PRE-SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) is not an undergraduate major at SHU. Rather, the program is a Pre-Professional Minor concentration leading to a baccalaureate degree and the completion of required SLP prerequisite courses. Students who wish to practice as Speech-Language Pathologists will need to complete these 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.

Students who minor in Speech-Language Pathology may complete their undergraduate degree at SHU 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, students must successfully complete all required prerequisites by the end of the summer prior to enrollment in a graduate program. A 3.0 cumulative and 3.2 prerequisite GPA with no individual prerequisite course grade below a C is required for admission to SHU’s proposed graduate program in SLP. Pre-professional courses in communication disorders that will comprise the Pre-Professional SLP curriculum will be inaugurated in Fall of 2013. Students will be able to take courses either as undergraduates or at the post-baccalaureate level; this course sequence will prepare them for entrance into graduate programs in either Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology; however SHU anticipates offering a Master’s degree in SLP only. 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 Council of Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

Program Accreditation

The Speech-Language Pathology Pre-Professional Program at SHU is designed to meet all requirements of the Council of Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) and to prepare students for graduate study in communication disorders. The SHU Master’s program in Speech-Language Pathology is currently seeking candidacy status from the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. Information on accreditation is available at www.asha.org/academic/accreditation

Faculty

RHEA PAUL, PH.D., CCC-SLP
Prof., Chair and Founding Director

ALISON SPRENGELMEYER, M.S., CCC-SLP
Director of Clinical Education

ROBIN DANZAK, PH.D.
Assistant Prof.

LESLEY WOLK, PH.D., CCC-SLP
Associate Prof.

Requirements

Pre-Professional Speech-Language Pathology preparation includes the necessary prerequisite courses for graduate work in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology. Undergraduates must also complete coursework for their selected major, Sacred Heart University required foundational, elective, and common core courses for a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of...
of Arts degree. Observation of Speech-Language Pathology practice is required and is included in pre-professional course work.

**PREREQUISITE COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students must take the following prerequisite courses in addition to fulfilling requirements for their major field of study and earning a Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree (only grades of C or better meet prerequisite requirements):

**Basic Science Requirements**

- **Biological Sciences 3 CR**
  - BI 111 or BI 030

- **Physical Sciences 3 CR**
  - PY 100 or CH 030

- **Statistics 3 CR**
  - MA 131

- **Social/Behavioral Sciences 6 CR**
  - PS 110, PS 252

**Minor Courses**

(Must be taken in conjunction with other SHU Major; e.g., Health Sciences, English, Foreign Language & Culture, Psychology)

- **SLP 112/HS 112 Speaking on Film:** The treatment of communication disorders in the popular cinema. This elective course will present an overview of communication disorders such as deafness, autism, aphasia, and stuttering. Students will watch films with people who have these disorders as protagonists, and discuss the portrayal of the disorder, as well as the symptoms portrayed in each film. Students will research one of the disorders portrayed to compare and contrast its portrait in the film with the findings of their research. A service learning project will be included within the course.

- **SLP 200 Introduction to Communication Disorders**
  The course provides a general introduction to normal and disordered speech, language, and hearing in children and adults. The course considers normal development of communication behavior, the nature of communication disorders, and reviews the various conditions associated with communication disorders. Ethical standards for the practice of speech-language pathology, contemporary professional issues, and information regarding certification, specialty recognition, licensure and professional credentials in speech-language pathology will be presented. 3 credits; Lecture format.

- **SLP 210 Phonetics**
- **SLP 300 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing**
- **SLP 310 Introduction to Audiology and Hearing Science**
- **SLP 320 Speech Science**
- **SLP 330 Development of Language**
- **SLP 340 Neurological Bases of Communication and Swallowing**
- **SLP 350 Introduction to Clinical Methods and Observation**
- **ED 152/552 Education in the US**

ED 205/569 Education of Children with Special Needs

* Required for Minor; the other non-elective courses listed are needed for admission to graduate programs in Communication Disorders (SLP or Audiology).

