DEPARTMENT OF AUDIOLOGY, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND DEAF STUDIES

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Programs of the Department

The Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology and Deaf Studies Department offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs devoted to the enhancement of all forms of human communication. The blending of three distinct programs into one department creates a unique learning experience for undergraduate and graduate students.

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology major is a pre-professional degree program designed for students who want to pursue careers as audiologists or speech-language pathologists. Both careers require graduate study. The undergraduate degree prepares students for admission into both types of graduate programs. The Deaf Studies major is designed for students who want to learn about the culture and community of the Deaf while gaining proficiency in American Sign Language. The department is one of a few programs in the nation to offer the option of a double major in Deaf Studies and Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The double major prepares students for further study in either field and is designed to be completed in four years. We also offer a minor in Deaf Studies. Interested students should check the department website (https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/asld) for additional information about these programs.

In order to continue in and graduate with a department major, students are required to earn a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher in all required pre-major or major courses, in addition to attaining cumulative GPA required by the university. Any student earning a grade equivalent below a 2.00 in any required major course must repeat the course. Those who earn a grade equivalent below a 2.00 in more than one major course are not allowed to continue in the program.

Student Activities

Students in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology are encouraged to participate in the campus chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Deaf Studies students are encouraged to join the ASL Club. In addition, the ASLD Department encourages students to consider living in the American Sign Language Residential Living Community (ASL RLC). Students in the ASL RLC have the opportunity to enhance their ASL skills as part of the residence life experience.

SPPA Programs for Students with Undergraduate Degrees in Other Majors

The department offers two programs for students who do not have undergraduate degrees in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. These are the Graduate Program in Audiology and the Second Bachelor’s Degree Program.

Graduate Program in Audiology

Students with an undergraduate GPA of 3.2 or higher are encouraged to apply to the Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) Graduate Program. Students must complete the Au.D. program prerequisite courses prior to admission, or while they are completing the graduate degree.

Students apply directly to University Admissions by January 15 and must submit GRE scores. For more information consult the department website (https://www.towson.edu/chp/departments/asld) or contact the graduate program director in Audiology at jsmart@towson.edu.

Second Bachelor’s Degree Program

The second bachelor’s degree is for students who are not eligible for the Graduate Program. This is a two-year, full-time undergraduate program beginning in the fall term only. Second Bachelor’s Degree students take all required courses with the exception of already completed courses from the first degree. Graduates are eligible to apply to any graduate program. Students must apply to the university for admission to this program, then declare the major. Application information is available from the Second Bachelor’s Degree Office at 410-704-3974. The application deadline is April 30.

Speech-Language Pathology And Audiology Admission Requirements

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (SPPA) B.S. degree is a screened major with a maximum of 70 students admitted each year. Admission to Towson University does not guarantee admission into this major. Interested students begin the program as “Premajor” students (PSPA major), then apply for admission to the SPPA major once the premajor courses are completed. Admission to the SPPA major requires:

- completing all of the admission steps listed below,
- a minimum GPA of 2.80 or better in 5 premajor courses (see below), and
- a minimum GPA of 2.50 or better for the last 30 units of courses.

Students are admitted into the major in June of each year. Students who wish to be admitted to the major must complete the following steps during the PSPA premajor year.

