SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, M.S.

Degree Requirements (Minimum 76 Hours)

Course Work and Clinical Experiences

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers the Master of Science degree (M.S.) in Speech-Language Pathology in a full-time face-to-face/residential format (MS-Res), as well as in a part-time distance education format (MS-DE). The M.S. degree offered in two pathways (MS-Res and MS-DE) is designed to ensure that its graduates obtain the academic course work and clinical experiences necessary to meet the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) standards for the Certification of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP). As such, the curricula require a minimum of 76 semester hours of academic course work plus the completion of 375 clock hours of supervised clinical practicum. Virtually all master's degree graduates, however, exceed these minimums, with most completing as much as 80 semester hours of study. Courses comprising the master's degree curriculum fall within three basic content areas: Basic Communication Sciences, Professional Coursework, and Clinical Practicum. In addition, the following courses have been verified by the State of South Carolina, Department of Education, Office of Educator Services, to meet the South Carolina Literacy Competencies (Administrators/Speech Language Therapist) for the Read to Succeed pre-service 6-credit requirements:

Course	Title	Credits
COMD 706	Preschool Language Development and Disorders	3
COMD 720	School-Age Language & Literacy Development and Disorders	3
COMD 727	Advanced Study of Literacy for Speech-Language Pathologists	2
Total Credit Hours		**8**

Basic Communication Sciences

Course	Title	Credits
COMD 501	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanisms	3
COMD 744	Neurocognitive Bases of Language Behavior	3
COMD 745	Introduction to Speech Science and Acoustic Measurement	3
COMD 507	Language Theory and Phonetics	3
COMD 560	Observation of Speech Language Pathology	1-3
COMD 570	Introduction to Language Development	3
Total Credit Hours		**16-18**

Professional Course Work

Of the minimum 45 semester hours of professional course work, a minimum of 36 semester hours must be within the area of Speech-Language Pathology. MS-Res and MS-DE students must also take **PUBH 700**.

- Speech Disorders (Minimum 6 semester hours at the graduate level, with 9 semester hours overall at the undergraduate and graduate levels)
- Language Disorders (Minimum 9 semester hours)
- Other Speech Pathology Courses (Minimum 15 semester hours)
- Audiology (Minimum 6 semester hours at the graduate level)
- Cochlear Implants (Minimum 3 semester hours)

Clinical Practicum

Minimum 24 semester hours.

Course	Title	Credits
COMD 772	Practicum in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology (minimum 12 semester hours total)	12
COMD 774	Internship in Speech Pathology	12
Total Credit Hours		**24**