COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Speech-Language Pathology. The undergraduate program focuses on the scientific study of normal and disordered communication processes. Emphasis is placed on developing background knowledge in phonetics, speech and language development, anatomy and physiology, speech science, and the neurogenic bases of communication. During the senior year, students are introduced to a variety of communication disorders in preparation for the Master of Science degree. All students participate in 25 hours of applied clinical observation.

Courses

**CDIS 2033 Sign Languages**

**Description:** Introduction to methods of sign language currently used among the U.S. deaf society, socially and educationally, including traditional American Sign Language (ASL), Manually Coded English (MCE, SEE), and fingerspelling. Linguistic components of sign and various sociological, psychological and adaptive communication issues having an impact on the deaf community. Two hours per week devoted to lecture and theory; one hour involved in a variety of interactive sign language skill work in smaller groups. Previously offered as CDIS 4033, CDIS 4132, and SPTH 4132.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 2223 Speech and Language Development**

**Description:** Discussion of current theories and research on typical language development over the lifespan. Normal acquisition of language (e.g. phonology); speech and language milestones; biological, cognitive, and social bases; description of dialect variations, second language acquisition; atypical language development; and relationship between spoken and written language. Same course as CDIS 3223.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 2313 Introduction to Communication Disorders**

**Description:** Introduction of communication impairments across the lifespan (speech, language and hearing disorders). Including their neuromuscular bases; assessment and treatment; and professions related to assessment and treatment. Open to all university students. Same course as CDIS 3213.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 3113 Communication Disorders in Children**

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 2223.  
**Description:** Assessment and treatment of childhood communication disorders including autism, cerebral palsy, articulation and phonological disorders (speech sounds and their normal acquisition, common phonological errors), language disorders, fluency disorders, nonverbal and minimally verbal children, children using AAC, voice disorders and communication disorders in school-age children. Same course as CDIS 4113.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 3123 Audiology Diagnosis**

**Description:** Introduction to the profession of audiology, anatomy and physiology of the auditory system, types of hearing loss, hearing disorders, and clinical tests used in the diagnosis of children and adults with hearing loss. Previously offered as SPTH 3123.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 3203 Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism**

**Prerequisites:** A grade of "C" or higher in BIOL 1114.  
**Description:** Structure and function of the respiratory, phonatory, articulatory, and neural systems involved in the oral communication processes. Previously offered as CDIS 4213.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 3223 Speech and Language Development.**

**Description:** Normal acquisition of phonology, morphology, semantics, syntax, and pragmatics in children. Biological and cognitive social bases of language acquisition. Description of dialect variations, second language acquisition, and atypical language development. The relationship between spoken and written language development. Previously offered as SPTH 3224 and CDIS 3224.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D

**CDIS 3313 Phonetics**

**Description:** The analysis and description of speech at the segmental and suprasegmental levels. Development of students' perceptual and analytical skills in speech sound production. Practice using the International Phonetic Alphabet for broad and narrow transcription. Overview of the speech production mechanism and process. Previously offered as CDIS 2213 and SPTH 2213.

**Credit hours:** 3  
**Contact hours:** Lecture: 3  
**Levels:** Undergraduate  
**Schedule types:** Lecture  
**Department/School:** Communications Sci & D
CDIS 3413 Introduction to Research
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in STAT 2013, STAT 2053 or STAT 4053.
Description: Introduction to research process and evidence based practice in communication disorders, including how to locate and evaluate research articles, how to find possible research topics, issues related to conduction of experiment, and how to determine treatment effectiveness.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4010 Clinic Practicum
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.
Description: Supervised clinical practicum in speech-language pathology and audiology. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 3 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-3
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4013 Diagnostics
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3213 and CDIS 3223.
Description: This course addresses principles and methods of assessment and diagnostics for people with communication disorders. The course includes test construction and design, reliability, validity, and other issues related to criterion and norm-referenced testing. Issues regarding diagnostic criteria and classification systems of communication disorders are also addressed.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4023 Clinical Methods and Issues
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 2213, CDIS 2223 and CDIS 3313.
Description: Fundamental process and procedures of clinical practicum, report writing, goal selection; production, assessment and recording of speech and language behaviors; development of interpersonal skills with clients, families, and other professionals; problem solving skills; professional organization and credentialing requirements and includes clinical observation. Previously offered as CDIS 4022.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 2 Lab: 2
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lab, Lecture, Combined lecture and lab
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4113 Communication Disorders in Children
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3213 and CDIS 3223.
Description: This course will address a broad range of communication disorders in children. In compliance with the standards put forth by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, this course will cover the nature of speech, language, and communication disorders and differences in children, including the etiologies, characteristics, psychological, developmental, linguistic, and cultural correlates.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4133 Audiology Treatment
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3123.
Description: Review of hearing aids, implantable hearing devices, medical management of hearing loss, aural rehabilitation, and other clinical treatments for children and adults with hearing loss. Previously offered as SPTH 4133.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4313 Speech Science
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3313, CDIS 3203 and any PHYS course.
Description: Scientific bases of the acoustic parameters, the perceptual and productive processes of speech, and the interrelationships of those factors during speech communication. Previously offered as SPTH 4313.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate, Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4423 Neural Bases of Speech and Language
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3203.
Description: Neuroanatomy and neuro-physiological processes related to speech and language. Including basic anatomy of the central and peripheral nervous systems and the physiological processes involved in neuromotor control and neuronal function related specifically to speech and language. Previously offered as CDIS 4412.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4433 Communication Disorders in Adults
Prerequisites: A grade of "C" or higher in CDIS 3203.
Description: A review of language disorders and changes occurring with both normal aging and common neurological diseases and traumas, with focus on cerebral vascular accidents. Neuropsychological bases and etiology are presented as well as evaluation and treatment of aphasia and right hemisphere disorders, dementia and traumatic brain injury.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D
CDIS 4900 Undergraduate Research
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.
Description: Research in speech, language, and hearing sciences and disorders. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 3 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-3
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4980 Independent Study in CDIS
Prerequisites: Junior standing and consent of instructor.
Description: Directed readings or research in communication sciences and disorders. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-3
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 4993 Senior Honors Thesis
Prerequisites: Departmental invitation, senior standing, Honors Program participation.
Description: A guided reading and research program ending with an honors thesis under the direction of a faculty member. Required for graduation with departmental honors in communication sciences and disorders.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Other: 3
Levels: Undergraduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5000 Masters Research & Thesis
Prerequisites: Consent of graduate faculty.
Description: Research in speech, language and hearing sciences and disorders. Offered for variable credit, 1-6 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-6
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