1. Officially declare the PSPA premajor in PeopleSoft.
2. Review the online pre-major video and submit the pre-major application (see www.towson.edu/asld for directions). Transfer students should contact the department as soon as they are admitted to the university, and no later than March 31 to be considered for admission to the SPPA major by the following fall. For more information about transfer student procedures, please visit www.towson.edu/asld/undergraduate/speechaudiology/transferstudentpolicy.asp
3. Complete 5 premajor courses with a grade of 2.00 or better before consideration for admission to the major. Courses can be taken at Towson University or transferred from other universities. See the admission requirements in this catalog for more information.
4. Complete a speech, language, hearing and voice screening at the Towson University Hearing & Balance/Speech & Language Center located at the Institute for Well-Being. Screenings are held during the first week of each term. Students who declare the major in the spring term who are admitted for the following fall must schedule this screening during the first term of the program.
Premajor Course Requirements (16–19 units)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 102</td>
<td>WRITING FOR A LIBERAL EDUCATION</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 190</td>
<td>HONORS WRITING SEMINAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 101</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PSYC 102</td>
<td>HONORS INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 111</td>
<td>FINITE MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 115</td>
<td>COLLEGE ALGEBRA (Recommended)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 119</td>
<td>PRE-CALCULUS (Recommended)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 191 &amp; 191L</td>
<td>INTRODUCTORY BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS [LECTURE] and INTRODUCTORY BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONS [LAB]</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or BIOL 200 &amp; 200L</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO CELLULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS [LECTURE] and INTRODUCTION TO CELLULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS [LAB]</td>
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Select one course from Category A or B (students must complete both categories as a graduation requirement but only one category during the premajor year):

**Category A - Physical Science**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 121 &amp; 121L</td>
<td>ALLIED HEALTH CHEMISTRY I LECTURE and ALLIED HEALTH CHEMISTRY I LABORATORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 131 &amp; 131L</td>
<td>GENERAL CHEMISTRY I LECTURE and GENERAL CHEMISTRY I LABORATORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 202</td>
<td>GENERAL PHYSICS FOR THE HEALTH SCIENCES</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 211</td>
<td>GENERAL PHYSICS I, NON CALCULUS-BASED</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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**Category B - Social/Behavioral Science**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOCI 101</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or SOCI 102</td>
<td>HONORS INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 207</td>
<td>CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ANTH 210</td>
<td>HONORS CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 203</td>
<td>TEACHING AND LEARNING IN A DIVERSE SOCIETY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete a minimum of 27 units of study (including the 5 premajor courses)

Complete a speech, language, hearing and voice screening at the Towson University Hearing & Balance/Speech & Language Center located at the Institute for Well-Being. Screenings are held during the first week of each term. Transfer students who are not screened during the premajor year must complete the screening during their first term of enrollment at Towson University. Students who have communication disorders or dialects of English that would affect their ability to interact with clients will be encouraged to seek treatment.

Total Units 16-19

Admission decisions are made in early June. All materials are due in the main office by May 31. Transfer students must send official transcripts to the ASLD department by this date if their transfer courses are included in the last 30 units of course work. This is in addition to transcripts sent to the Towson University admissions office. Eligible students are ranked using the combined average of the premajor GPA and 30-unit GPA. The top 70 students are then selected for admission into the major. Students who do not get into the program can choose to try again the following year. For more information, refer to the admission requirements in this catalog, or the department website (http://www.towson.edu/asld).

- Major in Deaf Studies (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/health-professions/audiology-speech-language-pathology-deaf-studies/deaf-studies)
- Minor in Deaf Studies (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/health-professions/audiology-speech-language-pathology-deaf-studies/deaf-studies-minor)

**Deaf Studies Courses**

**DFST 101 INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES (3)**

Multidisciplinary introduction to concepts and issues in Deaf culture and the Deaf community. GenEd II.B.3 or Core: Diversity & Difference.

**DFST 104 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I (3)**

Emphasizes receptive and expressive conversational skills in American Sign Language. Class will be conducted in a silent classroom (no use of voice allowed). Non-verbal communication skills and basic interpretive practice will be provided. Not open to students who have successfully taken DFST 107. GenEd II.C.1 or Core: Arts & Humanities.

**DFST 105 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II (3)**

Continued skill development in expressive and receptive American Sign Language begun in ASL I. Prerequisite: DFST 104. GenEd II.C.1.

**DFST 111 HONORS INTRODUCTION TO DEAF CULTURE (3)**

Multidisciplinary introduction to concepts and issues in Deaf culture and the Deaf community. Not open to students who have successfully taken DFST 102. Prerequisite: admission to the Honors College. GenEd II.B.3.

