COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS, B.S. (CAPITAL)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: Harrisburg

Program Description

This major offers a comprehensive program of study for preparing students who want to become speech-language pathologists or audiologists. The curriculum is specifically designed for the sole purpose of preparing undergraduate students for graduate study in communication sciences and disorders or related areas. This occurs because state licensure laws and professional certifications require that a speech-language pathologist or audiologist must have a master’s degree, pass a national test, and complete a clinical fellowship year.

Overall, the curriculum enables students to develop fundamental knowledge based on scientific principles, skills, and attitudes required for habilitating and rehabilitating persons of all ages with a wide range of speech, language, and hearing problems. Further, the curriculum allows students an opportunity to explore all aspects of communication sciences and disorders as well as elect courses of special interest.

The first two years of study emphasize general education and background study. The last two years of study emphasize normal and disordered aspects of speech, language, and hearing as well as professional management, concerns, and obligations. Clinical observation and diversity focused coursework are included in the curriculum.

What is Communication Sciences and Disorders?

Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is the study of human communication disorders. Undergraduate students acquire a strong foundation in the basic sciences and processes related to typical, delayed and disordered speech, language, cognition, swallowing, and hearing. Students gain critical-thinking abilities necessary to apply foundational knowledge and skills to the identification, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders. Graduates proceed to advanced degrees in speech-language pathology or audiology to habilitate and rehabilitate children and adults with a variety of disorders and delays through service and research. Speech-language pathologists and audiologists are employed in environments such as schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, community clinics and nursing homes.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You know you will find fulfillment in working closely with others.
- You want to pursue a career in a helping profession.
- You envision yourself teaching people skills to improve their quality of life.
- You want to develop new interventions for those with communications disorders.

Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm).

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS (https://hhd.psu.edu/csd/communication-sciences-and-disorders-undergraduate-program/)

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

- General Education: 45 credits
- Electives: 30 credits
- Requirements for the Major: 54-55 credits
- 9-10 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GS courses; 3-4 credits of GQ courses.

To satisfy graduation requirements, students must have completed 6 credits from courses offered in the college and outside the department in which the major is offered.

Per Senate Policy 83.80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. CSD requires students to complete 24 credits for the major through courses taken at University Park. Courses taken at other Penn State campuses may not be counted toward this 24 credit minimum. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for this major.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits
Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 100</td>
<td>Introductory Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSD 146</td>
<td>Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSD 230</td>
<td>Introduction to Audiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>CSD 269</td>
<td>Deaf Culture</td>
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<td>CSD 300</td>
<td>Developmental Considerations in the Assessment and Treatment of Language Disorders</td>
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<td>CSD 311</td>
<td>Clinical Phonetics</td>
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<td>CSD 331</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology for Speech and Hearing</td>
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<td>CSD 341</td>
<td>Acoustic Principles in Communication Sciences and Disorders</td>
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<td>CSD 433</td>
<td>Aural Rehabilitation</td>
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<td>CSD 442</td>
<td>Introduction to Disorders of Articulation and Phonology</td>
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<td>CSD 444</td>
<td>Introduction to Organic Disorders of Speech and Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSD 451</td>
<td>An Introduction to Augmentative and Alternative Communication</td>
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<td>CSD 459W</td>
<td>Principles of Clinical Management in Communication Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSD 462</td>
<td>Clinical Bases of Language Disorders</td>
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<td>EDPSY 14</td>
<td>Learning and Instruction</td>
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<td>or PSYCH 261</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology of Learning</td>
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<td>HDFS 129</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies</td>
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<td>or PSYCH 212</td>
<td>Introduction to Developmental Psychology</td>
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<td>EDPSY 101</td>
<td>Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education</td>
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<td>PSYCH 200</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics in Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>STAT 200</td>
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<td>HDFS 229</td>
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<td>Adult Development and Aging</td>
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<td>HDFS 315</td>
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<td>HDFS 411</td>
<td>The Helping Relationship</td>
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<td>HDFS 418</td>
<td>Family Relationships</td>
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<td>HDFS 432</td>
<td>Developmental Problems in Childhood and Adolescence</td>
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<td>PSYCH 270</td>
<td>Introduction to Abnormal Psychology</td>
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<td>PSYCH 471</td>
<td>Psychology of Adjustment and Social Relationships</td>
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Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.
Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

University Park
Undergraduate Advising
308 Ford Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-3584
csdinfo@psu.edu
https://hhd.psu.edu/csd/undergraduate/advising-csd

Career Paths
Students who complete an advanced degree in speech-language pathology evaluate, diagnose and provide treatment for people of all ages who have communication disabilities and differences. Speech-language pathologists with master's degrees work in hospital and rehabilitation centers, schools, community clinics, nursing homes, and private practice. Audiology students who complete a clinical doctorate of audiology degree (Au.D.) evaluate, diagnose and treat people of all ages with hearing loss. Speech-language pathologists and audiologists who earn doctorate (Ph.D.) degrees typically teach and conduct research in a university setting.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS PROGRAM (https://hhd.psu.edu/csd/undergraduate/careers/)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://hhd.psu.edu/csd/communication-sciences-and-disorders-graduate-program/)

Professional Resources
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) (https://www.asha.org)

Contact
University Park
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS
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University Park, PA 16802
814-865-3584
csdinfo@psu.edu
https://hhd.psu.edu/csd (https://hhd.psu.edu/csd/)