

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

The Communication Sciences and Disorders major includes didactic and experiential activities for students to learn foundational skills necessary for success in professions such as speech-language pathology, audiology and communication sciences, all of which require graduate degrees.

About this Program

- **College:** Public Health and Health Professions (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGPBH/>)
- **Degree:** Bachelor of Health Science
- **Credits for Degree:** 120
- **Contact:** HPNP 4180 Undergraduate Student Services Academic Advising | Email (advising@php.ufl.edu)

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Department Information

The Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences works to improve the lives of people affected by communication and related disorders through excellence and innovation in clinical training, service, and research.

Website (<https://slhs.php.ufl.edu/>)

CONTACT

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Map (<http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0212>)

Curriculum

- Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Communication Sciences and Disorders Minor
- Communication Sciences and Disorders UF Online
- Deaf and Hearing Sciences Minor

Students in the Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) program should follow the course sequence outlined below for optimal academic progression. The undergraduate program provides foundational knowledge in two key areas:

1. **Normal Aspects of Communication:** Students will learn about the typical development and functioning of speech, language, and hearing, and how these processes contribute to human communication.
2. **Introduction to Communication Disorders:** Students will be introduced to the nature, assessment, and treatment of various communication disorders, laying the groundwork for future study in the field.

In addition to core courses, students are encouraged to select electives that align with their academic interests and career goals. These electives provide opportunities to explore specialized topics within the field of communication sciences and disorders.

Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn a Bachelor of Health Science (BHS) degree. While many students choose to continue their education in graduate or professional programs (e.g., speech-language pathology, audiology, or related health fields), some opt to enter the workforce immediately after earning their BHS degree. Graduates who seek employment often find opportunities in health and educational settings.

Certified clinicians in the field typically work as part of interdisciplinary teams, which may include psychologists, educators, physicians, nurses, social workers, and other healthcare professionals. These teams collaborate to screen, diagnose, and treat individuals across the lifespan—from infants to the elderly. Communication sciences and disorders professionals work in diverse settings, including schools, clinics, hospitals, private practice, and other healthcare environments.

Both **speech-language pathology** and **audiology** are expanding fields with strong job prospects, competitive salaries, and high levels of job satisfaction, as practitioners have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of individuals with communication challenges.

Course Requirements and Sequence

By the End of Semester Four

To remain on track for the major, students must complete these requirements:

- Minimum overall and critical tracking GPAs of 3.0
- For transfer students, AA degree or 60 transferrable credits (including general education and major prerequisites)
- 24,000 words of the Writing Requirement
- These courses (or their equivalents) with minimum grades of C:
 - BSC 2005 or higher
 - Additional biological science (3 credits); APK 2105C is highly recommended
 - other preferred courses include those with BSC or MCB prefix
 - Physical science (3 credits); must be physics or chemistry
 - Science lab (1 credit) (satisfied by APK 2105C lab if APK 2105C is completed to satisfy additional biological science requirement)
 - Additional Social and Behavioral Science course (3 credits); courses in Sociology, Anthropology, or Psychology are recommended
 - PSY 2012
 - STA 2023

CSD Major Graduation Requirements

Students must have completed:

- EEX 3093 with a minimum grade of C
- 30 credits of SPA coursework (SPA 3003, SPA 3011, SPA 3101, SPA 4004, SPA 4104, SPA 4302, SPA 4400, SPA 4050, SPA 4250, and SPA 4321) with minimum grades of C
- PHC 4101 with minimum grade of C
- 120 credits, including all prerequisites and electives; 60 credits must be earned at UF

Majors should see a department advisor to create a plan of study, which becomes the contract for graduation.

Critical Tracking

Critical Tracking records each student's progress in courses that are required for progress toward each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites (<https://cpm.flvc.org/advance-search/>) may be used for transfer students.

Critical Tracking for PPHP Majors

Students are required to meet the critical-tracking criteria for their major each term. The critical tracking criteria are listed for each PPHP major. *PHHP counts all attempts of critical tracking courses when calculating the critical tracking GPA for a major.*

Students must fulfill the performance criteria for their program's critical tracking courses. If a student is *off-track for two consecutive terms* in the first five critical tracking semesters, they must change to a major more appropriate to their skills, goals, and performance.

Critical Tracking Courses

- All critical tracking attempts will be counted toward the critical tracking GPA
- A minimum grade of C (based on a maximum of two attempts, including withdrawals) is required for each critical tracking course
- Students may repeat a maximum of two critical tracking courses
- All critical tracking courses must be completed by the time noted in the catalog for each major

Semester 1

- Complete BSC 2005 or higher or PSY 2012 with minimum grade of C
- Complete 9 credits of general education courses
- 3.0 GPA required for all semester 1-4 critical tracking courses, based on all attempts
- 2.5 cumulative UF GPA

Semester 2

- Complete BSC 2005 or higher or PSY 2012 with minimum grade of C
- Complete 12 additional credits of general education courses for a total of 18 credits
- 3.0 GPA required for all semester 1-4 critical tracking courses, based on all attempts
- 2.7 cumulative UF GPA

