



College of Nursing and Allied Health

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Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology**

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Introduction

The Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology at Southern University offers students' academic and clinical preparation that meets the requirements of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology.

PLAN OF STUDY MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

The goal of the program is to prepare highly competent speech language pathologists who are dedicated to providing services to diverse individuals across the lifespan who have communication disorders. This goal is achieved through a curriculum that integrates academic rigor, research activities, technology, and clinical practicum. The curriculum is designed to produce speech-language pathologists from diverse backgrounds who are capable of engaging in evidence-based practices as they work independently and collaboratively in a variety of things, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, community clinics, private practice, preschool programs, and public schools.

Instructional Core

Basic Science Coursework

(12 semester hours at the undergraduate level)

- Biological Sciences
- Physical Science (Physics or Chemistry)
- Social /Behavioral Sciences
- Statistics

Academic Course Work (42 semester hours)

SECD 504B Pediatric Swallowing and Feeding	3 credits
SECD 528B Differential Diagnosis of SLP Disorders	3 credits
SECD 530B Speech Sound Disorders	3 credits
SECD 555B Functional Organic Voice Dis/Cleft Palate	3 credits
SECD 558B Neurodegenerative Disorders Spch/Lang	3 credits
SECD 559B Seminar in Aphasia	3 credits
SECD 560B Stuttering: Diagnosis & Mgmt.	3 credits
SECD 565B Early Intervention & Assessment in SLP	3 credits
SECD 566B Lang Dis & Assmt in School Age Child	3 credits
SECD 564B Seminar in Interprofessional Ed & Prac for SLP	3 credits
SECD 583B Advanced Aural Rehab and Aud for the SLP	3 credits
SECD 584B Aug & Alternative Comm in Child & Adults	3 credits
SECD 585B Developmental Dis, Dyslexia, Autism, and Lit Dis	3 credits
SECD 667B Dysphagia Assessment and Management	3 credits

Clinical Core* (12+ semester hours)

SECD 567 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3 credits
SECD 568 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3 credits
SECD 569 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3 credits
SECD 571 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3 credits

*Additional clinical practicum courses may be necessary to fulfill the 400 clock-hour requirement of the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Research & Exit Core (6 semester hours)

Research & Exit Core (6 semester hours)

Students are introduced to Research Methods their first semester then complete research projects in most academic courses to prepare them for clinical evidenced based practice (EBP) projects and, ultimately, the Departmental Comprehensive Exam. The Departmental Comprehensive Exam consists of successfully passing the Praxis Exam and the Departmental Oral/Written EBP Project.

SECD 500B Research Methods & EBP in SLP	3 credits
SECD 599B- 01 Praxis Preparation	3 credits
SECD 601B Departmental Comprehensive Exam	0 credits

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Hold an undergraduate major in speech-language pathology or completed post-baccalaureate in speech-language pathology from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Apply for Admission into the Graduate Program in Speech-Language Pathology through CSDCAS.
- All applications must be submitted through **CSDCAS only** and not directly to the Graduate School.
- Southern University Graduate School application with intent to major in speech-language pathology.
- CSDCAS application which includes official transcript, three letters of recommendation with two from professors in speech-language pathology and one being from an in-field instructor, or any other professional, GRE scores, resume, video, and admission essay.
- Participation in interview (for invited students only)
- Applications for admission are accepted and considered only once per year for the Fall term. Admission is competitive.
- Applications for admission for the following academic year should be received by April 15.

In addition to meeting the general admission requirements of the Graduate School, applicants must meet the following criteria for admission into the Graduate Program in Speech Language Pathology:

- An undergraduate degree in speech-language pathology or post-baccalaureate in speech-language pathology
- Transcripts should document successful completion of one or more courses in each of the following areas: biological science, physical sciences, statistics, social/behavioral sciences, physics or chemistry.
- Any level of admission to the graduate program in speech-language pathology requires a bachelor's degree in speech-language pathology, which must be completed by the date of projected enrollment. Upon acceptance, official transcript verification of the degree must be provided prior to beginning courses in the graduate program.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher (on a 4.0 scale)
- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required (Including Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytic Writing subtests). The GRE score is heavily weighted in the evaluation and ranking of applications. The GRE scores should be within the past five years. For applicants who have taken the exam multiple times, the program only counts the most recent scores for all sections. After initial processing of applications, selected applicants will be invited to an interview.
- A minimum of 25 ASHA approved observation hours must be completed prior to beginning our SLP Master's Program. Copies of original documentation, which

includes supervisor signatures, will be required soon after the program begins.

- A transcript showing at least twenty-seven (27) semester credit hours in undergraduate speech-language pathology courses which must include:
 - Phonetics (3 credits)
 - Normal speech and language acquisition/development (3 credits)
 - Anatomy and physiology of the ear and vocal mechanism (3 credits)
 - Introduction to communication disorders (3 credits)
 - Introduction to audiology (3 credits)
 - Voice Science (3 credits)
 - Aural Rehabilitation (3credits)
 - Stuttering (3 credits)
 - Articulation (3credits)

Questions concerning admission status should be submitted in writing to:

Department of Speech-Language Pathology
College of Nursing and Allied Health
Post Office Box 9500
Southern University Branch Post Office
Baton Rouge, LA 70813

Program of Study: Two Year Program

To ensure students systematically and successfully matriculate through the program, they are introduced to the 2-Year Program during their initial orientation. The Program of Study: Two-Year Program of Study is for students who are admitted with Regular Admission Status and who will be involved in the program on a full-time basis (fewer than 20 hours of outside employment per week). Advisement by the Graduate Program Director is required at least once each semester prior to registration. Students admitted with Regular Status can only be enrolled as full-time status only.

Accreditation

The Master of Science (M.S.) program in speech-language pathology at Southern University A&M College is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.