Communication Sciences & Disorders
Master of Science

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The master’s degree program has been accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. A graduate degree is required for students planning a career in speech-language pathology and audiology. It is anticipated that graduates with a master’s degree will meet the academic and practicum requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence of the Boards of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The Master of Science degree with thesis or without thesis is available with a major emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology and with supporting work in Audiology.

The larger mission of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is to provide its students with a liberal arts education through the College of Arts and Sciences, including instruction in the arts and sciences, communication skills, habits of independent thought, and the understanding of diverse cultures. The specific mission of CSD is to provide academic and clinical instruction, supervised clinical practical, and research experience for students that will lead to state, regional and national accreditation and licensing; to provide clinical services to individuals, groups and agencies within the University and the greater Grand Forks area; to provide professional leadership in local, state, and national organizations; to contribute to the body of knowledge concerning communication sciences and communication disorders; and to serve the University through participation in its governance. This mission is directed at meeting the interests and needs of the University of North Dakota constituency.

Admission Requirements

The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies’ current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

1. Graduate Record Examination—General Test.
2. Overall undergraduate GPA of at least 2.75 and a 3.00 in the courses required for an undergraduate major in Communication Sciences Disorders.
3. Admittance to approved status typically requires an undergraduate major in Communication Sciences Disorders.
4. Those admitted to Qualified Status must have at least 12 semester credits of undergraduate work in the field, but will be required to complete the coursework for the undergraduate major.
5. Criteria used in admission decisions:
   a. Scores on the Graduate Record Examination General test;
   b. All grade point averages from previous undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate studies;
   c. The extent and quality of previous clinical, research, and service activities; and
   d. Quality of speaking, writing, and interpersonal skills.
6. Applicants should include documentation of their qualifications relative to the criteria above.
7. Admissions for summer and fall enrollment and the award of financial aid will be based on applications completed by February 1.
8. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies’ English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

Apply online: http://graduateschool.und.edu
Deadlines apply. See our website for more details.

Last Updated: 6/25/2014
Email: questions@gradschool.und.edu
Degree Requirements

Thesis Option:
1. A minimum of 30 semester credits in a major field, including the credits granted for the thesis and the research leading to the thesis.
2. At least one-half of the credits must be at or above the 500-level.
3. A maximum of one-fourth of the credit hours required for the degree may be transferred from another institution.
4. Please refer to the academic catalog for a list of required courses.

Non-Thesis Option:
1. Thirty-two (32) credits including credits required for the major.
2. A minimum of two credits of Independent Study.
3. At least one-half of the credits must be at or above the 500-level.
4. A maximum of one-fourth of the credit hours required for the degree may be transferred from another institution.
5. Preparation of a written independent study approved by the faculty advisor.
7. Please refer to the academic catalog for the list of required CSD courses.

Students wishing to qualify for employment in a school setting must complete requirements for a teaching credential as a graduate student.

Graduate Students already having a teaching credential with some other major must take T&L 400 Methods and Materials and practicum in a school before being recommended for employment in a school.

Faculty and Areas of Expertise
- Peggy Biberdorf, M.S. clinical education, and evaluation and service delivery
- Alycia Cummings, Ph.D. typical and atypical speech and language acquisition, assessment and treatment of speech sound disorders, and electrophysiology measures (event-related potentials)
- John P. Madden, Ph.D., speech & hearing science, phonetics, anatomy of speech & hearing, and psychoacoustics
- Manish K. Rami, Ph.D., Chair and Graduate Program Director, fluency, speech science, and research in CSD
- Sarah Robinson, Ph.D., evaluation and service delivery, phonology, and child language disorders
- Mary Jo Schill, M.A., clinical education, educational service delivery, diagnosis and treatment of child speech and language disorders, and craniofacial disorders
- Amebu S. Seddoh, Ph.D., neuroanatomy and neurogenics
- Wayne Swisher, Ph.D., voice disorders and child neurogenics
- Shari Weisz, M.S., clinical education, evaluation and service delivery, and voice

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