Semester 3

- Complete STA 2023 with minimum grade of C
- Complete 1 additional Social and Behavioral Science course (Courses in Sociology, Anthropology, or Psychology course recommended) with minimum grade of C
- Complete 3 credits of physical science (must be CHM or PHY prefix; PHY 2004, CHM 1030, or CHM 1020 recommended) with minimum grade of C
- Complete 9 additional credits of general education courses for a total of 30 credits
- 3.0 GPA required for all semester 1-4 critical tracking courses, based on all attempts
- 3.0 cumulative UF GPA

Semester 4

- Complete 3 additional Biological Science credits (APK 2105C is highly recommended, but other preferred courses include others with a BSC or MCB prefix)
- Complete science lab with minimum grade of C or S (satisfied by APK2105C if taken to complete additional biological science requirement)
- Complete all critical tracking courses with minimum grade of C
- Complete all General Education courses
- Complete the university Writing Requirement (24,000 words)
- 3.0 GPA required for all semester 1-4 critical tracking courses, based on all attempts
- 3.0 cumulative UF GPA

Semester 5

- Complete EEX 3093, SPA 3011, and SPA 3101
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 6

- Complete SPA 3003, SPA 4104, and SPA 4302
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 7

- Complete SPA 4004, SPA 4250, and SPA 4321
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 8

- Complete SPA 4050, SPA 4400, and PHC 4101
- 2.0 UF GPA required

Model Semester Plan

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student's academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)		3
Select one:		3
PSY 2012	General Psychology (Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)	
BSC 2005	Biological Sciences (Critical Tracking ; or higher-level biological science; State Core Gen Ed Biological Sciences)	
State Core Gen Ed Composition (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext); Writing Requirement		3
General Education Mathematics (MAC 1105 or higher level math recommended)		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Semester Two		
Select one:		3

BSC 2005	Biological Sciences (Critical Tracking ; or higher-level biological science; Gen Ed Biological Sciences)	
PSY 2012	General Psychology (Critical Tracking ; State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)	
STA 2023	Introduction to Statistics 1 (Critical Tracking ; must complete by the end of Semester Three; Gen Ed Mathematics)	3
State Core Gen Ed Humanities (https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext)		3
Gen Ed Composition; Writing Requirement		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Semester Three		
Quest 2 (Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences)		3
Select one physical science course:		3
PHY 2020	Introduction to Principles of Physics (Critical Tracking ; or higher-level course; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	
CHM 1030	Basic Chemistry Concepts and Applications 1 (Critical Tracking ; or higher-level course; Gen Ed Physical Sciences)	
Complete 1 additional Social and Behavioral Science course (Critical Tracking ; Courses in Sociology, Anthropology, or Psychology recommended)		3
6000-word writing course (Writing Requirement)		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Semester Four		
Additional Biological Science and Biological Science Laboratory (APK 2105C highly recommended; Critical Tracking ; Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences)		4
Gen Ed International		3
6000-word writing course (Writing Requirement)		3
Civic Literacy Course		3
Elective		2
Credits		15
Semester Five		
EEX 3093	Exceptional People in School and Society (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 3011	Speech Acoustics (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 3101	Speech Anatomy and Physiology (Critical Tracking)	3
Electives		6
Credits		15
Semester Six		
SPA 3003	Phonetics (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 4104	Neural Basis of Communication (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 4302	Intro to Audiology and Hearing (Critical Tracking)	3
PHC 4101	Public Health Concepts (Critical Tracking ; must be complete by Semester Eight)	3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Semester Seven		
SPA 4004	Language Development (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 4250	Introduction to Speech Disorders (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 4321	Audiologic Rehabilitation (Critical Tracking)	3
Electives		6
Credits		15
Semester Eight		
SPA 4400	Introduction to Language Disorders (Critical Tracking)	3
SPA 4050	Clinical Observations in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (Critical Tracking)	3
Electives		9
Credits		15
Total Credits		120

Academic Learning Compact

This undergraduate program provides an understanding of the expected processes involved in human communication so that students will be prepared for graduate programs where they will be immersed in dealing with atypical or pathological conditions related to speech, language, swallowing and/or hearing.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Earn minimum grades of C in all Communication Sciences and Disorders core courses.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes | SLOs

Content

1. Explain fundamental principles of anatomy, acoustics, neuroanatomy, and neurophysiology as they relate to the normal development, assessment, and treatment of speech, language, and auditory functions.
2. Describe the etiology, characteristics, and management of speech, language, and auditory disorders, considering the influence of aging and disease on communication and health.

Critical Thinking

3. Apply clinical problem-solving skills to analyze case scenarios, defend assessment and treatment decisions, and evaluate their implications for diverse populations.

Communication

4. Present information accurately and effectively through both oral presentations and analytical writing on topics related to communication sciences or disorders.

Curriculum Map

I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

Courses	SLO 1	SLO 2	SLO 3	SLO 4
SPA 3003	R			
SPA 3011	I			
SPA 3101	I, A			
SPA 4004	I	I, A		
SPA 4050			R	R, A
SPA 4104	I, A			
SPA 4250			I, A	
SPA 4302	R, A	R		
SPA 4321	R	I, A		I, A
SPA 4400	R	R	I, A	R

Assessment Types

- Clinical analysis
- Case management reviews
- Exams
- Papers
- Presentations
- Additional assessments include:
 - A summative assessment
 - The undergraduate alumni survey