

Communication Disorders (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology) Pre-Professional Preparation at Iowa State University

Semester	Courses	Credits	Prerequisites	Delivery
Sophomore year, Fall	Engl/Ling 219	3	Sophomore classification	Traditional classroom
Sophomore year, Fall	Biol 255 (Note: Biol 256 is also highly recommended)	3	High School Biology and Chemistry, or Biol 101	Traditional classroom
Sophomore year, Spring	CmDis/Ling 275	3	Engl/Ling 219	Traditional classroom
Sophomore year, Spring	CmDis/Ling 371	3	Engl/Ling 219	
Sophomore, Junior, or Senior year, Spring or Fall	Stat 101 or 104	3	High school algebra	Traditional classroom or Online
Sophomore, Junior, or Senior year, Fall	PHYS 198 (Physics of Music)	3	No prerequisites	Traditional classroom
Sophomore, Junior, or Senior year, Spring or Fall	ENGL/LING 220 (Descriptive English Grammar)	3	Engl 250	Traditional classroom
Sophomore, Junior or Senior Year, Fall or Spring	SP ED 250. (Education of the Exceptional Learner in a Diverse Society).	3	(C I 204-recommended, but not required))	Traditional classroom
Junior year, Fall	CmDis 471	3	CmDis/Ling 275 or Engl/Ling 219	Online (WWW)
Junior or Senior year, Spring (Even years – 2014, etc.)	CmDis/Ling 480A (Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing)	3	Biol 255; CmDis/Ling 275; CmDis/Ling 371	Online (WWW)
Junior or senior year, Spring (Odd years – 2015, etc.)	CmDis/Ling 480C (Diagnosis and Evaluation of Speech and Language Disorders)	3	Biol 255; CmDis/Ling 275; CmDis/Ling 371	Online (WWW)
Junior or Senior year, Fall (Even years – 2014, etc.)	CmDis/Ling 480B (Articulation and Phonological Disorders)	3	Biol 255; CmDis/Ling 275; CmDis/Ling 371	Online (WWW)
Junior or Senior year, Spring or Fall	CmDis 490 (Clinical observation)	1	CmDis/Ling 275; CmDis/Ling 371; CmDis 471	Online (WWW) and Off-Campus
Junior or Senior year, Spring or Fall	Audiology and Speech Science (from another university)	3	CmDis/Ling 275; CmDis/Ling 371; CmDis 471	Online (WWW)
Junior or Senior year, Spring	Psych 310 (Brain and Behavior).	3	Psych 101	Traditional classroom
Junior or Senior year (when offered)	Psych 413 (Psychology of Language)	3	Psych 101	Traditional classroom
Junior or Senior year, Fall	Ling/Engl 437 (Grammatical Analysis)	3	Ling 219; Ling 220	Traditional classroom

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. At Iowa State, you may major or minor in Linguistics, Psychology, or Communication Studies, among other possible majors, while completing the program of study described on Page 1.
2. Since a graduate degree is required for a career in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology, careful planning is required to complete this program of study to maximize your chances of being accepted into a graduate program. The admission to graduate programs is highly competitive and you will need to maintain a high grade-point average. *However, there is no assurance that you will gain admission to a graduate program in Communication Disorders by following the program of study described in this document.*
3. Each graduate program sets its own requirements for courses to be completed at the undergraduate level. Once you are certain that you will want to pursue graduate studies in Communication Disorders, make a list of at least 20 graduate programs you would want to apply to and gather information about their admission requirements (required courses, GPA, GRE scores, how many students apply to their program each year and how many are accepted, etc.) An excellent place to gather this information is the EdFind (<http://www.asha.org/edfind/>).

If there is course, besides the ones you take at Iowa State, that is required by a certain program you want to apply to, consider completing the course online at another university. Before you do that talk to the admission personnel at the program you want to apply to make sure that the course is required and the course you plan to take meets the requirement. The following are some of the universities offering online undergraduate courses in Communication Disorders:

- a. The Utah State University -- <http://comd.usu.edu/htm/distance-education/online-post-bachelors-degree/online-post-bach-courses>.
- b. The University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire -- <http://www.uwec.edu/CE/programs/csdpostbac.htm>
- c. The University of Iowa -- <https://isis2.uiowa.edu/isis2/courses/search.page?q.endTime=&q.sectionNumber=&q.keywords=&q.genEd=&q.courseSubject=CSD&q.startTime=&csl=CSD&showResults=1&q.courseNumber=&q.sessionId=52&q.instructors=>
- d. Eastern New Mexico University -- <http://liberal-arts.enmu.edu/health/cdis/bachelor-cdis.shtml>
- e. The University of Vermont -- <http://learn.uvm.edu/education/speech-language-pathology/master-of-science-in-communication-science-prerequisite-track/>

You may also take some of the courses listed on page 1 above from one of these universities if they are not offered in the semesters you would like to take them or if you enter the program late and need to complete some of these courses at an accelerated pace.

