

# COMMUNICATION SCIENCES DISORDERS

---

220, Columbia, SC 29208 and employs three audiologists, nine speech-language pathologists, and four staff members.

Department Website (<http://www.sph.sc.edu/comd/>)

Jean Neils-Strunjas, *Chair*

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers graduate training leading to the master's and doctoral degrees. The Master of Science (M.S.) program in speech-language pathology (residential and distance education modalities) has been continuously accredited for more than 30 years by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, which is affiliated with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), formerly the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation. Graduates of the master's program are eligible for their state license to practice speech-language pathology, a teaching certificate from the South Carolina State Department of Education and are prepared for a clinical fellowship leading to board certification from ASHA (the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology). The Department provides two paths to the master's degree in speech-language pathology. The Master of Science (M.S.) in Speech-Language Pathology degree in the residential modality (MS-Res) is the traditional, on-campus program in which students are continuously enrolled on a full-time basis for two calendar years. The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology degree in the distance-education modality (MS-DE) is a part-time degree program, offered through distance education, requiring three to four years of study, depending on a student's prior academic training.

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders is designed to prepare individuals for careers in research and the scholarly study of the science of human communication and its disorders. Doctoral students, under the direction of a mentor, regularly participate in laboratory activities and pursue a program of scholarly research leading to publication in scientific journals and grant writing. The Ph.D. is an academic degree and focuses on providing students with the skills necessary to be successful university professors at research-1 institutions.

## Academic Requirements for Progression

Students pursuing a graduate degree in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders may not receive more than 11 semester hours of grades below B. Upon receipt of the twelfth semester hour of C+ or below, the student becomes academically ineligible to continue in the program. It should be noted that this academic requirement is more stringent than that of The Graduate School, which requires only that students maintain an overall graduate grade point average of 3.0.

## Montgomery Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

The Montgomery Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic is one of many practicum sites where students pursuing their master's degree in speech-language pathology receive supervised clinical experience. Clinical services include speech, language, and hearing evaluations and treatment for persons of all ages, including University students and faculty members. The Clinic is located at 1705 College Street, Suite