COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

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 master's program of study provides course work and practicum for advanced and/ or professional-level licensure.

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The master's degree requires a minimum of 50 credits at the 400, 500, 600, or 800 level (with at least 18 credits at the 500 and 600 level, combined) beyond admission standards. Students usually earn 50 to 65 credits to complete a degree, over four semesters and a summer of study. Additional credits above the minimum required may be related to electives, required courses related to a grant or fellowship, or additional research credits.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CSD 500	Research Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders	2
CSD 520	Speech Motor Control and Motor Speech Disorders	3
CSD 540	Phonological Development and Disorders	3
CSD 541	Voice Production: Differences and Disorders	2
CSD 542	Stuttering	2
CSD 543	Cleft Palate and Resonance Disorders	1
CSD 546	Language Disorders in Adults	3
CSD 547	Language Disorders in Children	3
CSD 548	Dysphagia	3
CSD 549	Speech-Language Pathologists in the Schools [1]	3
CSD 551	Assessment and Intervention in Augmentative and Alternative Communication	3
CSD 596	Individual Studies	1-9
CSD 815	Speech Language Pathology Professional Practice & Counseling	2
CSD 841	Culturally Responsive Practice in Communication Sciences and Disorders	1
CSD 852	Augmentative and Alternative Communication Technology Problem-Based Learning Lab	2
CSD 853	Medical Speech-Language Pathology [1]	3
CSD 854	Tracheostomy and Ventilator Lab	1
CSD 857	Autism Across the Lifespan	1
CSD 895A	Speech Therapy Practicum	1-3
CSD 895C	Speech/Language Therapy Externship	7-15
CSD 895I	Speech Pathology Mini-Placement	1-9
Culminating Experience		
CSD 600	Thesis Research	2-6
or CSD 596	Individual Studies	

[1] Students will have the option to choose between CSD 549 and CSD 853. CSD 549 is required for students who plan on obtaining teacher certification.

Students can choose to complete a thesis or a scholarly paper as the culminating experience for the degree. The non-thesis option for the Master of Science degree requires a scholarly paper and additional course credits in lieu of a thesis. Students choosing to complete a thesis must complete at least 6 credits in thesis research (600 or 610). Students choosing to complete a scholarly paper must complete at least 18 credits in 500-level courses.

The thesis must be accepted by the advisers and/or committee members, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School, and the student must pass a thesis defense. The scholarly paper must be accepted by the student's adviser and the head of the graduate program.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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 Doctor of Philosophy degree normally requires a master's degree in communication sciences and disorders or a related field, plus a minimum of two years of advanced study, and presentation and oral defense of a research-based dissertation.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree normally requires a master's degree in communication sciences and disorders or a related field, plus a minimum of two years of advanced study, and presentation and oral defense of a research-based dissertation (the final oral examination). The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

There are no core or required courses for the Ph.D. degree.

Two research exercises, one of which is used for doctoral qualifying examination early in the doctoral program, are required prior to the dissertation. A comprehensive written and oral examination in the areas of a student's interest is required.

Details of a student's doctoral program are determined by the Ph.D. committee.