MS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS - SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DISABILITIES CONCENTRATION

Program Overview

Program Coordinator
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Program ID
090I

Credits
64

Program Length
MS can be completed in 2 years if enrolled full-time. Students are expected to complete all degree requirements within four years after matriculation. In extenuating circumstances, students may be granted an extension, in which case the MS must be completed within seven years.

Modality
In-person

Full-time/Part-time
Full-time

Transfer Credits
6

Capstone
Comprehensive Exam

Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- A minimum cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (4.0 scale)
- A college-level course in statistics with a minimum grade of 2.0 (4.0 scale)
- At least eight courses in communication disorders at the undergraduate level. Courses must be determined to be equivalent to the New Paltz minimum specified courses listed below and must have been completed in the last 10 years. These courses may be in progress at the time of application but must be completed prior to entry into the program.
- One copy of ALL official transcripts (including transfer schools)
- A non-refundable application fee of $60
- Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with your recent professional/academic activity and qualifications. At least two must be from academic faculty
- A typed, 400-500 word response to the writing prompt included in the application.
- A completed Prerequisites Form
- An interview and proctored writing sample may be required

Additional Courses

In addition, students applying for the Speech-Language Disabilities Program (090I) must complete the following three courses or their equivalents. These courses should be taken in advance but may be completed during graduate study:

- A course in the Foundations of Education, e.g., equivalent to EDS340 Sociological and Philosophical Foundations of Education (3 credits)
- A course in child or adolescent development, e.g., equivalent to EDS371 Child Psychology and Development (3 credits)
- A course in special education inclusion, e.g., equivalent to SPE350 Creating Inclusive Elementary School Classrooms or SPE385 Differentiating Instruction in the Secondary School (3 credits). Alternatively, students may take SPE565 Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms (3 credits) after starting the graduate program

Other required courses for ASHA certification that should be taken in advance but may be completed during graduate study are listed below. A minimum grade of C (2.0) is required in each course.

- A college-level biological science course, preferably human or animal (3 credits)
- A college-level physics or chemistry course relevant to the field of Communication Disorders (3 credits)
- Two college-level social science courses (total of 6 credits)
- Manual communication proficiency is required for ASHA certification, and although there are a variety of ways to fulfill this requirement, we recommend a course or certificate in manual communication (such as American Sign Language)

Refer to the ASHA.org website for examples of courses that fulfill these requirements. ASHA Certification Courses

Application Deadlines

Applications Open - August 1
Applications Close - January 15

Summer Semester

Code | Title | Credits
--- | --- | ---
Specified Courses (24 Credits)
Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing | 3
Audiology | 3
Aural Rehabilitation | 3
Hearing and/or Speech Science | 3
Language Development in Children | 3
Diagnostic and/or Clinical Methods | 3
Phonetics | 3
Speech and/or Language Disorders | 3
Total Credits | 24

1 Must include 25 observation hours
M.S. in Communication Disorders- Speech and Language Disabilities Concentration

The Speech-Language Disabilities concentration comprises 64 credits and is recommended for students who wish to earn TSSLD certification and do not already have the NYS initial teaching certificate. This concentration leads to New York State teacher certification as a Teacher of Students with Speech and Language Disabilities (TSSLD), New York State licensure, and ASHA certification.

