

DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

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Programs of the Department

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

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology undergraduate major is a pre-professional degree program designed for students who want to pursue careers as speech-language pathologists or audiologists. Both careers require graduate study. The undergraduate degree prepares students for admission into either graduate program.

In order to continue in and graduate with a Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology degree, students are required to earn a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher in all courses required for the major, in addition to attaining the overall cumulative GPA required by TU. Any student earning a grade equivalent below a 2.00 in any required major course must repeat the course. Students 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 chapters of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

SPPA Graduate Programs

The Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology offers two graduate programs: Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (MS SLP) and Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.).

Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (MS SLP)

The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology is a 2-year program, including classes and clinical practicum each semester. Students with an undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or higher are encouraged to apply to the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology graduate program.

Students apply directly to Admissions by January 15. For more information, consult the department website or contact the graduate program director in Speech-Language Pathology at kday@towson.edu.

Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)

The Doctor of Audiology is a 4-year program, including 3 years of classes and clinical rotations and 1 year of full-time externship. Students with an undergraduate GPA of 3.20 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 Admissions by January 15. For more information, consult the department website or contact the graduate program director in Audiology at sananthakrishnan@towson.edu.

Options for Students with Undergraduate Degrees in Other/Non-SPPA Majors

Students with degrees in other/non-SPPA majors can apply directly to the Au.D. program. If a student is interested in the MS SLP program, they can apply to the department's Second Bachelor's Degree Program in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (details below) or complete the prerequisite courses at an accredited university. Additional details are available here.

Second Bachelor's Degree Program

The second bachelor's degree is for students who are not eligible for the Graduate Programs. 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 TU for admission to this program, then declare the major. Application information is available from the Second Bachelor's Degree Office, including the application deadline, which is in early spring for fall-only admission.

Admission

Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology Admission Requirements

The Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology (SPPA) B.S. degree is a screened major. 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: a) completing all of the admission steps listed below, b) a minimum GPA of 2.80 or better in 5 premajor courses (see below), and c) a minimum GPA of 2.50 or better for the last 30 units of courses. Students with a ranking GPA of 3.20 or higher are guaranteed admission into the program (See department website for information on calculating ranking GPA). Students with ranking GPA lower than 3.20 are admitted on a space-available basis. 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. Attend an SPPA open house and submit the pre-major application (see directions). Transfer students should contact the department as soon as they are admitted to TU to be considered for admission to the SPPA major by the following fall. For more information about transfer student procedures, please visit our webpage.
3. Complete 5 premajor courses with a combined GPA of 2.80 or better before consideration for admission to the major. Courses can be taken at TU or transferred from other universities. The list of premajor courses are located in the Major in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Requirements tab.
4. Complete a speech, language, and hearing screening at the TU 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 prior to admission for the following fall must schedule this screening during the first term of the program.

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 SPPA 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 TU admissions office.

Admission to the SPPA major is based on a calculated/overall GPA, which is the average of GPAs in two areas: 1. 5 premajor classes, and 2. most recent 27-30 units. If this overall GPA is higher than a 3.20, then students are accepted to the major. Those below the 3.20 cut-off will be admitted as space allows. Students who do not get into the major can choose to try again the following year. For more information, refer to the admission requirements on the department website.

Majors

- Major in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Faculty

Professors: Diana Emanuel, Mark Pellowski

Associate Professors: Saradha Ananthakrishnan (Graduate Program Director), Nirmal Srinivasan, Kaitlyn Wilson (Chairperson)

Assistant Professors: Will Bologna, Kelly Coburn, Alexandra Durfee, Holly Lind-Combs, Holly Lind-Combs, Chhayakant Patro, Danyang Wang, Danyang Wang, Ashley Zaleski King

Clinical Associate Professors: Karen Day (Graduate Program Director), Kimberly Webster

Clinical Assistant Professors: Patti Bailey Caudill, Caelie Giapponi, Julie Norin, Katherine Peitsch

Clinic Directors: Amanda Kozlowski (Director of the Hearing and Balance Center), Karen Pottash (Director of the Speech and Language Center)