
- **Speech or Language** (6 CH)
 - CDS 485: Special Topics (Counseling) (3 CH)
 - CDS 485: Special Topics (Medical Speech) (3 CH)
- **Speech, Language, or Hearing** (2 CH)
 - CDS 485: (Advanced Aural Rehabilitation) (2 CH)
 - Optional Electives: CDS 408, CDS 450, CDS 460, CDS 590,

Required Clinical Courses (30-32 CH)*

*varies depending on selection of CDS 598 or CDS 597

- CDS 594 (A) (3 CH), CDS 594 (B) (3 CH), CDS 594 (C) (2 CH)
- CDS 598: Internship Communication Disorders (9 CH)
- CDS 598: Internship Communication Disorders (9 CH) -OR-
- CDS 597: Public School Practicum (12 CH)
- CDS 595 (1 CH), CDS 595 (1 CH), CDS 595 (1 CH)

Required Research Tools (3 CH)

- CDS 500: Research Design in Speech Pathology & Audiology (3 CH)

Comprehensive Exam (1 CH)

- 1 credit hour from CDS 593

Total: 63-66 Credit Hours

Students may petition the faculty for an M.A. in Communication Disorders and Sciences degree which does not include the clinical courses and does not culminate in eligibility or certification in speech pathology (minimum of 34 required credit hours).

Academic Standing

The graduate student whose overall graduate grade point average (GGPA) falls below 3.0 shall be placed on academic probation by the Graduate School. Students are restricted from clinical experiences while on academic probation. The time limit for being removed from probationary status shall be maximum of two consecutive regular semesters. If at this time the student's overall GGPA is not at least 3.0, the student's enrollment will be terminated. In addition, students whose semester GGPA falls below 3.0 for two consecutive regular semesters, will be terminated from the program. Grades of "C" or below are considered failing grades in the CDS graduate program.

Communication Disorders and Sciences Courses

CDS408 - Communicative Disorders: Craniofacial Anomalies Development of cleft palate and related anomalies that cause communication disorders. Assessment and intervention of the communication disorders related to these impairments. Prerequisite: Coursework on the normal structure and function of the speech and hearing mechanism. Credit Hours: 3

CDS410 - Multicultural Aspects of Communication Disorders Students will explore different cultures and communication within these cultures. Emphasis will be placed on the relationship between cultural differences and communication disorders. Review of speech and language disorders in multicultural populations, as well as assessment and intervention strategies for use with this diverse group will be provided. Prerequisite: CDS 302, 303 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS420 - Introduction to Audiological Disorders and Evaluation Bases of professional field of audiology (orientation, anatomy, and physiology of the auditory system), major disease processes influencing hearing and their manifestations, measurement of hearing loss. Prerequisite: CDS 301 and 314. Credit Hours: 3

CDS422 - Communication Problems of the Hearing Impaired Objectives and techniques for the teaching of lip reading, speech conservation, and auditory training. Prerequisite: CDS 302, 303, and 420 or equivalents. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS450 - Neuroanatomical Basis of Human Communication Examination of the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) as it relates to normal and disordered human communication. Presentation of basic neuroanatomy, common neuropathologies relevant to communication disorders, and strategies in neurogenic problem solving. Prerequisite: CDS 314 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS460 - Augmentative and Alternative Communication Systems An introduction to alternative and augmentative communication systems for non-vocal clients. Discussions include: use of aided and unaided augmentative systems, assessment procedures and training. Prerequisite: CDS 301 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS485 - Special Topics in CDS Topical presentations of current information on special interests of the faculty not otherwise covered in curriculum. Designed to promote a better understanding of recent developments related to disorders of verbal communication. Open to advanced undergraduate and graduate students. Approval of instructor required. Credit Hours: 1-3

CDS491 - Individual Study Activities involved shall be investigative, creative, or clinical in character. Must be arranged in advance with the instructor, with consent of the chair. Special approval needed from the chair. Credit Hours: 1-9

CDS492 - Diagnostic Procedures in Communication Disorders A course devoted to discussion of the role of the speech and hearing clinician as a differential diagnostician. Special emphasis is placed on correlating information obtained from the oral-peripheral examination, articulation and language evaluation, audiometric and case history information in constructing the initial evaluation report. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS493 - Basic Clinical Practice Current information regarding diagnostic, treatment and documentation procedures in speech-language pathology will be presented through active observation in the clinical environment and classroom instruction. Special approval needed from the instructor. Fee: \$100. Credit Hours: 3

CDS494 - Beginning Clinical Practicum This course is designed to introduce the student to the clinical practice of speech-language pathology and to facilitate the transition from the classroom to the clinical setting. Students will learn the application of diagnostic information, intervention planning, and the intervention process. Active, supervised participation in the clinical process with emphasis on individualized assessment, treatment, counseling, and documentation procedures. Taken concurrently with CDS 595*. *Juniors who apply for accelerated completion and are accepted will be allowed to take 494 without 595. Those students will take 595 first summer along with their graduate cohort. Credit Hours: 1

CDS500 - Research Design in Speech Pathology and Audiology Evaluation of the strategies and procedural tactics of behavioral research. Credit Hours: 3

