

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

pre-professional program

Students interested in Communication Science & Disorders apply for admission to the communication science program at Pitt-Oakland after successful completion of at least 45 of the 60 required general education credits at Pitt-Bradford. Students may complete some of their required general education courses after they have relocated to Pitt-Oakland.

Required Skills:

Concern for People

Adaptability

Open Mindedness

Patience

Quick Response Time

Communication (Oral & Written)

Excellent Listening Skills

Possible Employers:

Hospitals

Rehabilitation Clinics

Educational Services

Research Labs

Community Care Centers

Private Practice

Elderly Care

A degree in communication disorders can lead to a satisfying and rewarding career in health care, medicine, research, or education. Communication science and disorder degree programs prepare students to diagnose and treat a variety of hearing and speech disorders in children, the elderly, or patients who have suffered speech or hearing trauma.

Communication disorder degree programs focus on the basics of understanding speech, language, and hearing processes, as well as preparing the student to diagnose specific communication disorders. Students can move on to a graduate program to become a speech pathologist or audiologist, or they can use their communication disorder training right out of college to work for a public or private school as a special education teacher or speech therapist.

A Speech-Language Pathologist deals with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of communication disorders. Some of the tasks performed include:

- identification of communication disorders through screening of hearing, speech, language functions;
- assessing, diagnosing and treating childhood speech and language disorders including articulation, phonology, fluency, voice and language;
- assessing, diagnosing and treating neurogenic speech and language/cognitive disorders in adults as a result of stroke, traumatic head injury or other neurological disorders;
- assessing and developing rehabilitation for disorders of oral-pharyngeal function (e.g. dysphagia and related disorders);
- assessing, selecting and developing augmentative and alternative communication systems for children and adults and providing training in their use.

An Audiologist deals with the prevention, identification and measurement of hearing loss and the rehabilitation of individuals with hearing impairments. Some of the tasks performed by an Audiologist include:

- identification of communication disorders through screening of hearing, speech, and language functions;
- facilitating the conservation of auditory system function - developing environmental and occupational hearing and conservation programs;
- assessing, diagnosing, preventing and providing rehabilitation for peripheral and central auditory system dysfunctions;
- selecting, fitting and dispensing of amplification, assistive listening and alerting devices and providing training in their use;
- providing aural rehabilitation and related counseling services to hearing-impaired individuals and their families.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CAREERS IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE & DISORDERS AT:

University of Pittsburgh-Oakland CDS

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Speech Pathology

American Academy of Audiology

Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.shrs.pitt.edu/CSD/

www.asha.org

www.speechpathology.com

www.audiology.org

www.bls.gov



Pre-Communication Science & Disorders – Curriculum Guide

Student Name:

PS#

Students considering a career in speech-language pathology or audiology can identify their career goals by following the Pre-Communication Science & Disorders advising track. PLEASE NOTE: this is not an official Pitt-Bradford major. A professional career in speech-language pathology or audiology requires further graduate study in an accredited program and completion of a clinical fellowship year.

PRE-COMMUNICATION SCIENCE & DISORDERS

Students interested in Communication Science & Disorders apply for admission to the communication science program at Pitt-Oakland after successful completion of at least 60 credits at Pitt-Bradford. Students may complete some of their required general education courses after they have relocated to Pitt-Oakland. There is no minimum grade requirement for each course (except in English courses), but students must earn a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. The required 60 general education credits should be distributed as follows:

- Art or Music (3)**
- Art, Music, Literature or Creative Expression (3)**
- Behavioral Science (3):** PSY 0101 Introduction to Psychology
- Biological Science (4):** BIOL 0101 Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology **OR**
BIOL 0112 Human Biology **OR**
BIOL 0212/*0222 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- Child Development/Developmental Psychology (3)** PSY 0202 Child Development
- Cognitive processing/neuroscience/biopsychology (3)**
- English Composition (3):** ENG 0101 English Composition (C- or higher)
- Intensive Writing (3):** (C- of higher)
- English or American Literature (3)**
- Foreign Language I (3):** SPAN, FR, GER 0101 (*satisfied by 3 years high school foreign language*)
- Foreign Language II (3):** SPAN, FR, GER 0102 (*satisfied by 3 years high school foreign language*)
- History (3)**
- International Cultures (3)**
- International Cultures (3)**
- International Cultures-Non-Western (3)**
- Math (3):** MATH 0110 Fundamentals of Mathematics
- Philosophy (3):** PHIL 0204 Philosophy and Public Issues
- Physical Science (3-4):** PHYS 0103 Concepts of Modern Physics **OR**
PHYS 0101 Intro. to Physics **OR**
PHYS 0201 Foundations of Physics
- Sociocultural Issues (3):** SOC 0101 Introduction to Sociology
- Statistics (4):** MATH 0133 Statistics **OR**
ECON 0204 Statistical Methods **OR**
PSY 0201 Statistics

**Program Contacts: Dr. Mary Mulcahy, 203F Fisher Hall,
mmp1@pitt.edu, 814-352-0259**

Application for admission to the Pitt-Oakland Communication Science program should be made after completion of approximately 60 credits at Pitt-Bradford. At this time a student will complete an online application through the SHRS at www.shrs.pitt.edu/apply

Pitt-Oakland's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences will notify students of admission via Pitt Email.

Student with questions about the CSD program at Pitt-Oakland should contact
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School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
University of Pittsburgh
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3600 Forbes at Atwood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
(412) 383-6540