**DFST 114 HONORS AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I (3)**

Receptive and expressive conversational skills in American Sign Language. Class will be conducted in a silent classroom (no voices allowed). Non-verbal communication skills and basic interpretive practice will be provided. Honors College course. Prerequisite: Honors College status. Core: Arts and Humanities or GenEd II.C.1.

**DFST 204 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III (3)**

Intermediate grammatical features of ASL, vocabulary, conversational skills, as well as information on the culture of the Deaf Community. Class will be conducted in ASL only. Not open to students who successfully completed DFST 403 or DFST 303. Prerequisite: DFST 105 or consent of the department.

**DFST 205 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE IV (3)**

Advanced grammatical features of ASL, vocabulary, conversational skills, and involvement with the Deaf Community. Class will be conducted in ASL only. Prerequisite: DFST 204 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher, or consent of the department.

**DFST 210 CAREER EXPLORATION IN DEAF STUDIES (3)**

Careers using signed languages and working with Deaf people. Prerequisite: DFST 101 and DFST 104.

**DFST 220 INTRODUCTION TO INTERPRETING (3)**

Introduction to the art and profession of interpreting for deaf and hearing people, designed for students with some knowledge of sign language and the Deaf community. Prerequisites: DFST 101, DFST 104, Majors only or permission of department.
DFST 304 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE V (3)
Advanced ASL vocabulary and conversational skills. Class will be conducted in ASL only. Prerequisites: DFST 205 or consent of the department; majors only or permission of the department.

DFST 306 CLASSIFIERS IN ASL (3)
An in-depth study of the use of classifiers, a unique class of nouns that incorporates hand and body articulators to become verbs of motion and location, and to describe size and shape. Prerequisite: DFST 204 with a grade of B- or better (may be taken concurrently).

DFST 308 FINGERSPELLING AND NUMBER USAGE (3)
Development and refinement of expressive and repetitive fingerspelling skills and number usage skills through the use of classroom activities, media resources, and assignments. Prerequisite: DFST 105 with grade of B- (2.67) or higher, or consent of instructor or chairperson.

DFST 309 INTRODUCTION TO DEAFBLIND CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION (3)
Orientation to the lives of people with both hearing and vision loss. Including methods of communicating, techniques for guiding, information on assistive technology, and Deafblind culture and community. Prerequisites: DFST 101, 104.

DFST 311 FUNDAMENTALS OF HEARING (3)
Acoustics, psychoacoustics, anatomy, physiology and pathologies of the hearing mechanism. Assessment of auditory function. Demographics and cultural considerations, management and social impact of deafness and hearing loss. Not open to students who have successfully completed SPPA 321. Prerequisites: one Core science course that includes both lecture and lab.

DFST 318 SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE DEAF COMMUNITY (3)
Examines a variety of social service delivery systems providing support to the Deaf Community. Off-campus service learning experience required. Prerequisites: DFST 101, DFST 204; majors only or permission of the department.

DFST 345 DEAF CULTURE (3)
Cultural perspectives on the lives of Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons who use American Sign Language. Historical evolution of educational, legal, political and philosophical influences affecting the Deaf community. Class will be taught in ASL. Prerequisites: DFST 101, DFST 205, major status or consent of department.

DFST 375 DEAF HISTORY (3)
Examines the history of the creation and cultural construction of the Deaf community in a transatlantic context. Prerequisites: DFST 101, 205. Majors only or permission of the department. Class will be taught in ASL.

DFST 400 INTERNSHIP IN DEAF STUDIES (3)
Supervised field experience with children and/or adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. One hour per week of class time and 90 hours of field placement. Prerequisites: DFST 205, DFST 345; and consent of the department.

DFST 405 LITERATURE AND FILM IN THE DEAF COMMUNITY (3)
Explores the rich traditions of deaf persons and their experiences through novels, stories, drama, poetry, folklore, humor, and other forms of literature and film. Prerequisites: DFST 101, DFST 205. Majors only or permission of the department. Class will be taught in ASL.

