

EDUCATION - COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

The undergraduate degree in communication disorders provides the fundamental, prerequisite knowledge necessary for pursuing a graduate degree. Entry for practice in the field of communication disorders is an Au.D. for Audiology and a M.S. for speech-language pathology.

Other Information

Majors in communication disorders must maintain an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. No courses taken on a Credit/No Credit basis will be accepted for the purpose of fulfilling any of the required content, professional, or major speech-language pathology coursework. A minimum grade of "C" must be earned in all professional courses is required for the Bachelors in Communication Disorders program. All grades of incomplete and any new grades below "C" in these specific requirements must be removed. Candidates are responsible for contacting their academic advisor.

The undergraduate degree in communication disorders is a pre-professional degree which does not lead to a certificate or license. A doctorate degree is required for entry into the field of audiology. A master's degree is required for entry into the field of speech-language pathology. Completion of the UNO undergraduate communication disorders program does not guarantee admission to the UNO speech-language pathology graduate program.

Communication Disorders

For students pursuing the Communication Disorders major, no application is required. To continue with Communication Disorders (CDIS) courses, students must maintain a 3.0 NU GPA or higher. The Praxis Core is required for the Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Application.

Early Admission to the Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program via FAST track

CDIS undergraduates are able to apply for early admission to the UNO SLP graduate program. Interested candidates must meet the application requirements below:

1. Apply March of Junior Year
 - a. Application (minimum of 3.5 undergraduate GPA to apply)
 - i. Resume
 - ii. Statement of Purpose: Please include the following in your response: Your aptitude and motivation for graduate study in speech-language pathology; your preparation for this field of study; your viewpoint on the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field of speech-language pathology; your academic plans or research interests; and why would UNO be a good intellectual fit for you?
 - iii. Transcripts (unofficial)
 - iv. Praxis Core (passing scores)

If selected, then applicants are eligible to enroll in a FAST track program. Applicants must meet or exceed minimum requirements throughout their senior year to be fully accepted into the graduate program at UNO.

Fast Track Program

The Communication Disorders Program has developed a Fast Track program for highly qualified and motivated students, thus providing an

opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree while accruing graduate hours. Selected students may count six (6) graduate credit hours towards the completion of their undergraduate program as well as the graduate degree program. Students will work with both undergraduate and graduate advisors to set up a fast-track plan once accepted through early admission into the speech-language pathology (SLP) graduate program.

Program Specifics:

- This program is available for undergraduate students pursuing a bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders desiring to pursue a master's degree in speech-language pathology (SLP).
- Students must submit an application and be accepted into the early admission SLP graduate cohort.
- Students must be completing their junior year and have accrued at least 60 undergraduate credit hours. Students must have successfully completed the following courses: CSD 2550 (4550), CDIS 2420 (4420), CDIS 2380 (4480), CDIS 3390 (4490), CDIS 3450 (4450), CDIS 3460 (4460), CDIS 3370 (4370), chemistry or physics, biology, and statistics.
- Students must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.5.
- Students must complete the Fast Track Approval form and obtain all signatures and submit to the Office of Graduate Studies prior to first enrollment in a graduate course
- Students will work with their undergraduate advisor to register for the graduate courses (for a total of six [6] graduate credit hours).
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for the graduate coursework to remain in good standing.
- Students remain undergraduates until they meet all the requirements for the undergraduate degree and are eligible for all the rights and privileges granted undergraduate status including financial aid.
- Formal application to the graduate program is required by January 15 of the student's senior year. The application fee will be waived. The applicant must contact the Office of Graduate Studies for a fee waiver code.
 - Fast Track/Early Admission Candidates must successfully complete their undergraduate BS degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and all graduate courses with a 3.0 or better, be in good standing, and complete formal graduate admission application to be fully admitted into the speech-language pathology graduate program.
 - The official admit term must be after the completion term of the undergraduate degree.