Required Coursework (45 Credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMD508</td>
<td>Neurophysiology of Speech and Language</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD509</td>
<td>Advanced Speech Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD524</td>
<td>Applied Language Sciences</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD532</td>
<td>Clinical Instrumentation Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD550</td>
<td>Research Methods and Evidence Based Practice 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD551</td>
<td>Research Methods and Evidence Based Practice 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD504</td>
<td>Phonological Disorders</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD505</td>
<td>Child Language Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD507</td>
<td>Seminar in Motor Speech Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD512</td>
<td>Fluency Disorders</td>
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<td>CMD516</td>
<td>Adult Language Disorders</td>
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<td>CMD519</td>
<td>Swallowing Disorders</td>
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<td>CMD520</td>
<td>Augmentative Communication Systems</td>
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<td>CMD521</td>
<td>Early Intervention for Speech-Language Pathologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD522</td>
<td>Voice Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD525</td>
<td>Advanced Diagnosis of Speech and Language Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD523</td>
<td>Language and Literacy Development 1</td>
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**Clinical Practicum (19 Credits)**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMD501</td>
<td>Clinical Methods in Speech-Language Pathology 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD502</td>
<td>Clinical Methods in Speech Language Pathology 2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD503</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: On-Campus Summer</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD510</td>
<td>Professional Issues in Communication Disorders</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD513</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: On-Campus 2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD514</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: Off-Campus Fall</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMD515</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: Off-Campus Spring</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD526</td>
<td>Diagnostic Practicum in SLP</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD530</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology in the Schools</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD570</td>
<td>Diagnostic Audiology Practicum for the SLP</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD500</td>
<td>Orientation Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD503</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: On-Campus Summer</td>
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**Comprehensive Exam in Speech-Language Pathology**

| Total Credits | 64 |

1 A literacy course offered by Teaching & Learning may be substituted with advisor permission.
2 1-credit course -- should be taken twice.

Additional Requirements for the Initial Certificate – TSSLD

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMD526</td>
<td>Diagnostic Practicum in SLP</td>
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<td>CMD527</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: Specialty Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD528</td>
<td>Practicum in Speech Language Pathology: Off-Campus Screenings</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD553</td>
<td>Research Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMD595</td>
<td>Indep Study Communication Disorders</td>
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**Program Requirements**

Students must:

- File a “plan of study” during the first semester after matriculation
- Complete all degree requirements within four years after matriculation. In extenuating circumstances, part-time students may be granted an extension, in which case the total time to complete all degree requirements may not exceed seven years.
- Maintain a cumulative average of 3.0 or higher, with no more than two grades below B-
- Successfully complete a comprehensive examination with written and oral components
- Demonstrate clinical competence by successfully completing the prescribed number of clinical contact hours. These will be between 325 and 375 clock hours depending on previous clinical experience

**Program Learning Outcomes**

This is an accredited program, and thus the program student learning outcomes are determined by the accrediting agency.

**Standard V-A**

The applicant must have demonstrated skills in oral and written or other forms of communication sufficient for entry into professional practice.
Implementation: The applicant must have demonstrated communication skills sufficient to achieve effective clinical and professional interaction with clients/patients and relevant others. In addition, the applicant must have demonstrated the ability to write and comprehend technical reports, diagnostic and treatment reports, treatment plans, and professional correspondence.

**Standard V-B**

The applicant for certification must have completed a program of study that included experiences sufficient in breadth and depth to achieve the following skills outcomes:

**Evaluation**

- Conduct screening and prevention procedures (including prevention activities).
- Collect case history information and integrate information from clients/patients, family, caregivers, teachers, and relevant others, including other professionals.
- Select and administer appropriate evaluation procedures, such as behavioral observations, nonstandardized and standardized tests, and instrumental procedures.
- Adapt evaluation procedures to meet client/patient needs.
- Interpret, integrate, and synthesize all information to develop diagnoses and make appropriate recommendations for intervention.
- Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support evaluation.
- Refer clients/patients for appropriate services.

**Intervention**

- Develop setting-appropriate intervention plans with measurable and achievable goals that meet clients/patients' needs. Collaborate with clients/patients and relevant others in the planning process.
- Implement intervention plans (involve clients/patients and relevant others in the intervention process).
- Select or develop and use appropriate materials and instrumentation for prevention and intervention.
- Measure and evaluate clients'/patients' performance and progress.
- Modify intervention plans, strategies, materials, or instrumentation as appropriate to meet the needs of clients/patients.
- Complete administrative and reporting functions necessary to support intervention.

- Identify and refer clients/patients for services as appropriate.

**Interaction and Personal Qualities**

- Communicate effectively, recognizing the needs, values, preferred mode of communication, and cultural/linguistic background of the client/patient, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
- Collaborate with other professionals in case management.
- Provide counseling regarding communication and swallowing disorders to clients/patients, family, caregivers, and relevant others.
- Adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics and behave professionally.