DFST 430 LINGUISTICS OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (3)
An analysis of the major structural features of American Sign Language: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and discourse. Prerequisites: DFST 205 (ASL IV) Majors only or permission of the department. Class will be taught in ASL.

DFST 435 DEVELOPMENT OF SIGNED LANGUAGE AND READING SKILLS FOR DEAF CHILDREN (3)
Integrates signed language development and reading skills in the area of research and education for deaf children. Prerequisites: DFST 101 and DFST 205.

DFST 475 DFST SPECIAL TOPICS (1-3)
Special Topics in Deaf Studies.

DFST 494 SPECIAL TOPICS IN DEAF STUDIES (3)
Special format elective course to be offered periodically for junior and senior majors. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units provided a different topic is covered. Prerequisites: DFST 205, DFST 345 or DFST 422, or consent of instructor.

DFST 495 SERVICE LEARNING IN DEAF STUDIES (3)
Service learning opportunity in a specific area of the student's interest approved by the sponsoring faculty member. 90-hour on-site experience in an agency serving Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals under the supervision of a qualified supervisor. Can be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: DFST 101 with a minimum grade of 2.0 (C), DFST 205 with a minimum grade of 2.67 (B-), and department consent.

DFST 496 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN DEAF STUDIES (1-3)
Independent study in selected areas of Deaf Studies. Course is repeatable for up to maximum of 6 units provided different topics are covered. Prerequisites: DFST 101, DFST 345 or DFST 422, DFST 205.

DFST 497 DIRECTED READINGS IN DEAF STUDIES (3)
Directed readings and research in specific topics in Deaf Studies. Can be repeated up to a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: DFST 101 and DFST 345 and consent of department.

DFST 498 PROCTORING IN DEAF STUDIES (3)
Students serve as teaching assistants or proctors in a course which they have already completed. Course is repeatable for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: grade equivalent of 3.00 GPA or higher in course to be proctored, and content of department.

Speech Pathology Courses

SPPA 101 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (3)
Introduction to variations in speech, language and hearing processes. Students will learn the scope of clinical practice.

SPPA 200 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE AUDITORY AND VOCAL MECHANISM (3)
Anatomical structures involved in the communication processes of speech, language, and hearing. Analysis of the functioning of these structures. Lectures and laboratory sessions will be required. Prerequisite: BIOL 221/ BIOL 221L (BIOL 213), major status, or consent of department.

SPPA 210 PHONETICS OF AMERICAN ENGLISH (3)
Analysis of speech sounds of American English and the use of phonetic symbols to record them. Emphasizes ear training, phonetic transcription, and language recordings. Prerequisites: major status or consent of the department.

SPPA 215 LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN (3)
Analysis of normal speech and language development, including the phonetic, semantic, and syntactic elements. Prerequisites: SPPA major status or consent of the department.

SPPA 302 INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH AND SOUND DISORDERS (3)
Developmental, linguistic, and physiological aspects of the English sound system. Assessment, analysis, and treatment of sound system disorders in children. Prerequisites: SPPA 210, SPPA 215, major status, or consent of the department.
SPPA 303 HEARING SCIENCE (3)
Introduction to study of acoustics and psychoacoustics. Utilization of models and instrumentation. Prerequisites: BIOL 191 / BIOL 191L (BIOL 190) or BIOL 200 / BIOL 200L (BIOL 201) or BIOL 221 / BIOL 221L; major status; or consent of department.

SPPA 304 LANGUAGE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN (3)
Study of developmental and neurologically based disorders of language in children. Assessment, analysis, and treatment of language disorders. Prerequisites: SPPA 215, major status, or consent of the department.

SPPA 306 NEUROANATOMY AND NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE (3)
Introduction to neuroanatomy as it relates to speech and language. Etiology, differential diagnosis, and therapeutic management of neurologically-based speech and language disorders. Prerequisites: SPPA 200, major status, or consent of the department.

