Direction and Philosophy

The speech-language pathology curriculum is designed to train competent, culturally sensitive speech-language pathologists who can appreciate and understand the importance of research in clinical practice. In order to accomplish this goal, a multitude of academic and clinical experiences are provided the students, under the direction of skilled instructors, clinical researchers and supervisors both on and off campus. The development of clinical skills requires academic knowledge, the ability to understand and engage in research, and a sensitivity to clients’ needs, values and cultures.

CD Graduate Program

The CD Program curriculum includes all academic and clinical experiences necessary for the Master of Science, American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) certification in speech-language pathology, State of California Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential, and the State of California license to practice speech-language pathology. The practice of speech-language pathology in the state of California requires a license issued by the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Examining Committee Medical Board of California. Exempted settings are public schools and federal facilities. The academic and clinical requirements for the state license are similar to those of ASHA requirements in speech-language pathology.

Students are required to complete the requirements for the MS Degree, ASHA Certification, CA Licensing and the SLPSC as follows:

- Ten academic courses totaling 30 units are required for the Master of Science degree in speech-language pathology.
- Additionally, clinical practica requirements range from 21 to 28 units based on the number of experiences necessary for the student to obtain the 375 clinical clock hours plus 25 observation hours required for ASHA certification and California state licensure.
- One additional course is required for the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential, SPED 788.

Completion of the entire CD graduate program requires 57-64 semester units, generally completed within two academic years. Course sequences are provided on the CD Program website at: www.sfsu.edu/~comdis
CD Graduate Program Application Requirements

In order to apply for the Master of Science degree in Communicative Disorders at San Francisco State University, applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree in Communicative Disorders or the equivalent. Those applicants who have completed 12 undergraduate courses, as listed on the SFSU CD website (http://www.sfsu.edu/~comdis/bachelors.html) are considered to have met the equivalent of the bachelor’s degree curriculum. Prior to application, candidates are required to have completed at least 6 or the prerequisite courses. Prior to admission to the CD Graduate Program, applicants must complete at least 9 of the courses and remaining courses may need to be taken as a graduate student.

We encourage prospective master’s candidates to complete the equivalent of the CD coursework via university or on-line course offerings. At this time, our undergraduate courses are not available to post-bacc students, nor do we offer an on-line option. Examples of preprofessional programs (on-line) in speech-language pathology are:

1) California State University, Northridge http://tsengcollege.csun.edu/precds/precds.html
2) Eastern New Mexico University http://liberal-arts.enmu.edu/health/cdis/online.shtml
3) Idaho State University http://www.isu.edu/csed/speech/professional.shtml
4) LaSalle University http://www.lasalle.edu/schools/cpcs/content.php?section=post_bac_certificates&group=preslp&page=index
6) New Paltz State University of New York http://www.newpaltz.edu/commdis/postbacertificate.html
7) University of South Carolina http://www.sph.sc.edu/comd/degreeprograms.htm
8) Utah State University http://comd.usu.edu/htm/distance-education/online-bach/onlinebach-overview

CD Graduate Program Advising and Resources

Faculty Advisors and Staff: All CD students are required to attend orientation and advising sessions each semester. Faculty have limited availability in the summer.

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Department of Special Education website:
http://www.sfsu.edu/~spedcd

CD Program website:
http://www.sfsu.edu/~comdis

College of Education website:
http://www.sfsu.edu/~coe

Graduate Studies website:
http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy