

Communication Disorders and Sciences (PhD)

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The primary mission of the CDS doctoral program is to cultivate the talent and ability of a new generation of scholars and innovators in the field of Communication Disorders and Sciences. The degree program emphasizes advanced knowledge, scholarship, leadership, and clinical competence in the areas of cognitive communication sciences, speech-language acquisition in monolingual and multilingual contexts, and swallowing. A major goal is to instill in each student the capacity for rigorous scholarship, independent judgement, academic excellence, and intellectual honesty. Our vision is to train leaders in the field in an environment that encourages inclusion, critical thinking, freedom of inquiry, and social justice.

Application and Admission

Students should have a GPA of at least 3.50. Most applicants have a master's degree and their certificate of clinical competence upon admission.

Information on program acceptance rates and application instructions and deadlines can be found on the program website: <https://education.uoregon.edu/cds/graduate>.

Prior to submitting an application, an applicant should have contact with a UO faculty member in the desired area of specialization and have identified a potential doctoral mentor. Upon admission and in consultation with the student, an academic advisor is selected, taking into account the student's personal and professional goals. This advisor chairs the student's program committee.

Program Learning Outcomes

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

- Demonstrate competence in scholarly, scientific writing by the end of their second year of study.
- Demonstrate competence, including cultural competence, in designing and implementing a research study by the end of their fourth year of study.
- Demonstrate competence in conducting teaching in an inclusive and culturally responsive manner by the end of their fourth year of study.

The primary area of specialization is determined through discussion with the student's Doctoral Advisor. The collateral or secondary area may involve courses in more than one academic department. Doctoral students must choose an area of research interest (e.g., single-subject or quantitative methodologies). Other requirements are detailed in the Doctoral Program Handbook, available through the program office.

Options for primary area of specialization include speech-language acquisition in monolingual contexts and swallowing. The collateral or secondary area may involve courses in more than one academic department. Examples of collateral areas are neuropsychology,

linguistics, or developmental psychology. Doctoral students must choose an area of research interest (e.g., single-subject or quantitative methodologies). Other requirements are detailed in the *Doctoral Program Handbook*, available through the program office.

Required Doctoral Coursework

The doctoral program plan will be determined in consultation with and approved by the student's Doctoral Advisor. A total of 81-quarter hours of doctoral study are required beyond the master's degree. Note: The requirements listed below are considered the minimum requirements for graduation. However, the doctoral training experience is, by nature, individualized to meet the long-term goals of each student. Students should therefore expect that there will be additional training activities suggested and/or required to meet individualized training needs, which will be determined in consultation with the Doctoral Advisor and/or program committee.

Code	Title	Credits
Research Methodology Requirement ¹		21
EDUC 612	Social Science and Education Research Design	
4 courses in a primary methodology		
2 courses in a secondary methodology		
Classroom Instruction/Supervision/EBP Mentorship Requirement ²		5
EDUC 605	Reading and Conference: [Topic]	
Primary Area of Specialization ³		21
Collateral or Minor Area of Specialization ⁴		9
Grant Writing		
SPED 626	Grant Writing ⁵	3
Pre-Dissertation Research Requirements ⁶		6
Dissertation Research Requirements		18
CDS 603	Dissertation	
Total Credits		81

¹ A minimum of 6 courses must be taken in research methodologies, split between **two** areas of emphasis selected from quantitative, qualitative, single subject courses, and program evaluation. One selected area of emphasis **must be** quantitative methodology.

² At least 5 credit hours must be taken in mentored classroom instruction and/or supervision outside of the bounds of graduate employment commitments (if applicable) as well as EBP capstone project mentorship (CDS 605).

³ A minimum of 21 credit hours must be taken in the student's primary area of specialization, as determined through discussion with the student's Doctoral Advisor (e.g., cognitive rehabilitation, child language, swallowing).

⁴ At least 9 credit hours will be required from a collateral area or minor area of specialization (e.g., professional development, early intervention).

⁵ Or an equivalent course as determined by the Advisor.

⁶ At least 6 hours must be completed as part of a Pre-Dissertation Research Project. Doctoral students are required to conduct a research project under the direction of a CDS faculty member prior to beginning the dissertation (this could be the student's Doctoral Advisor or another faculty member in a related area). The pre-dissertation project does not necessarily address the same topics as the dissertation but often does.