4. Take the Graduate Records Examination (an entrance test for admission to graduate studies -- <http://www.ets.org/gre>) during your junior year.
5. For graduate admission, you will need three letters of recommendations. These letters should come from individuals who are in a position to know your ability, aptitude, and general suitability for graduate work and for a career in a helping profession. Participate actively in classes by asking questions and making comments so that your professors know you. The professors from whom you request letters should have something to write about besides the courses you took from them and the grades you received in them. It is also important to have

community service credentials by volunteering and by being active in University clubs and organizations.

6. Keep a copy of the syllabus for every course in a folder. The course titles vary from university to university and the graduate admissions evaluator may request syllabi to see if the courses are equivalent to the ones they require.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM OF STUDY

The program of study outlined on Page 1 is intended to achieve the objectives listed below. For graduate admission, you will be required to submit a Statement of Purpose. Use these guidelines to personalize your Statement of Purpose. You hope to and, during your undergraduate years, have already started to:

1. Know and understand fundamental and applied principles and facts relating to communication, speech, language, and hearing,
2. Learn to write and speak effectively on topics related to communication and communication disorders,
3. Develop an appreciation for and respect people with different communication styles and abilities,
4. Understand and apply principles, methods, and procedures for evaluating communicative performance and competence,
5. Think scientifically and seek evidence-based methods and procedures for the management of communication disorders,
6. Study the research methods used in Communication Disorders and the importance of basic and clinical research for the advancement of the field, and
7. Follow the principles of ethical practice and professional integrity in working with children and adults with a communication disorder.

Address each of the items above in your Statement of Purpose, adding specific personal information that shows how you have attempted to achieve each of the objectives through coursework and on- and off-campus activities and how you would want to expand your knowledge in each of these areas during your graduate study.

CmDis 490: CLINICAL OBSERVATION HOURS

You may register for one credit of CmDis 490 to complete the ASHA requirement of 25 hours of clinical observation. Prerequisites for this are: CmDis 275, CmDis 371, and CmDis 471. To complete this requirement, you will register at the Master Clinician Network (<http://masterclinician.org/>). There is a \$25 fee for the use of this web site. In addition to completing 25 hours of clinical observation on this site, you will also do at least 10 hours of job shadowing as part of this course. We will use the book – Hambrecht, G., and Rice, T. (2011) *Clinical observation: A guide for students in speech, language, and hearing*. Jones & Bartlett Learning: Sudbury, MA. You will take one multiple-choice test based on the information in this book.

Job shadowing/Internship opportunities

Unfortunately, there are no paid internship positions that we know of for undergraduate students interested in a career in Speech-Language pathology. However, there are many opportunities for

volunteering, job shadowing, and unpaid internships in or near Ames, Iowa. Some of these resources are listed below.

1. Mary Greeley Medical Center has volunteer/job shadowing/unpaid internship opportunities. Find information about and an application form for interhship/job-shadowing at: <http://www.mgmc.org/careers/internships-job-shadowing/>.
2. ChildServe, which provides comprehensive rehab services for children with disabilities, may have volunteer/job shadowing opportunities. It has facilities in Ames, Des Moines, and Johnston, Iowa. The contact person is listed below.
Kaylene Steele , Volunteer Coordinator, 5406 Merle Hay Road, P.O. Box 707, Johnston, IA 50131, Tel: 515-331-8139 kaylens@childserve.org
3. On With Life in Ankeny is a brain injury rehabilitation facility and accepts volunteers. Find the online volunteer application form here: <http://www.onwithlife.org/volunteer-forms.aspx>.
4. Ames School District provides federally mandated special education programs for children with disabilities. This includes speech therapy. Contact these individuals to see if you can volunteer/job shadow with a speech-language pathologist. You may also inquire about opportunities in the English as Second Language program in the Ames School District.

Barb Weber, Student Programs Secretary
Email: barb.weber@ames.k12.ia.us
Phone: 515/268-6626

Leslie Weible, Student Programs Secretary
email: leslie.weible@ames.k12.ia.us
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5. WesleyLife (<http://www.wesleylife.org/volunteers-and-internships.aspx>) is a retirement and rehabilitation facility located in the following Iowa locations: Des Moines, Washington, Atlantic, Newton, Indianola, West Des Moines, and Pella. They have short-term volunteer opportunities in all locations. You may be able to work closely with speech-language pathologists during summer and over semester breaks if you live close to one of these facilities.
6. St. Cecilia Catholic Church, 2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, IA 50010 (Phone: 515-233-3092) offers spoken English lessons to those learning English as a Second Language. Contact Persons: Karl Gwiasda (evening sessions), 232-7582; Lloyd Anderson (morning sessions), 296-1002.

If you contact any of these sources, please do let me (Giri Venkatagiri, giri@iastate.edu) know how it turned out – whether you could find any opportunities and how such opportunities benefited you. This information is very helpful to other students in the future.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions, contact Greta Levis, gmlevis@iastate.edu or Giri Venkatagiri, giri@iastate.edu.

Communication Sciences Student Survival Guide published by the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association and available on Amazon and Ebay has a wealth of information on how to prepare and apply for admission to graduate programs in Communication Disorders.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has comprehensive information on graduate education in Communication Disorders here: <http://www.asha.org/students/academic/Graduate-School/>