**Course Descriptions**

**SLP 112/HS 112 Speaking on Film: The Treatment of Communication Disorders in the Popular Cinema**

This elective course will present an overview of communication disorders such as deafness, autism, aphasia, and stuttering. Students will watch films with people who have these disorders as protagonists, and discuss the portrayal of the disorder, as well as the symptoms portrayed in each film. Students will research one of the disorders portrayed to compare and contrast its portrait in the film with the findings of their research. A service learning project will be included within the course.

**SLP 200 Introduction to Communication Disorders**

The course provides a general introduction to normal and disordered speech, language, and hearing in children and adults. The course considers normal development of communication behavior, the nature of communication disorders, and reviews the various conditions associated with communication disorders. Ethical standards for the practice of speech-language pathology, contemporary professional issues, and information regarding certification, specialty recognition, licensure and professional credentials in speech-language pathology will be presented. 3 credits; Lecture format.

Prerequisites: PS 252: Child Development Psychology OR HS 310: Lifespan Development OR EX 320: Pediatric Exercise Science
SLP 210 Phonetics
Students will be introduced to the acoustic and articulatory properties of the sound systems of human languages. The International Phonetic Alphabet will be presented, and students will learn to record speech in broad phonemic transcription. Variations among general American dialects, as well as notation and practice of narrow phonetic transcription will be introduced. The implications of cultural and linguistic differences on speech production will be discussed. 3 credits; includes both lecture and laboratory experience.
Prerequisite: SLP 200: Introduction to Communication Disorders

SLP 300 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing
Students will become familiar with the anatomical and physiological bases of human communication and swallowing, including the support structures of the respiratory, articulatory phonatory, and swallowing systems, and the identification and function of muscles in these systems. 3 credits; includes both lecture and laboratory experience.
Prerequisite: SLP 200: Introduction to Communication Disorders

SLP 310 Introduction to Audiology and Hearing Science
This course presents an introduction to the psychophysics of sound, and practice of audiology. It covers the anatomy, physiology and common pathologies of the auditory system, the impact of hearing loss, types and characteristics of hearing loss, conventional procedures used to assess hearing, interpretation of audiological test findings, and criteria for initiating audiological referrals. Issues of ethics, professional practice, licensing, and credentials for audiology practice will be reviewed. 3 credits; includes both lecture and laboratory experience.
Prerequisite: SLP 200: Introduction to Communication Disorders; SLP 300: Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing

SLP 320 Speech Science
This course presents an introduction to the physics and psychology of human speech production and perception. It covers basic acoustics, the glottal sound source, resonance and acoustics of the vocal tract, acoustic features of vowels, consonants, and suprasegmentals of speech, as well as the physics and biomechanics of phonation, articulation, and resonance. The instruments, applications, and programs used to assess speech production will be reviewed, with laboratory practice. Principles and models of speech perception will also be discussed. 3 credits; 2 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory experience.
Prerequisite: SLP 210: Phonetics

SLP 330 The Development of Language
This course will introduce students to the social, biological, perceptual, and cognitive bases of language. A range of theories of language acquisition will be presented and the impact of nature and nurture on children's development will be discussed. The typical sequence of language acquisition in the areas of phonology, semantics, syntax and pragmatics will be presented. The relations between oral language development and the acquisition of literacy will be emphasized. Dialectical variations in language development and second language learning will be highlighted. 3 credits; Lecture/Discussion format.
Prerequisite: SLP 200: Introduction to Communication Disorders

SLP 340 Neurological Bases of Communication and Swallowing
This course describes the development and anatomy and physiology of the neurological system that underlies communication and swallowing and is a prerequisite for further study in medical speech, language and swallowing disorders. 3 credits; includes both lecture and laboratory experience.
Prerequisite: SLP 300: Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Swallowing; SLP 310 Introduction to Audiology and Hearing Science

**SLP 350 Clinical Methods and Observation**

This course will orient students to clinical practicum, including the scope of assessment and intervention across the life span. It will include an overview of goal writing, lesson planning, writing SOAP notes and other clinical documentation, electronic medical record-keeping, report writing, progress monitoring, and ethical conduct. Legislative, regulatory, and reimbursement issues that affect the practice of communication disorders in educational and medical settings will be presented. As part of this course, students will complete a series of intensive observations in various educational and medical settings. 3 credits; Lecture/Discussion format.