General Education and other Course Attributes: Honors Credit

CDIS 5113 Advanced Language Disorders in Children
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5143 Phonological Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Current issues in linguistic theories related to the assessment and treatment of phonological disorders in children. Critical analysis of current research.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5153 Neurological Communication Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Communication changes occurring with aging and common neurological diseases and trauma. Neurophysiological bases and etiology. Evaluation and treatment of aphasia and right hemisphere disorders. Previously offered as CDIS 5152.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5163 Dysphagia
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Anatomy and neurophysiology of the swallowing mechanism in relation to pediatric and adult dysphagia. Evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of swallowing problems in children and adults including videofluoroscopic training with case studies. The first two-thirds of the course focus on adult dysphagia and the latter one third on pediatric dysphagia. Previously offered as CDIS 5160.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5183 Traumatic Brain Injury and Dementia
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Nature, evaluation and treatment of acquired cognitive communication disorders secondary to traumatic injury or dementia.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D
CDIS 5193 Motor Speech Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Nature, evaluation and treatment of neurologically-based motor speech disorders such as dysarthria and apraxia. Previously offered as CDIS 5172.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5210 Advanced Practicum
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and consent of instructor.
Description: Practical experience for the advanced student on or off campus. Additional flat fee of $110.00 applies. Offered for variable credit, 1-6 credit hours, maximum of 15 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-6
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5243 Language Disorders in School-Age and Adolescence
Prerequisites: A grade of "B" or higher in CDIS 5113 and graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Nature of spoken and written language disorders in school-age children and adolescents. Impact of language disorders on academic achievement. Assessment and intervention strategies. Previously offered as CDIS 5242.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5333 Voice Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: The physiology of the vocal mechanism and factors which cause voice deviations. Recent research on diagnostic and intervention procedures in a variety of disorders. Independent study, observations in medical settings, and special demonstrations.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5423 Augmentative/Alternative Communication
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Evaluation and management of communication disorders in individuals requiring specially adapted educational intervention programs. Adaptive communication technologies. Previously offered as CDIS 5422.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5433 Cleft Palate
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Recent research in the etiology, assessment and management of communicative disorders in individuals with cleft palate.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5710 Special Topics in Communication Disorders
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.
Description: Individual and group investigations of problems in communication sciences and disorders. Offered for variable credit, 1-4 credit hours, maximum of 9 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-4
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5713 Fluency Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, or consent of instructor.
Description: Current research regarding the nature of etiologies, evaluation and treatment of dysfluent speech in both children and adults. Previously offered as CDIS 4443 and SPTH 4443.
Credit hours: 3
Contact hours: Lecture: 3
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Lecture
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5720 Seminar in Communication Disorders
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor.
Description: Topics relevant to the evaluation and treatment of communication disorders presented on a rotating basis. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 3 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-3
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D

CDIS 5730 Independent Study in Communication Sciences and Disorders
Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of instructor.
Description: Directed readings or research in communication sciences and disorders. Offered for variable credit, 1-3 credit hours, maximum of 3 credit hours.
Credit hours: 1-3
Contact hours: Other: 1
Levels: Graduate
Schedule types: Independent Study
Department/School: Communications Sci & D
Undergraduate Programs

- Communication Sciences and Disorders, BS (http://catalog.okstate.edu/arts-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/bs)

