

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Degree Requirements

Master of Science (M.S.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

The program will require a minimum of 57 credits at the 500 level and above for graduation. Students will satisfactorily complete either a thesis option (CSD 600) or a research-based scholarly paper/capstone project (CSD 596).

The program will require a minimum of two years of study during fall, spring, and summer semesters (a total of five semesters).

During academic and clinical practicum coursework, students will complete at least 375 clinical hours required as part of ASHA's certification of clinical competence (CCC) requirements. Objectives will be met using reiteration, with topics learned in a didactic format reinforced in practicum settings. Assessment will include rubric-style scoring, observations during practicums, and formal and informal style examinations using instructor and preceptor rating scales. Details are included in course descriptions.

Multicultural, ethical, and interdisciplinary topics will be primarily covered in a new, one-credit course, CSD 841 (Cultural Considerations in CSD). This information will also be embedded within other didactic and clinical courses (e.g., CSD 895A, CSD 895I, CSD 547, CSD 551). Practicum hours will be tracked formally through an online data base.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
<i>Semester One</i>		
CSD 500	Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders ¹	1
CSD 540	Phonological Development and Disorders	3
CSD 547	Language Disorders in Children	3
CSD 548	Dysphagia	3
CSD 895A	Speech Therapy Practicum	3
<i>Semester Two</i>		
CSD 545	Neuromotor Disorders of Speech	3
CSD 546	Language Disorders in Adults	3
CSD 846	Language Disorders in School-Aged Children	3
CSD 853	Medical Speech-Language Pathology (Required concentration course: Students must choose one)	3
or CSD 549	Speech-Language Pathologists in the Schools	
CSD 895A	Speech Therapy Practicum	3
<i>Semester Three</i>		
CSD 542	Stuttering, Cluttering, and Typical Disfluency (Fluency Disorders)	2
CSD 841	Culturally Responsive Practice in Communication Sciences and Disorders	1
CSD 845	Professional Issues in Speech-Language Pathology	1

CSD 895A	Speech Therapy Practicum	3
CSD 848	Advanced Dysphagia (Required concentration course: Students must choose one)	1
or CSD 847	Written Language Disorders	
<i>Semester Four</i>		
CSD 551	Assessment and Intervention in Augmentative and Alternative Communication	3
CSD 866	Cognitive Disorders in Adults	3
CSD 895I	Speech Pathology Mini-Placement	3
CSD 600	Thesis Research ²	3
<i>Semester Five</i>		
CSD 839	Voice and Resonance Disorders	3
CSD 895I	Speech Pathology Mini-Placement	6
CSD 610	Thesis Research Off-Campus ²	3
or CSD 596	Individual Studies	
Total Credits		60

¹ Incorporates SARI requirement.

² Students may only register for CSD 600 / CSD 610 if they are pursuing the Thesis Option.

Concentrations

Students will also have the opportunity to specialize in one of two available concentrations: (1) medical speech-language pathology; or (2) autism/education support. During their second (spring) and third (summer) semesters, students must choose one course in either concentration (3 credits). Students have the option of choosing one additional concentration course during their fourth semester (3 credits).

The maximum number of credits with the concentration and thesis options is 63.

The medical concentration will include training in additional topics for students who choose to focus their careers in healthcare settings. The autism/education support concentration will provide students with more extensive coursework in these areas that is not otherwise available in the M.S. in SLP program.