Fast Track Courses:

Fall of senior year:

- CDIS 8200 (2.0) Advanced Study of Pediatric Speech-Sound Disorders
- CDIS 8560 (2.0) Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Spring of senior year:

- CDIS 8500 (2.0) Basic Clinical Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology

Contact

- **Office of Academic Advising and Field Experiences, Certification**
- **204 Roskens Hall**
- **402.554.2717**
- unocoeadvising@unomaha.edu
- **Dr. Shari DeVney, Graduate Program Chair (GPC)**
- **512 Roskens Hall**
- **402.554.2993**
- sdeveney@unomaha.edu (sdeveney@unomaha.edu)

- Website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-education/special-education-communication-disorders/>)

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Content Coursework		
Candidates in communication disorders must take the following content coursework:		
PSYC 1010	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I	3
PSYC 1020	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY II	3
Select one of the following:		3-5
BIOL 1020	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY	
BIOL 1330	ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY	
BIOL 1450	BIOLOGY I	
Select one of the following:		4-5
PHYS 1110	GENERAL PHYSICS I	
PHYS 1050	INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS	
CHEM 1140 & CHEM 1144	FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY and FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY LABORATORY	
Select one of the following:		3
PSYC 3130	STATISTICS FOR THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
STAT 3000	STATISTICAL METHODS I	
Communication Disorders majors must take the following courses:		
PSYC 2500	LIFESPAN PSYCHOLOGY	3
TED 2100	EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS	3
CDIS 2550	CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY	3
CDIS 1400	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
SPED 1500	INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
CDIS 2380	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE SPEECH MECHANISM	3
CDIS 2420	EARLY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN	3
CDIS 3390	HEARING SCIENCE	3
CDIS 3450	PHONETICS	3
CDIS 3460	SCHOOL AGE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT	3
CDIS 3200	WRITING FOR THE PROFESSION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	3
CDIS 3430	ARTICULATION AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS	3
CDIS 4750	INTRODUCTION TO CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DISORDERS	3
CDIS 4480	RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
CDIS 4490	INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES	3
CDIS 4500	PRINCIPLES OF ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION	3
CDIS 3330	AURAL REHABILITATION	3
CDIS 3370	BASIC AUDIOLOGY	3
CDIS 4470	NEUROPHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE	3
Elective Coursework		

Any related elective coursework must have adviser approval. ¹ 6-9

ACCT 2000	ACCOUNTING BASICS FOR NON-BUSINESS MAJORS	
EDL 2590	FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	
ENTR 3710	ENTREPRENEURIAL FOUNDATIONS	
CDIS 4510	BASIC CLINICAL PRACTICUM IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	
GERO 2000	INTRODUCTION TO GERONTOLOGY	
GERO 3070	DEATH AND DYING	
GERO 4350	ISSUES IN AGING	
GERO 4550	HEALTH ASPECTS OF AGING	
PSYC 3510	EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 3520	CHILD PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 3540	ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 4020	LEARNING	
PSYC 4310	PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL TESTING	
TED 2060	EQUITY, LANGUAGE, AND CULTURAL LITERACY	
TED 2500	DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP	
TED 4590	TEACHING AND LEARNING IN DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS	
SPED 1110 & SPED 1114	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I and AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I LAB	
SPED 1120 & SPED 1124	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II and AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II LAB	
SPED 2200	DEAF STUDIES	
SPED 2110 & SPED 2114	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III and AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III LAB	
SPED 3110 & SPED 3114	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE V and AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE V LAB	
SPED 4150	READING AND WRITING INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES	
SPED 4810	BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS	
Total Credits		79-85

¹ NOTE: One of these electives may include CDIS 4510. Pre-professional preparation program candidates may apply to take CDIS 4510 in their senior year. Admission is selective and requires application to and permission of instructor.

