

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY M.S.

Degree: Master of Science
<https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/asld/grad/speech/>

Program Director: Karen Day
 Phone: 410-704-4022
 Email: kday@towson.edu

The Speech-Language Pathology program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (See department website for CAA paragraph).

The program provides the student with:

- the study of normal communication processes;
- an in-depth investigation of communication disorders;
- development of therapeutic goals, procedures and materials; and
- extensive clinical experience in on- and off-campus settings.

The program is designed to enable pre-professionals in the field (i.e., those with a bachelor's degree or the equivalent in speech-language pathology and audiology), to meet the academic and clinical practicum requirements of national accrediting and state licensing bodies.

The degree will prepare the individual for national certification and state license for employment in public school, clinical, hospital or private-practice settings. All clinical practicum requirements of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and the Department of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology must be completed before the M.S. degree is awarded.

Admission Requirements

Students with a bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from a regionally accredited college or university can apply to our Master's program. Students must have a minimum of 26 units of undergraduate courses in basic communication and swallowing process, communication disorders and differences, and swallowing disorders. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in the major and a minimum GPA of 3.00 for the last 60 units. The bachelor's degree must be indicated on the transcript by July 1 in order to begin the program. To apply, go to the Speech-Language Pathology Master's Degree Admission Requirements & Deadlines page at: <https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/asld/grad/speech/admission.html>

Students without a bachelor's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology have two options for entering the program:

- Students may complete a second bachelor's degree in communication disorders at an accredited institution (i.e., speech-language pathology and audiology). Students may apply to the second bachelor's program at Towson University or any other accredited university.
or
- Students may complete pre-requisite course work in communication disorders at an accredited university. They may complete this through a pre-requisite university program or through individual courses at one or more universities. Specifically, they must complete a minimum

of 8 of the 9 following undergraduate courses in speech-language pathology and audiology before applying to Admissions.

Code	Title	Units
	Anatomy and Physiology of the Auditory and Vocal Mechanism	3
	Phonetics of American English	3
	Speech and Language Development	3
	Speech Sound Disorders/Articulation & Phonology	3
	Language Disorders	3
	Speech Science	3
	Introduction to Audiology	3
	Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation	3
	Clinical Observations and Techniques	3

- The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's minimum requirements for application for the Certificate of Clinical Competence include transcript credits for course work, CLEP, or Advanced Placement (AP) examination credits in each of the following areas: biological sciences, physical sciences (physics or chemistry), social/behavioral sciences, and statistics. In addition to transcript credit, applicants may be required to provide further evidence of meeting these requirements. A behavioral statistics course or its equivalent fulfills the math requirement and is highly recommended. Students without these courses must complete them as part of their graduate program.
- English Language Proficiency Requirements - International students must demonstrate speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in English necessary to communicate effectively, in order to enroll in the Speech-Language Pathology graduate program. To demonstrate English Language Proficiency, students must earn a minimum score of 600 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language – Paper-Based (TOEFL- PBT) or, on the Test of English as a Foreign Language – Internet-Based Test (TOEFL- IBT), students must earn 100 or above with the following minimum scores for each section: Speaking: 26; Listening: 22; Reading: 22; and Writing: 24. Students taking the IELTS tests instead of the TOEFL must receive a minimum score of 7. A U.S. degree does not waive the requirement of TOEFL or IELTS for this program.
- Students are admitted for the fall term only. Completed application and admission credentials must meet the deadline of January 15.

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
SPPA 600	LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS FROM BIRTH THROUGH PRESCHOOL	3
SPPA 604	ACQUIRED NEUROGENIC LANGUAGE AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS I	3
SPPA 605	ACQUIRED NEUROGENIC LANGUAGE AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS II	3
SPPA 606	LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS IN CHILDREN-AGE CHILDREN	3
SPPA 610	SPEECH SOUND DISORDERS	3
SPPA 614	FLUENCY DISORDERS	3
SPPA 615	AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS & SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	3

SPPA 620	VOICE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN AND ADULTS	3
SPPA 626	NEUROLOGICALLY BASED SPEECH DISORDERS	3
SPPA 628	DYSPHAGIA	3
SPPA 680	SPECIAL TOPICS IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	1
SPPA 705	PROFESSIONAL ISSUES IN SPEECH LANGUAGE-PATHOLOGY	1
SPPA 710	WRITTEN LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS	3
SPPA 713	SEMINAR: RESEARCH DESIGN IN SPPA	1
SPPA 714	AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION	2
Clinical Practicum I (two courses)		
SPPA 690	CLINICAL PRACTICUM ON-CAMPUS	3
SPPA 745	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM ON-CAMPUS	3
Clinical Practicum II (select one course)		3
SPPA 746	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM OFF-CAMPUS	
SPPA 747	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM IN SCHOOLS	
SPPA 748	ADVANCED PEDIATRIC PRACTICUM	
SPPA 798	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM CONTINUUM ON-CAMPUS	
Clinical Practicum III		6
(select two courses - whichever was not previously taken)		
SPPA 746	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM OFF-CAMPUS	
SPPA 747	ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICUM IN SCHOOLS	
SPPA 748	ADVANCED PEDIATRIC PRACTICUM	
SPPA 799	CLINICAL PRACTICUM CONTINUUM OFF-CAMPUS	
Total Units		53

c. Graduates will acquire and demonstrate skills in prevention, evaluation and intervention of communication disorders.

Successful completion of a capstone activity is required before graduation. Students may complete either a Comprehensive Examination or a master's thesis/mentored research project.

Students must demonstrate acceptable writing skills in all clinical and academic work. Students showing weakness in this area may be advised to take a remedial writing experience in addition to their degree work.

The Department of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology recognizes a special responsibility to the profession to ensure graduates of master's degree programs demonstrate attitudes and behaviors consistent with the standards of the profession. Students must abide by the professional and ethical standards established by the department and by ASHA. All students must have a criminal background check complete and on file in advance of beginning clinical practice. In addition, students must submit documentation of required immunizations.

- Graduates will demonstrate competency in knowledge in normal and disordered communication processes.
- Graduates will acquire and demonstrate skills in oral and written or other forms of communication including information technology.