CDS505 - Phonological Development and Disorders An introductory discussion of the important linguistic, physiological and acoustic variables which affect language production at the segmental and supra-segmental level of language; and an historical examination of the growth and development of distinctive feature systems from 1920 to the present. Concentration upon the mathematical, logical, physiological and acoustic assumptions of the various matrices, which have been developed. Prerequisite: CDS 302 or equivalent. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS507 - Language Disorders Discussion of the application of current theoretical implications and research findings to the syntactically impaired. This course emphasizes diagnostic and therapeutic models applicable to language disorders. Opportunities for research and clinical experience with young children displaying developmental language problems will be provided. Required for Master's students. Prerequisite: CDS 303 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS510 - Stuttering: Behavior Assessment and Therapy Explores the assumptions underlying diagnosis and assessment. Procedures specific to the differential assessment of fluency failures are examined, evaluated and related to therapeutic strategies and the tactics of behavior change. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS512 - Voice Disorders An intensive study of the variables of air stream modulation resulting from impaired structures and function of head and neck. Course fee for Cognella Textbook and Active Learning modules: \$50. Credit Hours: 3

CDS517 - Conceptual and Clinical Considerations for Working with Individuals with Complex Communication Needs CDS 517 is a 3-credit hour course for graduate students. The course provides an overview of conceptual and clinical considerations for working with individuals with complex communication needs (CCN). Clinicians that work in this area require a broad and diverse clinical repertoire and strong interpersonal effectiveness to work as valued members on a treatment team. The roles and responsibilities of speech-language pathologist will be discussed in the context of collaborative service delivery models and as part of the ongoing clinical decision-making process of evidence-based practice. Credit Hours: 3

CDS540 - Neurogenic Disorders of Communication I Focus on aphasia and neurolinguistic science. A clinically oriented presentation of the aphasias, and related CNS language disturbances, will be integrated with an introduction to the broader field of neurolinguistics. Clinical aspects will focus on assessment of rehabilitation approaches in aphasia and related disorders. Other topics include cortical language representation, hemispheric functions (general), and review of basic neurolinguistic literature. Prerequisite: CDS 450 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS541 - Neurogenic Disorders of Communication II Focus on the role of the pyramidal and extrapyramidal motor systems in speech production and speech disorders related to abnormalities in these motor systems. Discussion of the neurological basis and clinical management of the dysarthrias and verbal apraxia. Prerequisite: CDS 540 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

CDS590 - Readings in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Supervised and directed readings in specific areas of speech pathology and in audiology. Maximum of two hours counted toward Master's degree. Special approval needed from the chair. Credit Hours: 1-2

CDS593 - Research Problems in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Individual work upon selected problems for research. Special approval needed from the chair. Credit Hours: 1-3

CDS594 - Advanced Clinical Practice Therapy/SLP Active, supervised participation in the clinical process with emphasis on individualized assessment, treatment, counseling and documentation procedures. Overview of clinical practice in various settings, federal legislation and standards of ethical practice. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

CDS595 - Clinic Seminar Taken concurrently with CDS 594. Topics differ each semester and are related to clinical practice, including those necessary for successful completion of advanced clinical practicum, internship/student-teaching, clinical fellowship and professional credentialing. Fulfills the reading instruction requirement for the Illinois Professional Educator License for speech-language pathologists. Partially fulfills the requirements for ASHA certification. Credit Hours: 1

CDS597 - Public School Practicum Public School internship provides the student with clinical experience under the supervision of a school-based certified speech-language pathologist. The student should receive experience with the disorders of fluency, articulation, voice, organics, language and hearing. The student should also gain administrative experience. Prerequisite: 150 to 200 clock hours. Special approval needed from the instructor. Lab fee: \$100. Credit Hours: 12

CDS598 - Internship Communication Disorders Internship in a selected medical center, hospital clinic, community agency, or private clinic. The internship provides the student with an intensive, professional, clinical experience under supervision of qualified and certified resident staff members. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 6-9

CDS599 - Thesis Credit Hours: 1-6

CDS601 - Continuing Enrollment For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only. Credit Hours: 1

Communication Disorders and Sciences Faculty

Boyer, Valerie E., Associate Professor, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2006; 2009. Child language and animal-assisted therapy.

Connelly, Erin, Instructor and Speech Services Coordinator, Communication Disorders and Sciences, M.S., University of Northern Colorado, 2001; 2017. Dysphagia, neurogenic disorders, and clinical education.

Franca, Maria Claudia, Professor, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 2006; 2008. Voice science and multicultural issues related to communication disorders and sciences.

Martin, Kathryn, Senior Lecturer, Communication Disorders and Sciences, M.S., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 1988; 2013. Language.

Meadows, Atheana, Associate Lecturer, Communication Disorders and Sciences, M.A., The Ohio State University, 1991; 2015. Audiology and (central) auditory processing disorder.

Reuter Yuill, Lilith M., Assistant Professor, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Western Michigan University, 2021; 2021. Complex communication needs, augmentative and alternative communication, interprofessional collaboration.

Emeriti Faculty

Austin, Gary, Professor, Emeritus, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Northwestern University, 1973; 1984.

Blache, Stephen, Professor, Emeritus, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., The Ohio University Athens, 1970; 1971.

Lehr, Richard, P. Jr., Professor, Emeritus, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Baylor University, 1971; 1973.

Muzio, Diane, Professor of Practice, Emerita, Communication Disorders and Sciences, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, 2017.

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