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

The Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) program has 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/2014-Speech-Language-Pathology-Certification-Standards/. All courses at the graduate level require that students have obtained the foundational content from the professional undergraduate courses in CSD. 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 graduate level are Standard IV-C, Standard IV-D, Standard IV-E, Standard IV-G, Standard IV-H, and Standard V-B.

Standard IV-C: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of communication and swallowing disorders and differences, including the appropriate etiologies, characteristics, anatomical/physiological, acoustic, psychological, developmental, and linguistic and cultural correlates in the following areas: Articulation, Fluency, Voice and Resonance, Receptive and Expressive Language, Hearing, Swallowing, Cognitive aspects of communication, and Social aspects of communication.

Standard IV-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).

Standard IV-E: The student must demonstrate knowledge in ethical conduct based on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) code of ethics.

Standard IV-G: The student must demonstrate knowledge in professional practice standards, policies and guidelines in speech-language pathology.

Standard IV-H: The student must demonstrate knowledge of certification, licensure and professional credentials in speech-language pathology.

Standard V-B: The student must demonstrate skill outcomes in the evaluation and intervention of individuals with communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan. The evaluation skills include 1) Conduct screening and prevention procedures. 2) Collect case history information. 3) Select and administer appropriate evaluation procedures. 4) Adapt evaluation procedures. 5) Interpret evaluation information and make appropriate diagnosis. 6) Accurate reporting of evaluation data. 7) Make appropriate referrals. The intervention skills include 1) Develop appropriate intervention plans. 2) Implement intervention plans. 3) Select and utilize appropriate clinical materials. 4) Measure and evaluate client progress. 5) Modify intervention plan as needed. 6) Accurate reporting of intervention data. 7) Make appropriate referrals.

The skill outcomes for evaluation and intervention must be demonstrated for clients with all types of communication and swallowing disorders. This includes Articulation, Fluency, Receptive and Expressive Language, Hearing, Swallowing, Cognitive Aspects of Communication, Social Aspects of Communication and Communication Modalities.

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

The CSD program is required to provide the accreditation body an annual report verifying that all 190 certification standards are being met at the undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, every eight years all CSD programs must reapply for accreditation, which includes a two day site visit. The annual reports and reapplication reports are available for the KSU Assessment Committee to review.