

**Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology  
Intercampus Program in Communicative Disorders  
The University of Kansas**

## **Program Overview**

The master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology is typically completed in five full-time semesters, including a summer semester. Exceptions may occur for the student who has a number of prerequisites to complete or one who extends his/her program for additional thesis or course work. A master's degree from KU will, in most circumstances, satisfy the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's certification standards for continuing on to the Clinical Fellowship Year. The Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology is awarded upon completion of a successful Clinical Fellowship.

## **Academic Prerequisites**

1. An acceptable bachelor's degree.
2. Thirty-four credits in speech pathology, including the following courses or their equivalents:
  - The Physics of Speech
  - Survey of Communication Disorders
  - Neuroscience of Human Communication
  - Fundamentals of Clinical Phonetics
  - Language Science
  - Language Sample Analysis
  - Language Development
  - Research Methods in Speech-Language-Hearing
  - Principles of Speech Science
  - Principles of Hearing Science
  - Introduction to Audiological Assessment and Rehabilitation
  - Introduction to Speech-Language Pathology
3. At least one course in the following areas: biological sciences (i.e., biology, anatomy, physiology, genetics), physical sciences (i.e., physics, chemistry), mathematics (statistics is recommended to fulfill this requirement), and the social/behavioral sciences (i.e., psychology, sociology, cultural anthropology). Students with a bachelor's degree from a liberal arts college or university should meet this requirement. Students with a bachelor's degree from a non-liberal arts college or university should consult with an advisor from the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing: Sciences and Disorders to determine if this requirement has been met.

## **Clinical Prerequisites**

Students are required to have completed 25 clock hours of directed clinical observation before beginning graduate clinical practicum. If observation hours are needed, those will be provided during the first semester of enrollment in the master's program.

## **Requirements for the M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology**

### **Program with Thesis**

1. Minimum of 46 graduate credits
  - a. At least 33 credits of academic coursework including:
    - SPLH 764 Seminar in Multicultural Issues (2 credits)
    - SPLH 860 Evaluation of Speech and Language (2 credits)
    - SPLH 862 Clinical Processes (2 credits)
    - SPLH 868 Professional Seminar (2 credits)
    - At least 16 basic elective credits in SPLH
    - At least 5-6 advanced elective credits in SPLH or another department
    - 4-6 credits in SPLH 899 Master's Thesis
  - b. At least 13 credits of clinical practice including:
    - SPLH 864 Adv. Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology (7 credits)
    - SPLH 866 Field Study in Speech-Language Pathology (5 credits)
    - 1-5 additional credits in either SPLH 864 or SPLH 866 to attain a minimum of 400 total clock hours of clinical practice with at least 325 of these clock hours accumulated at the graduate level.
2. Pass both formative and summative exams.
3. Completion of an acceptable thesis and oral defense.

### **Program without Thesis**

The non-thesis program has the same degree requirements as those described above for the M.A., except that the thesis is replaced with a minimum of 3 credits of additional research-related coursework, a research practicum experience, or an independent study course. The latter two options may include independent research projects or on-going laboratory activities.

### **Graduate Coursework**

The following graduate courses are offered. Required courses are noted with an asterisk.

- Communication and Social Skills/Relationships
- Advocacy and Leadership

- Communication and Autism
- Neural Bases of Speech and Voice
- Infant Development
- \*Multicultural Issues: Diagnostics
- \*Multicultural Issues: Treatment
- Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- Aerodynamics of Speech
- Circuit Theory and Instrumentation
- Communication Neuroscience
- AAC in Schools
- AAC in Literacy
- Autism and Asperger's Syndrome
- ASL
- AAC Technology Lab
- AAC: Issues and Research
- Language Development
- Developmental Phonological Disorders
- Dysarthria and Apraxia
- Fluency Disorders
- Phonatory Disorders
- Speech Disorders in Special Populations
- Dysphagia
- Language Disorders of Children: Infants/Toddlers
- Language Disorders of Children: Preschool Children
- Language Disorders of Children: School-Aged Children
- Language Disorders of Adults
- Language Disorders of Special Populations
- Language Disorders Secondary to CHI/Dementia
- Alternative/Augmentative Communication
- Reading Disorders
- \*Evaluation of Speech and Language
- \*Clinical Processes
- \*Advanced Clinical Practice
- \*Field Study in Speech-Language Pathology
- \*Professional Seminar
- Research Practicum
- Independent Study
- Seminar in Speech-Language Pathology
- Clinical Treatment of Phonological Disorders
- Master's Thesis