MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  

RHEA PAUL, PH.D., CCC-SLP  
Professor, Founding Director,  
Department Chair  
Phone: 203-416-3947  
Fax: 203-416-3952  
Email: paulr4@sacredheart.edu  

Sacred Heart’s graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) is currently in development. The first graduate class in SLP at SHU is anticipated to begin matriculation in Fall of 2014, pending approvals by the Connecticut State Office of Higher Education and the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA). Information on our State of Connecticut Office of Higher Education accreditation status is available (under DHE # 16959; CIP # 510203) at www.ctohe.org/HEWeb/AcademicProgramProposals.asp. Information on ASHA accreditation is available at www.asha.org/academic/accreditation.

The SLP Graduate Program at SHU is designed to meet all requirements of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA), Connecticut Licensure as a Speech-Language Pathologist, and Connecticut State Department of Education Certification as a School Speech-Language Pathologist. Students who wish to practice as Speech-Language Pathologists will need to complete undergraduate prerequisites, and then complete a Master’s degree in SLP. Graduate study in SLP requires two calendar years, including 1-2 summers of graduate level coursework and 400 hours of supervised clinical practicum, all of which will be provided as part of SHU’s anticipated graduate program.

Admission Requirements

Students applying to SHU’s proposed program must have completed their undergraduate degree in the discipline of their choice, and must have successfully completed all pre-requisite courses for the SLP program prior to matriculation. These courses, or their equivalents, are:

SLP 200 Introduction to Communication Disorders 3 CH  
SLP 210 Phonetics 3 CH  
SLP 300 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing 3 CH  
SLP 310 Introduction to Audiology and Hearing Science 3 CH  
SLP 320 Speech Science 3 CH  
SLP 330 Development of Language 3 CH  
SLP 340 Neurological Bases of Communication and Swallowing 3 CH  
SLP 350 Introduction to Clinical Methods and Observation 3 CH

In addition, coursework equivalent to the following Education courses is required for Certification as a School SLP in Connecticut:

ED 152/552 Education in the US 3 CH  
ED 205/569 Education of Children with Special Needs 3 CH

Students will also need to have successfully completed the following undergraduate foundation coursework prior to matriculation in a graduate program in SLP:

Biological Sciences - 3 CH  
Physical Sciences - 3 CH  
Statistics - 3 CH

Social/Behavioral Sciences - 6 CH

A 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA and 3.2 GPA in courses prerequisite to the SLP program, with no individual prerequisite course grade below a C, will be required for admission to SHU’s proposed graduate program in SLP. The pre-professional
courses listed above, which will comprise the Pre-Professional SLP plan of study, will be offered at SHU in Fall of 2013. They may be taken as an undergraduate Minor in SLP at SHU in conjunction with a Major of the students’ choice. Alternatively, they may be taken after college graduation, as a post-baccalaureate plan of study either at SHU or elsewhere, by those who did not complete them at the undergraduate level.

Other admissions requirements will include:

- Applications submitted online through www.CSDCAS.org by non-SHU students
- Applications submitted through graduate admissions at www.sacredheart.edu by current SHU students
- A graduate admissions form and supplemental prerequisite sheet
- Two letters of recommendation; one from an academic source and one from an employer or volunteer supervisor
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended. Please Note: If you had sent transfer credits to your current school’s registrar’s office, you will still need to submit all prior schools’ transcripts for review, regardless of whether they appear on your final transcript.
- Admissions essay describing the applicant’s interest in the field of Speech-Language Pathology
- Nonrefundable application fee

Applicants will be invited for on-campus interviews at the discretion of the SLP Department.

Students who minor in Speech-Language Pathology at SHU may complete their undergraduate degree in a major discipline of their choice; however, the Health Science major leading to the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences is preferred, as it offers students a solid foundation in information specific to health care practice. Other suggested majors could include English, Foreign Language & Culture, or Psychology. Majors must be declared by the end of the freshman year and may require summer or intersession courses to complete the major requirements as well as all the prerequisite SLP courses. Regardless of the undergraduate major, applicants must successfully complete all required prerequisites by the end of the summer prior to enrollment in a graduate program.