Communication Disorders and Sciences (BA/BS)

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The communication disorders and sciences program prepares you to understand, assess, and treat individuals who are experiencing challenges in speech, language, literacy, communication, cognition, and swallowing. Students learn to address these challenges across diverse ethnic, cultural, linguistic, social and economic backgrounds. We emphasize the ability to apply empirical evidence, logic, and a scientific perspective to the process of enhancing communication skills in meaningful and ecologically valid contexts.

The goals of the communication disorders and sciences program are based on the belief that the ability to communicate effectively is a fundamental right of all human beings. When this right is compromised, society suffers along with the individual.

Coursework in the major focuses on acquiring knowledge in the following areas:

- anatomical-physiological bases of speech, language, and hearing
- acoustic properties of sound and speech production
- role of biology, cognition, environment, and culture in language acquisition
- development of speech and language
- speech, language, and hearing disorders across the life span
- assessment and treatment procedures for individuals with speech, language, and hearing disorders
- professional issues in speech-language-pathology and audiology

Program plans for the communication disorders and sciences bachelor of arts (BA) and bachelor of science (BS) degrees are located on the program website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Apply information regarding the bases for human communication (e.g., biological, linguistic, and cultural bases) to evaluate clinical scenarios as a precursor to future clinical practice.
- Demonstrate the prerequisite speaking and expository writing skills to pursue graduate study, clinical training, or work in an allied field post-graduation.
- Analyze the social impact of communication disorders on affected individuals and families and consider how intersecting identities (e.g., race/ethnicity, SES) further influence that impact.
- Participate in career and self-development opportunities, particularly during junior and senior years, to determine optimal post-graduation plans.

Students must earn a C– or better or P in required courses.

Communication Disorders and Sciences Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
LING 150	Structure of English Words	4
CDS 201	Communication Disorders in Society and Media	4
CDS 430	Speech Pathology-Audiology as Professions	2
CDS 431	Beginning Clinical Methods	3
CDS 442	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Mechanism	4
CDS 444	Clinical Phonetics and Phonology	4
CDS 450	Introduction to Language Development	4
CDS 455	Child and Adolescent Development	4
CDS 457	Fundamentals of Audiology	4
CDS 458	Audiology Disorders and Treatment	4
CDS 460	Developmental Disorders in Communication	4
CDS 462	Acquired Disorders of Communication	4
CDS 470	Neuroscience of Speech and Language	4
Social-behavioral science course		4
ANTH 161	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 163	Origins of Storytelling	
ANTH 165	Sexuality and Culture	
PSY or SOC course		
Biological science course		4
BI 121	Introduction to Human Physiology	
BI 123	Biology of Cancer	
BI 132	Introduction to Animal Behavior	
BI 140	Science, Policy, and Biology	
BI 221Z	Principles of Biology I: Cells	
BI 222Z	Principles of Biology II: Organisms	
BI 223Z	Principles of Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	
BI 214	General Biology IV: Biochemistry and Genetics	
HPHY course (excluding HPHY 211 & HPHY 212)		
Physical science course		4
CH or PHYS course		
Statistics course		4
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	
PSY 302	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
SOC 312	Statistical Analysis in Sociology	
Area C Elective		3-4
ANTH 320	Native North Americans	
ANTH 322	Anthropology of the United States	
ANTH 329	Immigration and Farmworkers	
ASL 301	American Deaf Culture	
LING 301	Introduction to Linguistics Analysis	
PSY 304	Biopsychology	
PSY 380	Psychology of Gender	
SOC 311	Research Methods	
SOC 330	Sociology of the Family	

SOC 345	Race and Ethnicity	
SPAN 322	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics	
SPAN 324	Spanish Pronunciation and Phonetics	
Total Credits		**68-69**

Program Plan

Students must meet with the department's undergraduate advisor to develop an academic program plan and ensure that general university requirements and communication disorders and sciences prerequisites are met. Beginning fall term of their junior year, students must follow the program plan of courses in their prescribed sequence. Students who fail to do so will likely delay their graduation date.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Disorders and Sciences

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
First Year		
Fall		
BI 121	Introduction to Human Physiology	4
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
First term of first-year second-language sequence		5
Elective course		4
	Credits	**17**
Winter		
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4
PHYS 152	Physics of Sound and Music	4
WR 122Z	Composition II	4
Second term of first-year second-language sequence		5
	Credits	**17**
Spring		
PHYS 202	General Physics	4
Third term of first-year second-language sequence		5
General education course in arts and letters		4
General education course in science		4
	Credits	**17**
	Total Credits	**51**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Second Year		
Fall		
CDS 201	Communication Disorders in Society and Media	4
LING 150	Structure of English Words	4
First term of second-year second-language sequence		4
General education course that also satisfies a multicultural requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
Second term of second-year second-language sequence		4
General-education course in social science		4
General-education courses in arts and letters		8
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CDS 430	Speech Pathology-Audiology as Professions	2
Third term of second-year second-language sequence		4
General-education course in social science		4
General-education course in science		4
	Credits	**14**
	Total Credits	**46**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Third Year		
Fall		
CDS 442	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Mechanism	4
CDS 455	Child and Adolescent Development	4
General-education course in social science		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
CDS 450	Introduction to Language Development	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
CDS 444	Clinical Phonetics and Phonology	4
CDS 457	Fundamentals of Audiology	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**40**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Fourth Year		
Fall		
CDS 458	Audiology Disorders and Treatment	4
CDS 460	Developmental Disorders in Communication	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
CDS 470	Neuroscience of Speech and Language	4
Elective courses		12
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CDS 431	Beginning Clinical Methods	3
CDS 462	Acquired Disorders of Communication	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**15**
	Total Credits	**43**

Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders and Sciences

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
First Year		
Fall		
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
MATH 105Z	Math in Society	4
BI 121	Introduction to Human Physiology	4
General-education course in science		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
WR 122Z	Composition II	4
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	4
General-education course in science		4
General-education course in arts and letters		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
PSY 202Z	Introduction to Psychology II	4
PHYS 152	Physics of Sound and Music	4
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4
General-education course that also satisfies a multicultural requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**48**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Second Year		
Fall		
CDS 201	Communication Disorders in Society and Media	4
LING 150	Structure of English Words	4
General-education course in social science		4
General-education course in science		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
General-education course in science		4
General-education course in arts and letters		4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CDS 430	Speech Pathology-Audiology as Professions	2
General-education course in arts and letters		4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**14**
	Total Credits	**46**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Third Year		
Fall		
CDS 442	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech Mechanism	4
CDS 455	Child and Adolescent Development	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
CDS 450	Introduction to Language Development	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
CDS 444	Clinical Phonetics and Phonology	4
CDS 457	Fundamentals of Audiology	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**40**

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Fourth Year		
Fall		
CDS 458	Audiology Disorders and Treatment	4
CDS 460	Developmental Disorders in Communication	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
CDS 470	Neuroscience of Speech and Language	4
Elective courses		12
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
CDS 431	Beginning Clinical Methods	3
CDS 462	Acquired Disorders of Communication	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**15**
	Total Credits	**43**