Curriculum in Communication Disorders Leading to
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

The Field
The curriculum leading to a Bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders is designed to provide the
undergraduate student with a broad introductory background to the normal processes of speech, hearing,
language, and related functions, as well as a basic understanding of communicative pathologies and a
familiarization with various approaches to their assessment and treatment.

The Bachelor's program does not provide (nor is it designed to provide) the student with all of the
necessary competencies that allow for employment within the professions of Speech/Language
Pathology or Audiology. The curriculum does provide the necessary academic preparation for graduate
study in Speech/Language Pathology or Audiology which is the level of preparation where the
achievement of professional competencies are the primary goal of course study and supervised
practicum.

Students are strongly advised to consult the academic advisor about the content and sequence of their
curriculum, especially where the choice and sequencing of electives are concerned.

The Major
1. Required courses within the Department of Communication Disorders (30 credits)
   - Comm-Dis 100 Introduction to Communication Disorders – (DU SB) (Strongly suggested
     but not required)
   - Comm-Dis 211 Anatomy and Physiology I: The Speech and Hearing Mechanism
   - Comm-Dis 212 Anatomy and Physiology II: Neurological Bases of Speech, Language, and
     Hearing
   - Comm-Dis 213 Phonetic Processing
   - Comm-Dis 214 Introduction to Hearing Science
   - Comm-Dis 301 Speech and Language Development - (IE)
   - Comm-Dis 312 Introduction to Speech Science
   - Comm-Dis 313 Introduction to Audiology
   - Comm-Dis 330 Junior Year Writing
   - Comm-Dis 390A Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation
   - Comm-Dis 415 Speech and Language Disorders
   - Comm-Dis 496K Senior Observations - 1 cr. (Strongly suggested but not required)

2. Other Required Courses (13 credits)
   A. Physics 114 (4 credits) Theory of Sound - (PS)
   B. Psychology 350 Developmental Psychology
      or Human Development 270 Child Development - (SB)
   C. Linguistics 201 Introduction to Linguistic Theory - (R2)
   D. Choose one of the following:
      - Statistics 111 Elementary Statistics - (R1, R2)
      - Statistics 240 Introduction to Statistics - (R1, R2)
      - Psychology 240 Statistics in Psychology - (R2)
      - Sociology 212 Elementary Statistics - (R2)
      - Resource Econ. 212 Intro. Stats/Life or Soc Sci - (R1, R2)
      - Education 555 Intro. Stats/Computer Analysis
3. **Senior Electives** (recommended)

Students may take elective coursework within the department, including:

A. Undergraduate and mixed Undergraduate/Graduate courses such as:

- Comm-Dis 398 Practicum-Internship
- Comm-Dis 490A Hearing Health and Society
- Comm-Dis 496 Independent Studies with Department Professors
- Comm-Dis 416 Clinical Procedures
- Comm-Dis 530 Neurological Substrates and Neuropathologies of Language, Speech, and Hearing
- Comm-Dis 570 Research in Communication Disorders
- Comm-Dis 580 Cognitive Bases of Language
- Comm-Dis 591E SLP Assistants in the Schools

**Note:** Other 500 level courses may be available. Check SPIRE each semester for any additional listings.

B. Graduate level Comm-Dis courses for which prerequisites are met, room is available, and instructor permission is granted.

4. **Letter of Specialization for Speech-Language Pathology Assistants**

The letter of Specialization is awarded to interested students who complete the following sequence in professional preparation as a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLP-A).

- Take COMM-DIS 591E: Speech-Language Pathology Assistants in the Schools, and earn a grade of B- or above in the course.
- Complete 20 hours of observation. Each observation must be signed by someone with ASHA CCCs and a state-issued license, and the final hours summary must be signed by designated departmental clinical staff.
- Complete a pre-approved practical experience working with pre-school or school-aged children.

5. **Sequence of Curriculum**

The department's curriculum should be taken in the prescribed sequence indicated below. Please speak with academic advising about the best sequence for your needs, especially if you enter the major after sophomore year or plan to study abroad.

**SUGGESTED SCHEDULE**

**Freshman**

Comm-Dis 100: Introduction to Communication Disorders (Fall or spring) *suggested but not required
Statistics (Fall or Spring)

**Sophomore (Fall)**

- Comm-Dis 211: Anatomy and Physiology I
- Comm-Dis 213: Phonetic Processing
- Physics 114
- Psychology 350 or Human Dev. 270 (Fall or Spring)
- Linguistics 201 (Fall or Spring)

**Sophomore (Spring)**

- Comm-Dis 212: Anatomy and Physiology II
- Comm-Dis 214: Introduction to Hearing Science

**Junior (Fall)**

- Comm-Dis 301: Speech and Language Development
- Comm-Dis 313: Introduction to Audiology
- Comm-Dis 330: Junior Year Writing (Fall or Spring)

**Junior (Spring)**

- Comm-Dis 312: Introduction to Speech Science
- Comm-Dis 390A: Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation

**Senior**

- Comm-Dis 415: Speech and Language Disorders (Fall or Spring)
- Comm-Dis 496K: Observations (Fall or Spring)

*Revised Fall 2018*