COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

To build a strong educational foundation for tomorrow’s audiologists and speech-language pathologists, WSU’s College of Health Professions offers a bachelor’s degree in communication sciences and disorders (CSD). Program graduates are well prepared for advanced degrees in speech-language pathology and audiology — leading to high-demand, high-paying careers, working to improve the lives of patients with impaired communication abilities.

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Audiology
Audiologists study communication disorders related to hearing loss and the non-medical management of the auditory and balance systems. Hearing loss exists for persons who may be unable to hear speech and other sounds loudly enough and/or understand speech even when it is loud enough. Determining the prevalence of hearing loss depends on the type and degree of loss, the area of abnormality in the auditory system (i.e. middle ear, inner ear, brain), noise exposure, and age. Employment opportunities exist in public and private schools, health care facilities, research facilities, and private practice settings.

Employment of audiologists is expected to grow by 34 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Speech-Language Pathology
Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) evaluate, diagnose, and treat communication disorders in individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly. Employment opportunities exist in public and private schools, health care facilities, research facilities, and private practice settings. A scientific, evidence-based approach is used to help those with:

- Fluency disorders gain control of their stuttering
- Swallowing disorders gain control of oral motor skills
- Aphasia (i.e. from a stroke or brain injury) improve comprehension/production of speech and written language
- Language disorders improve language production/comprehension
- Articulation disorders learn how to say speech sounds correctly
- Voice disorders develop proper control of the vocal and respiratory systems
- Severe communication disorders use augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems

Employment of speech-language pathologists is expected to grow by 21 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations.

Hands-On Learning
Are you interested in gaining more experience in your field of study while pursuing your undergraduate degree? The Cooperative Education and Work-Based Learning program at Wichita State has many options available for students. A maximum of 8 hours (CSD 481) and/or 4 hours (CSD 481N) may be applied towards the bachelor’s degree. Graduate students may apply 3 hours (CSD 781) towards their degree with departmental approval.

Students have the opportunity to observe clinical services provided in the Evelyn Hendren Cassat Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic or in various sites around the community. Hands-on clinical practicum with a client in the Clinic is available when enrolled in CSD 425.

Scholarships & Financial Aid
In addition to resources available through the WSU Office of Financial Aid, there are numerous scholarships available specifically for students in Communication Sciences and Disorders. To find out more, and how you can apply, visit wichita.edu/csd/scholarships.

Contact Information
For more information regarding the bachelor’s degree in communication sciences and disorders at Wichita State, call (316) 978-3304 or email csd@wichita.edu. You can also visit the department online at wichita.edu/csd.
Prerequisites
To be admitted to the program, students must meet the following requirements:
- Be enrolled in, or admitted to, WSU
- Have an overall GPA of 2.75 or better
- Complete all Pre-Admission CSD courses with a “B” or better

Pre-Admission Courses - 13 credit hours
- CSD 111 Disorders of Human Communication - 3 credit hours
- CSD 301 Basic Anatomy & Physiology of Speech Mechanism - 2 credit hours
- CSD 302 Basic Anatomy & Physiology of Hearing Mechanism - 2 credit hours
- CSD 304 Early Language Development & Lab - 3 credit hours
- CSD 306 Applied Phonetics & Lab - 3 credit hours

Once admitted to the CSD program, students must complete the following:

Core Concentration - 36 or 37 hours
- CSD 251 Auditory Development & Disorders - 2 credit hours
- CSD 260 Signing Exact English I - 2 credit hours

or
- CSD 270 American Sign Language I - 3 credit hours
- CSD 351 Intro to Auditory Assessment - 3 credit hours
- CSD 416/417 Intro to Language Disorders & Lab - 4 credit hours
- CSD 425 Intro to Clinical Processes - 1 credit hours
- CSD 504 Aural Rehabilitation - 3 credit hours
- CSD 506 Acoustic & Perceptual Phonetics - 3 credit hours
- CSD 514/515 Speech-Sound Disorders & Lab - 4 credit hours
- CSD 517 Communication in Aging - 3 credit hours
- CSD 518 Deaf Culture - 3 credit hours
- CSD 519/521 Genetic & Organic Syndromes & Lab - 4 credit hours
- HS 570, 571, 572, 573 Neuroscience for Health Professionals - 4 hours total

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) requirements for students pursuing Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology graduate programs:
- Biological Science
- Physical Science
- Social/Behavioral Science
- Statistics

It is recommended students consult with an advisor for selecting courses for ASHA requirements.

The CSD major also offers a concentration in Deafness and Hard of Hearing (DHH), which provides enhanced coursework for those who are interested in working with individuals with hearing impairments.

Students must meet all Wichita State University general education and graduation requirements per the university catalog for the baccalaureate degree.

To schedule a campus visit or contact the Office of Admissions, visit wichita.edu/campusvisit or call (316) 978-3085.

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.

For more information on CSD at WSU visit wichita.edu/csd or call (316) 978-3304.