SPPA 310 INTRODUCTION TO STUTTERING (3)
Introduction to the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of stuttering across the lifespan. Focus on clinical applications, research, and theory.

SPPA 313 SPEECH SCIENCE (3)
Biological, linguistic, and acoustic aspects of speech processes. Strategies for the scientific study of speech and speech disorders including models and instrumentation. Prerequisites: SPPA 210, SPPA 200, major status, or consent of the department.

SPPA 321 INTRODUCTION TO AUDIOLOGY (3)
Anatomy, physiology and pathologies of the hearing mechanism. Instrumentation and techniques for the identification and management of hearing disorders inclusive of pure-tone and speech audiometric screening methods. Prerequisites: SPPA 303, major status or department consent.

SPPA 325 INTRODUCTION TO AURAL REHABILITATION (3)
Information on options available for managing children and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. Early intervention, communication strategies, amplification options and psychosocial issues. Prerequisite: SPPA 321 or consent of department.

SPPA 341 CLINICAL AUDIOLOGY (3)
Basic audiometry; audiogram interpretation; basic principles of audiology. Prerequisite: SPPA 321 or consent of department.

SPPA 350 LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND DISORDERS IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS (3)
Review of neurological, structural, cognitive, and perceptual bases of normal and disordered language and their relationship to language, literacy, and learning in children. Prerequisites: PSYC 101 or PSYC 102 and not open to SPPA majors.

SPPA 416 CLINICAL OBSERVATION AND TECHNIQUES (3)
Methods and materials in clinical practice. Planning and implementation of treatment protocols. 25 hours of supervised observation in a variety of clinical settings. Prerequisites: SPPA 302, 304, 321 or consent of department.

SPPA 417 RESEARCH AND CLINICAL WRITING IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (3)
Develops writing skills in disciplines of speech-language pathology and audiology. Requires grade of C or better to fulfill Core or GenEd requirement. Prerequisites: ENGL 102 or ENGL 190; SPPA 304, SPPA 321, major status, and/or consent of the department. Core: Advanced Writing Seminar or GenEd I.D.

SPPA 417 RESEARCH AND CLINICAL WRITING IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (3)
Investigation of particular topics in the fields of speech and language pathology and audiology. The topic will vary each semester the course is offered. May be repeated for a maximum of six units provided a different topic is covered. Prerequisite: varies with topic.

SPPA 487 CLINICAL INTERNSHIP (3)
Clinical practice in therapeutic procedures with various types of speech, language and/or hearing disorders in the Towson University Speech/Language/Hearing Clinic. Students must attend weekly class. Prerequisites: minimum 3.50 GPA in prerequisite major courses, 25 documented hours of observation, SPPA 416, completed communication screening, or consent of department; and SPPA 417 (may be taken concurrently); a criminal background check is required prior to the start of this course.

SPPA 488 INTERNSHIP IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND RELATED AREAS (1-3)
Designed to facilitate student growth as a developing health-care professional. Students participate in the professional workforce in areas of human communication, health, education, social work, or other “helping professions” that will allow the student to grow in his/her ability to communicate effectively with people in a professional environment. Prerequisites: SPPA major; nine credits of SPPA courses must be completed prior to internship.

SPPA 496 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY (1-4)
Independent study in selected areas of speech-language pathology and audiology. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: junior/senior status, faculty/mentor agreement and/or consent of department.

SPPA 498 PROCTORING IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY (3)
Students assist faculty in a course which they have already completed in the department. Prerequisites: Grade equivalent of 3.33 GPA or higher in the course which students will proctor, admission to the SPPA major, junior or senior status, and consent of the instructor or department.

SPPA 499 RESEARCH IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS (1-3)
Mentored undergraduate research in speech-language pathology, audiology, or related areas. Repeatable up to a total of 6 units. Prerequisites: open to junior/senior SPPA majors only; consent of department.