

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Graduate Programs

The Master of Science degree program is designed to provide students with intensive coursework 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 coursework.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for admission are recommended to 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, a minimum verbal GRE score of 153, 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 summer or 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 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). 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 during their first semester. ENGL 4893 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 as applicable, must be listed on the student's Plan of Study.

Alternatively, an official IELTS, academic stream, examination with a minimum overall band score of 6.5 is required for admission to the graduate program. However, a minimum IELTS speaking score of 8.5 is required for clinical assignments. 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.

Financial Aid

All admitted students will be considered for graduate teaching assistantships and fee waiver scholarships. Graduate teaching assistants qualify for tuition waiver.

Program Requirements

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.

Examinations

Students enrolled in a thesis option complete a master's thesis under the direction of a member of the graduate faculty. Students enrolled in a non-thesis option complete a comprehensive examination.