Graduate Programs

The Master of Science degree program is designed to provide students with intensive course work in the various communication disorders and with a wide variety of challenging clinical rotations both on and off campus. Research opportunities are available under the direction of the graduate faculty. Graduates are prepared to take positions in hospitals, community speech and hearing centers, private practices, schools and other related settings, and to pursue additional graduate education at the doctoral level. All graduates meet the academic and clinical requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and the Oklahoma license in Speech-Language Pathology. Additionally, many students elect to earn the state teaching certificate required to practice speech-language pathology in the Oklahoma school system. The program holds national accreditation from the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Prerequisites

Admission to the graduate program requires a bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders, or an out-of-field bachelor's degree plus 24 hours of prerequisite course work.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for admission should have a minimum grade-point average of 3.40 in the major, strong letters of recommendation from those familiar with the student's previous academic background, a minimum combined verbal and quantitative GRE score of 296 (old score equivalent of 1000), a minimum verbal GRE score of 153 (old score equivalent of 500), and a minimum analytical writing score of 3.5. Students not meeting the above requirements may be admitted on a provisional basis. Admission is competitive, and all application materials must be received by January 15 of each calendar year for fall admission. Completed applications must include: an online application, GRE scores, three letters of recommendation, transcripts from all undergraduate institutions, and a personal statement indicating why the applicant desires to be a speech-language pathologist. In addition, all applicants must have completed a clinical methods course, an acoustics course, and a neural anatomy and physiology course having earned a grade of "B" or better. Additional national certification requirements must be completed before enrollment in graduate coursework. Those requirements include the following: physics, biology, psychology, and statistics.

International students follow the same application procedure as U.S. students with one addition. If English is not the student's native language he or she is required to score a minimum of 79 (internet-based) or 550 (paper-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and a minimum of 26 (internet-based) on the speaking portion of the TOEFL (IBT) or a minimum IELTS speaking score of 8.5 to be cleared for clinical assignments. It is especially important that students have readily intelligible spoken English, as they will be conducting therapy sessions in English. Additional Graduate College Requirements: Students who score a minimum of 42 on the combined Reading and Listening portions of the TOEFL (internet based) with a minimum score of 20 in each section are not required to enroll in remedial coursework. Remedial coursework includes enrollment in ENGL 0003 Academic English for Graduate Students during the first semester. The course carries a grade of S/U and may not be used toward minimum degree requirements. Students must enroll in ENGL 0003 Academic English for Graduate Students each semester until a grade of S is earned. Students who score less than 22 on the TOEFL Writing portion must enroll in ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students during their first semester. ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students carries graduate credit and may be used toward minimum degree requirements. A minimum grade of C is required. All admitted students will be considered for graduate teaching assistantships and fee waiver scholarships. Graduate teaching assistants qualify for tuition waiver.

Financial Aid

Requirements for admission to a graduate program. Either examination must have been taken within the last two years. Students who have completed the IELTS or the paper-based TOEFL have different requirements as stated by the OSU Graduate College. To ensure that graduate students are sufficiently skilled at written English, the Test of English Language Proficiency (TELP) is required for all graduate students who took the IELTS or paper-based (PBT) TOEFL test. The TELP must be taken before the student's first semester enrollment. The International Student Services Office is available on campus to assist international students.

Alternatively, an official IELTS, academic stream, examination with a minimum overall band score of 6.5 will satisfy the English proficiency requirements for admission to a graduate program. Either examination must have been taken within the last two years. Students who have completed the TOEFL (IBT) or a minimum IELTS speaking score of 8.5 to be cleared for clinical assignments. It is especially important that students have readily intelligible spoken English, as they will be conducting therapy sessions in English. Additional Graduate College Requirements: Students who score a minimum of 42 on the combined Reading and Listening portions of the TOEFL (internet based) with a minimum score of 20 in each section are not required to enroll in remedial coursework. Remedial coursework includes enrollment in ENGL 0003 Academic English for Graduate Students during the first semester. The course carries a grade of S/U and may not be used toward minimum degree requirements. Students must enroll in ENGL 0003 Academic English for Graduate Students each semester until a grade of S is earned. Students who score less than 22 on the TOEFL Writing portion must enroll in ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students during their first semester. ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students carries graduate credit and may be used toward minimum degree requirements. A minimum grade of C is required. Both ENGL 0003 Academic English for Graduate Students and ENGL 4893 Research Writing for International Graduate Students, as applicable, must be listed on the student's Plan of Study.

Examinations

Requirements for the master of science degree include 36 credit hours of academic courses and 15 credit hours of clinical practicum. The program typically can be completed in two academic years including one summer semester.

Examining

Students enrolled in a thesis option complete a master's thesis under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Student enrolled in a non-thesis option complete an academic/clinical portfolio, and a comprehensive examination.

Faculty

Ronald Schaefer, PhD—Professor of Professional Practice and Interim Head
Associate Professor: Cheryl Giddens, PhD
Assistant Professors: Valerie Freeman, PhD; Ramesh Kaipa, PhD; Sabiha Parveen, PhD; Peter Richardsmeier, PhD; Yu Zhang, PhD