

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Established in 1941 with the founding of The University of Texas at Austin Speech and Hearing Clinic, the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is the oldest program of its kind in the state of Texas, and is fully accredited as a training site by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA). Students may engage in coursework and practicum leading to ASHA certification in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology at the graduate level.

Communication disorders encompass a wide variety of problems in speech, language and hearing. The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders teaches students to understand and treat these challenges throughout the entire lifespan of human development from early childhood through the elder years. Students are encouraged to develop a holistic understanding of the communication process and to investigate new ways to expand the mind's potential to formulate, absorb and express ideas.

Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders (BSCSD)

The program in Communication Sciences and Disorders offers three areas of specialization: Audiology, Deafness Studies/Deaf Education and Speech-Language Pathology. Undergraduate



students receive broad academic preparation in the normal processes of communication and its development, as well as in the identification and treatment of communication disorders. Students may choose to pursue a non-professional or professional track. Students interested in pursuing a professional degree in communication disorders may, with consent of the program director and pending availability of clinical supervision, obtain clinical practicum in the evaluation and treatment of communication disorders.

Speech/Language Pathology

Speech/Language Pathology students obtain knowledge of normal and disordered aspects of speech, language and hearing and engage in coursework pertaining to the evaluation and treatment of speech and language disorders. Upon graduation, students are eligible to work as licensed assistants in the State of Texas when they receive a minimum of 25 hours of fully supervised direct client contact. However, a student must go on to graduate work in an accredited program in order to obtain the Certification of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Speech/Language Pathology from the National Student Speech

Language Hearing Association. Once certified, SLPs can work independently in settings such as preschools, public schools, hospitals, free-standing clinics and nursing homes. These clinicians may work with children and adults who experience difficulty in a variety of areas, including: articulating the sounds of the language, putting words together in a sentence, remembering names of objects following a stroke, swallowing without choking, or compensating for the loss of voice following surgical removal of the larynx.

Audiology

At the undergraduate level, students obtain knowledge of normal and disordered aspects of speech, language and hearing but also take coursework pertaining to the evaluation and treatment of hearing disorders and the rehabilitation of individuals with hearing loss. A student must go on to graduate work in an accredited program in order to obtain their Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Audiology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Once certified, audiologists also work in a variety of settings where they scientifically measure hearing ability in children and adults, identify the presence and severity of any hearing problem, and help a person understand what a hearing aid or other assistive listening device can and cannot do.

DEPARTMENT CHAIR

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John T. Jones, Jr. Centennial Professor

ACADEMIC FACULTY

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Professor

Mark E. Bernstein

Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Associate Professor

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Associate Professor (Retired)

Maya L. Henry

Assistant Professor

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Assistant Professor

Chang Liu

Associate Professor

Thomas Marquardt

Ben F. Love Regents Professor

Elizabeth D. Peña

George Christian Centennial Professor & Graduate Advisor

Anita Pérez

Research Associate

Li Sheng

Associate Professor

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Deafness Studies/Deaf Education

This is a track of study for students whose ultimate goal is to become certified teachers of deaf children, teachers in the field of deafness studies and American Sign Language, or who wish to work in some other capacity with deaf individuals. Though professional certification as a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing is not available at The University of Texas at Austin, the undergraduate program forms the foundation for graduate study and certification at other institutions where certification is available. Students take courses in deaf culture and the community, language and speech development in deaf students, sign communication, as well as courses pertaining to normal and disordered aspects of speech, language, and hearing. A semester-long internship in classrooms with deaf children is available.

This program's undergraduate courses in Deaf Education are typically acceptable as prerequisites for graduate programs in other institutions. Professionals in this field provide direct teaching and tutorial services, consult with regular classroom teachers, advise administrators on appropriate mainstreaming techniques and placement, educate and counsel both parents and teachers, and meet the needs of deaf/hearing-impaired individuals in a variety of ways.

Graduate Degree Programs

Graduate work in Communication Sciences and Disorders at The University of Texas at Austin may lead to the Master of Arts (M.A.), Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) or the Doctor of

Philosophy (Ph.D.) with a concentration in Audiology, Speech-Language Pathology, or Speech and Hearing Science.

Resources

Recent and ongoing building renovations to equipment resources allow for cutting-edge research and innovative clinical service over the full range of speech, language, and hearing processes. These advancements aid evaluation and treatment, and thus have significantly enhanced our knowledge base for the treatment of communication disorders.

The University of Texas at Austin Speech and Hearing Center (UTSHC) is a clinical research center supporting the research, teaching and clinical service functions of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. The UTSHC consists of 12 individual and group treatment rooms that are linked via a high-definition video system in addition to direct observation suites. The UTSHC also hosts five two-room audiological suites and has resources for the assessment of listeners hearing or cochlear implants. CSD students participate in clinical evaluation, treatment and research via course assignments and research internships. Additionally, students have access to research facilities housed in the UTSHC.

Departmental Labs

The department houses several labs: Auditory Research Laboratory, Brain Development Laboratory, Dr. Jennifer and Emanuel Bodner Developmental Stuttering Laboratory, Communication in Adults Research Laboratory, Hearing Function Laboratory,

Human Abilities in Bilingual Language Acquisition (HABLA) Laboratory, Michael and Tami Lang Stuttering Institute, Language Learning and Bilingualism Laboratory, Chandra Laboratory, Speech Production-Perception Laboratory, and Speech Psychophysics Laboratory.

Student Involvement

There are special organizations designed to support students and professionals in the fields of Speech Pathology, Audiology and Deaf Education/Deaf Studies. Among them are: the American Academy of Audiology (AAA), the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA), Students Advocating Deaf Awareness (SADA), the Texas Speech-Language Hearing Association (TXSHA), and the Texas Academy of Audiology.

Career Possibilities

Speech-language pathologists, audiologists (clinical, education, health care, or rehabilitation fields), product development and sales, rehabilitation counselor, job coaching, academic advising, teaching, clinical assistant, clinical intake specialist, technology support staff, youth mentor, community outreach specialist, fundraiser, employment consultant, textbook editor, technical specialist, etc.

The CSD Community (Fall 2014)

Number of Undergraduate Students: 389
Number of M.A. Students: 62
Number of Au.D. Students: 36
Number of Ph.D. Students: 20

Harvey M. Sussman

R.P. Doherty, Sr. Centennial Professor in Communication and Distinguished Teaching Professor

Suzanne van der Feest

Lecturer

Amanda Zappler

Senior Lecturer

UT SPEECH AND HEARING CENTER FACULTY

Joan M. Balash

Communication Specialist

Angela A. Carey

Clinical Assistant Professor

Jessica H. Franco

Clinical Assistant Professor

Cydney M. Medford

Communication Specialist

Mary Anne Nericcio

Clinical Assistant Professor

STUDENT SERVICES STAFF

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