

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS– B.S.

Communication Sciences and Disorders program is a unit within the School of Family Studies and Human Services with the mission of training Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP). All certified SLPs must earn a M.S. degree and pass a national board examination. As an accredited training program, we are required to meet assessment criteria and outcome goals for undergraduate and graduate training. An overview of the standards is located at http://www.asha.org/certification/slp_standards.htm. The specific guidelines are in the “Knowledge and Skills Acquisition (KASA) Summary Form for Certification in Speech-Language Pathology.” The KASA summarizes each student’s acquisition of knowledge and skills listed in the Standards for Certification of Clinical Competence (<http://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/certification/KASASummaryFormSLP.pdf#search=%22kasa%22>). All professional courses at the undergraduate level provide the foundation for graduate training. Therefore, when the program evaluates student outcomes, the undergraduate and graduate curricula must be viewed as a whole and not two mutually exclusive entities. The certification standards addressed at the undergraduate level are Standard III-A, Standard III-B, Standard III-C and Standard III-D.

Standard III-A: The student must demonstrate knowledge of the principles of 1) Biological sciences 2) Physical sciences 3) Mathematics 4) Social/Behavioral sciences.

Standard III-B: The student must demonstrate knowledge of basic human communication and swallowing processes, including their biological, neurological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural bases.

Standard III-C: The student must demonstrate knowledge of the nature of speech, language, hearing, and communication disorders, and swallowing disorders, including their etiologies, characteristics, anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates. Specific knowledge must be demonstrated in 1) Articulation 2) Fluency 3) Voice and resonance, including respiration and phonation 4) Receptive and expressive language (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and manual modalities 5) Hearing, including the impact on speech and language 6) Swallowing (oral, pharyngeal, esophageal, and related functions) 7) Cognitive aspects of communication (attention, memory, sequencing, problem-solving, executive functioning 8) Social aspects of communication 9) Communication modalities.

Standard III-D: The student must possess knowledge of the principles and methods of prevention, assessment, and intervention for people with communication and swallowing disorders, including consideration of anatomical/physiological, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates of the disorders (Articulation, Fluency, Voice and Resonance, Receptive and Expressive Language, Hearing, Swallowing, Cognitive aspects of communication, Social aspects of communication).

Additional information on the certification standards for speech-language pathology is located at <http://www.asha.org/certification/>.