Freshman

Fall		Credits
ENGL 1150	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	3
CMST 1110	PUBLIC SPEAKING FUNDS	3
MATH 1300	COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH SUPPORT	4
Humanities & Fine Arts		3
Social Science		3
Attend welcome events; other campus events		
Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.		
Join student group for major: NSSLHA		
Note: ENGL 1150, ENGL 1160, CMST 1110 or 2120, and approved math (Quantitative Literacy) course should be taken and passed in the first academic year		
Credits		16
Spring		
ENGL 1160	ENGLISH COMPOSITION II	3

PSYC 1010	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I	3
SPED 1500	INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
BIOL 1020 or BIOL 1330 or BIOL 1450	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY or ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY or BIOLOGY I	4
Global Diversity		3
Advising appointment for fall: February – March		
By end of freshman year establish NU GPA of 3.0 or higher.		
Graduate programs look for a GPA of a 3.7+		

Credits 16

Summer

Humanities & Fine Arts		3
Social Science		3

Credits 6

Sophomore

Fall

CDIS 1400	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
TED 2100	EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS	3
CHEM 1140 & 1140 or PHYS 1050 or PHYS 1110	FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY or INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS or GENERAL PHYSICS I	4-5
PSYC 1020	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY II	3

Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.

Gain employment or volunteer work with populations that would use SLP services – the elderly, children, youth, individuals with disabilities, etc.

Must have NU GPA of 3.0 by end of first semester of sophomore year.

Credits 13-14

Spring

CDIS 2380	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE SPEECH MECHANISM	3
CDIS 2420	EARLY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN	3
CDIS 2550	CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY	3
PSYC 3130	STATISTICS FOR THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	3

Advising appointment for fall: February – March

Academic goal: Establish NU GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Credits 12

Summer

PSYC 2500	LIFESPAN PSYCHOLOGY	3
Humanities & Fine Arts		3

Credits 6

Junior

Fall

CDIS 3390	HEARING SCIENCE	3
CDIS 3450	PHONETICS	3
CDIS 3460	SCHOOL AGE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT	3
CDIS 3370	BASIC AUDIOLOGY	3

Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.

Visit Academic & Career Development Center for resume/cover letter building and editing Start thinking about graduate school options.

Credits 12

Spring

CDIS 3200	WRITING FOR THE PROFESSION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	3
CDIS 3430	ARTICULATION AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS	3
CDIS 3330	AURAL REHABILITATION	3
Elective to reach 120		3

Advising appointment for fall: February – March

Prepare to apply to graduate schools (apply to 2+ schools to increase chance of acceptance)

-Take GRE exam – if required by graduate program -Write personal statement

Update resume -Get application process organized -Letters of recommendation - ASHA EdFind

Credits 12

Senior

Fall

CDIS 4470	NEUROPHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE	3
CDIS 4480	RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
CDIS 4490	INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES	3

CDIS Approved Related Elective #1 of 2 or CDIS 4510 Clinic, if accepted

Elective to reach 120 or other degree required course

Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.

Submit app for CDIS 4510 Clinic by October 1st (for spring class)

Prepare to submit graduate school applications by December or prior to university deadline. Ask for letters of recommendation in October.

Credits 15

Spring

CDIS Approved Related Elective #2 of 2 or CDIS 4510 Clinic, if accepted

Elective to reach 120 or other degree required course

CDIS 4500	PRINCIPLES OF ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION	3
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CDIS 4750	INTRODUCTION TO CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DISORDERS	3
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Prepare to graduate and start a graduate program in the fall; apply for graduation by deadline

Credits 12

Total Credits 120-121

This roadmap is a suggested plan of study and does not replace meeting with an advisor. Please note that students may need to adjust the actual sequence of courses based on course availability. Please consult an advisor in your major program for further guidance.

This plan is not a contract and curriculum is subject to change

Additional Information About this Plan:

University Degree Requirements:

The minimum number of hours for a UNO undergraduate degree is 120 credit hours. Please review the requirements for your specific program to

determine all requirements for the program. In order to graduate on-time (four years for an undergraduate degree), you need to take 30 hours each year. Information based on 2023-2024 University of Nebraska at Omaha undergraduate catalog.

Placement Exams:

For Math, English, Foreign Language, a placement exam may be required. More information on these exams can be found at <https://www.unomaha.edu/enrollment-management/testing-center/placement-exams/information.php>

**Transfer credit or placement exam scores may change suggested plan of study

GPA Requirements: Cumulative and major 3.0 NU GPA after program admission, but those admitted to a graduate program consistently earn a GPA of at least a 3.5-3.7 or higher.