

Curriculum in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences Leading to

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

The Field

The Bachelor's of Science degree in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences prepares students to become advocates for communication health and equity. Many of our students go on to graduate study in speech-language pathology or audiology, professions responsible for evaluation and treatment of individuals whose communication is atypical or to careers as paraprofessional assistants to Speech-language pathologists or audiologists. The profession also engages in research designed to improve understanding of speech, language, and hearing and the efficacy of treatments for atypical communication.

The major welcomes students with an enthusiasm for communication health and equity, and with empathy for those with atypical communication. The undergraduate program consists of education in the scientific bases of the field, typical and atypical processes of communication, and an introduction to the clinical processes of evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, and counseling. The curriculum does not provide students with all of the necessary competencies that allow for employment within the professions of Speech/Language Pathology or Audiology. Clinical skills are developed mainly in graduate schools.

The Major

1. Required Courses in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (40 credits)

- SLHS 100 Introduction to Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (DU SB)
- SLHS 211 Anatomy and Physiology I: The Speech and Hearing Mechanism
- SLHS 212 Anatomy and Physiology II: Neurological Bases of Speech, Language, & Hearing
- SLHS 213 Phonetic Processing
- SLHS 214 Introduction to Hearing Science
- SLHS 215 Introduction to Language Science (formerly Comm-Dis 290A)
- SLHS 301 Speech and Language Development (IE)
- SLHS 312 Introduction to Speech Science
- SLHS 313 Introduction to Audiology
- SLHS 316 Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation
- SLHS 330 Junior Year Writing
- SLHS 415 Speech and Language Disorders

Additionally, one elective from among departmental offerings (3 credits)

Frequent offerings include:

- SLHS 398 Practicum-Internship
- SLHS 420 Clinical Observations
- SLHS 490A Hearing Health and Society
- SLHS 213 Phonetic Processing
- SLHS 214 Introduction to Hearing Science
- SLHS 530 Neurological Substrates & Neuropathologies of Language, Speech, & Hearing
- SLHS 570 Research in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
- SLHS 580 Cognitive Bases of Language
- SLHS 591D Treatment Technologies
- SLHS 591E Speech-Language Pathology Assistants in the Schools

2. Other Required Courses (14-16 credits)

SPHHS 150	Great Challenges in Public Health and Health Sciences (DU SB)
PHYSICS 114	Physics of Sound
HUMDEV 270	Human Development
OR	
PSYCH 350	Developmental Psychology

A statistics course from among the following (others may be accepted at discretion of department)

Statistics 111	Elementary Statistics (R1, R2)
Statistics 240	Introduction to Statistics (R1, R2)
PSYCH 240	Statistics in Psychology (R2)
SOC 212	Elementary Statistics (R2)
ResEcon 212	Intro. Stats/Life or Soc Sci (R1, R2)
EDUC 240	Intro. To Educational Statistics (R2)

Additional Recommendations

The American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA), who accredits programs and certifies speech-language pathologists and audiologists, requires general education distribution coursework for pre-speech-language pathology students.

Three of these requirements, Physics, Statistics, and Social Science (Public Health) are already met by our major curriculum. The fourth requirement is in Biological Science, and the guidance says: "Acceptable courses in biological sciences should emphasize a content area related to human or animal sciences (e.g., biology, human anatomy and physiology, neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, human genetics, veterinary science)." – ASHA, 2020 Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology, <https://www.asha.org/Certification/2020-SLP-Certification-Standards/>. We therefore recommend that students who wish to pursue a career in speech-language pathology take their Biological Science (BS) General Education requirement in Biology, Microbiology, or Kinesiology.

Sequence of Curriculum

The department's curriculum should be taken in the prescribed sequence indicated below.

Students are strongly advised to consult the academic advisor about the content and sequence of their curriculum, especially where the choice and sequencing of electives are concerned, or for those planning a study abroad.

First Year

SPHHS 150: Great Challenges in Public Health and Health Sciences (Fall or Spring)
SLHS 100: Introduction to Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (Fall or Spring)
Human Development 270: Human Development or Psych 350: Developmental Psychology (Fall or Spring)
Statistics (Fall or Spring)

Sophomore Fall

SLHS 211: Anatomy and Physiology I
SLHS 215: Intro to Language Science
PHYSICS 114: Theory of Sound

Sophomore Spring

SLHS 212: Anatomy and Physiology II
SLHS 213: Phonetic Processing
SLHS 214: Intro to Hearing Science

Junior Fall

SLHS 301: Speech & Lang Development
SLHS 313: Introduction to Audiology
SLHS 330: Junior Year Writing (Fall or Spring)

Junior Spring

SLHS 312: Intro to Speech Science
SLHS 316: Intro to Aural Rehabilitation

Senior

SLHS 415: Speech and Language Disorders (fall)
Departmental Elective 398+ (Fall or Spring)