Master of Science in COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

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STOCKTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE & CONTINUING STUDIES
Master of Science in Communication Disorders | MSCD

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Speech-language pathology is a healthcare and education-based profession committed to improving the function of communication and swallowing. Speech-language pathologists can choose from a variety of work settings including schools, hospitals, sub-acute facilities, skilled nursing facilities, home-healthcare, research settings, and private practice.

The mission of the Master of Science in Communication Disorders Program is to prepare students for licensure and certification in speech-language pathology, contribute to scholarly work in the discipline, provide opportunities for continuing education, and offer direct services to the surrounding community.

The Master of Science in Communication Disorders is a professional program. The length of the program is two years including one summer. Students have the opportunity to experience a variety of clinical settings with the added bonus of having an on-site speech and hearing clinic.

Additionally, Stockton offers a Communication Disorders Preparation Program. This program is designed to provide an option for students who already hold a bachelor’s degree in a field other than Speech–Language Pathology or Communication Disorders. This unique bridge program builds on the baccalaureate degree and allows students to meet the prerequisites to apply to a graduate program in communication disorders. Note: This program is not equivalent to a New Jersey Department of Education Certificate as a Speech-Language Specialist.

The Master of Science in Communication Disorders Programs (MSCD) at Stockton University has a curriculum designed to prepare program graduates for certification as speech-language pathologists by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA), New Jersey licensure and for certification as Speech-Language Specialists in the New Jersey Public Schools. The program requires completion of 60 graduate credits.

All Master’s degree candidates must complete 400 clinical hours of supervised clinical experience. Of these 400 hours, 25 must be in supervised observation. Per ASHA certification requirements, at least 325 of the 400 clinical hours must be completed at the graduate level. Students will receive clinical experience both on campus in the Speech and Hearing Clinic and off campus in various clinical placements. Students will be able to graduate with a variety of clinical experiences. Students must enroll full-time in the MSCD Program. The requirements are demanding but the outcome is rewarding.
Admissions Criteria

Prospective students apply through the Graduate Admissions Office. Applicants must complete all program prerequisites and have a baccalaureate degree prior to starting the program. Applications are screened by the Program Admissions Committee. A complete application file requires the following:

- Completion of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- Cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher. A GPA of 3.5 or higher is considered competitive.
- Completion of all prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better by the end of the summer semester of the academic year in which the applicant applies for admission. Coursework should cover the concepts of:
  - Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism
  - Phonetics
  - Speech and Hearing Science
  - Introduction to Communication Disorders
  - Speech and Language Development
  - Introduction to Audiology
- In addition, ASHA certification requirements include a course in each of the following (grade of C or higher): Biological Science, Physical Science (Ideally, a course dealing primarily with the principles of physics or chemistry), Social Science (such as Psychology or Sociology), and Statistics.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Official GRE scores must be submitted to CDCAS using school code 3872. Scores at or above the 50th percentile in the Verbal and Quantitative sections will be considered competitive. Students who have a Masters degree from an accredited institution do not need to provide GRE scores.
- Students must meet the “Technical Standards and Essential Functions” requirements for participation in Stockton’s MSCD Program. These functions can be reviewed online at www.stockton.edu/grad and click on the MSCD program page.
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

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Please visit the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies web site for the most updated information at stockton.edu/grad. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication, university policies and curricula may change.