

MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.)

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

PURPOSES

The purposes of the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders are:

1. To provide a curriculum to develop professional competencies in communication sciences and disorders.
2. To develop students' awareness of the problems and needs of individuals with communication disorders.
3. To motivate the student toward scholarly research.
4. To prepare the student for further study in the field of communication sciences and disorders.
5. To provide those students majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders with academic and clinical training required for the Certificate of Clinical Competency in Speech-language Pathology (CCC-SLP) granted by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

ADMISSION TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS (CSD) IS COMPETITIVE AND ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED.

Meeting the minimum admission requirements listed below or the successful completion of twelve hours of graduate transfer credit does not guarantee admission to the program. To be considered for regular admission to the Master of Science program in Communication Sciences & Disorders, an applicant must:

1. Meet all University admission requirements.
2. Grade Point and Graduation Record Examination (GRE) requirements:
 - a) Cumulative Grade Point Average of last 60 undergraduate academic hours multiplied by 200 (i.e., last 60 hrs. GPA x 200);
 - b) Verbal and Quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (i.e., last 60 hrs. GPA x 200 + V + Q = 1,350 minimum)
 - c) The Analytical Writing Score from the Graduate Record Examination (CSD) will be considered separately.

***1350 POINTS IS THE MINIMUM TOTAL FOR CONSIDERATION; HOWEVER, A TOTAL OF 1350 POINTS DOES NOT GUARANTEE ADMISSION.**

3. Must submit three Letters of Reference by individuals who are familiar with the student's potential for completing a graduate program in communication disorders. (Forms are available from the Graduate School, Graduate Admissions, Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders, and the CSD web page.)
4. All application materials must be completed and on file by March 1st for fall admission and by October 1st for spring admission. The Program's Graduate Admissions Committee determines admission to the CSD program.
5. Students who have not completed an undergraduate program in speech, language and hearing must complete CSD 201, 205, 212, 213, 309, 327, 328, and 415. Nine hours of undergraduate prerequisite CSD course work must be completed prior to enrollment in graduate CSD course work.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DEGREE (CSD)

The Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders offers the academic course work and clinical practica experiences to meet both state licensure and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in speech-language pathology (ASHA CCC-SLP). Students pursuing State of Louisiana Ancillary Certification as a Speech Therapist should consult with a faculty advisor for specific requirements.

To receive the Master of Science degree the student must:

1. Complete thirty-six (36) hours in CSD course work including CSD 602, 604, 606, 607, 613, 614, 615, 617, 622, 624, 629, and 687. Clinical practica courses may not be used to satisfy degree requirements; however, practica courses are required for students seeking licensure and/or certification as speech-language pathologists.

2. Complete six (6) hours of CSD electives with no thesis or six (6) hours of thesis credit with thesis option. THESIS OPTION: Students will be allowed to enter the thesis option only with the consent of the Graduate faculty. The thesis is a major work of independent research of primary topics and will be supervised by the student's major professor and thesis committee.

3. Have no more than two (6 hours) of "Cs" in core classes. A student who has earned a grade of "C" or lower in a core course may not repeat the course in order to earn a higher grade. A student is in good standing and is considered to be making satisfactory progress if a 3.0 semester and a 3.0 cumulative GPA are earned in all graduate courses. In addition, good standing is a prerequisite for enrollment in clinical practicum courses.

4. Complete one semester as a full-time student excluding summer.

5. Satisfactorily complete a comprehensive examination or complete at least six (6) hours of CSD 770 with a grade of "P". The department considers the thesis as an appropriate substitute for the comprehensive examination.

TEMPORARY ADMISSION

Students intending to pursue a graduate degree, but who do not qualify for Regular Admission status, will be placed in Temporary Admission status. No more than 12 hours earned by a student in Temporary Admission status may be counted towards the graduate degree, provided the student earned a minimum grade of "B" in each course and the credit is recommended for approval to the Graduate Dean by the graduate coordinator.

Please refer to the Graduate School section of the University catalogue for additional information about admission and degree status.