COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS, BS

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers a Bachelor of Science degree, which provides the pre-professional foundation for graduate study. The student who plans to become a professional speech-language pathologist or audiologist will receive preparation in human communication sciences and disorders as well as a broad educational experience in the liberal arts and sciences.

Requirements

Students must achieve the following:

1. Satisfactory completion of 121 credits;  
2. Satisfactory completion of the required courses in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and those required outside the department;  
3. Satisfactory completion of the University General Education Requirements (http://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationertext);  
4. A cumulative 2.5 GPA or better in all credits earned at UWM. Students should note that admission to graduate programs in speech-language pathology and audiology is highly competitive. To be competitive with other Graduate School applicants, it is recommended that students maintain a GPA greater than 3.5; and  
5. Completion of the last 30 credits in residence at UWM.

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
**University General Education Requirements**
|  |  |
**Competency Requirements**
|  |  |
Oral and Written Communication (OWC) Part A & B |  |
Quantitative Literacy (QL) Part A & B |  |
Foreign Language |  |
**Distribution Requirements**
|  |  |
Arts | 3 |
Humanities | 6 |
Natural Sciences | 3 |
Social Sciences | 3 |
Cultural Diversity | 3 |
**General Electives**
| Select 0-2 credits | 0-2 |
**Major Requirements**
|  |  |
COMSDIS 210 | Survey of Communication Disorders | 3 |
COMSDIS 220 | Anatomy and Physiology of Speech, Hearing, and Language Mechanisms | 4 |
COMSDIS 230 | Introduction to Phonetics | 4 |
COMSDIS 240 | Normal Speech and Language Development | 3 |
COMSDIS 245 | Client Diversity in Health Sciences: An Interdisciplinary Perspective | 3 |
COMSDIS 250 | Interprofessional Communication in the Health Sciences | 3 |
COMSDIS 350 | Clinical Process I: Articulation and Phonology Disorders | 3 |
COMSDIS 351 | Clinical Process II: Child Language Disorders | 3 |
COMSDIS 380 | Bases of Hearing Science | 3 |
COMSDIS 450 | Bases of Fluency and Voice Disorders | 3 |
COMSDIS 460 | Survey of Adult Neurogenic Language and Speech Disorders | 3 |
COMSDIS 470 | Introduction to Audiology | 3 |
COMSDIS 480 | Speech Science | 3 |
COMSDIS 490 | Audiologic (Re)Habilitation | 3 |
COMSDIS 520 | Counseling in Communication Disorders | 3 |
**Extra-Departmental Requirements**
|  |  |
ANTHRO 102 | Introduction to Anthropology: Culture and Society | 3 |
or SOCIOL 101 | Introduction to Sociology | 3 |
BIO SCI 202 | Anatomy and Physiology I | 4 |
BIO SCI 203 | Anatomy and Physiology II | 4 |
CHS 100 | New Student Seminar in Health Professions | 1 |
ED PSY 330 | Introduction to Learning and Development | 3 |
EXCEDUC 600 | Survey of Exceptional Education | 3 |
or EXCEDUC 300 | The Exceptional Individual | 3 |
HS 102 | Healthcare Delivery in the United States | 3 |
HS 222 | Language of Medicine | 3 |
HCA 203 | Human Life Cycle | 3 |
LINGUIS 350 | Introduction to Linguistics | 3 |
or LINGUIS 400 | Introduction to English Linguistics | 3 |
PSYCH 101 | Introduction to Psychology | 3 |
PSYCH 260 | Child Psychology | 3 |
PHYSICS 120 | General Physics I (Non-Calculus Treatment) | 4-5 |
or CHEM 101 | Chemical Science |  |
ENGLISH 205 | Business Writing | 3 |
or ENGLISH 207 | Health Science Writing | 3 |
Select one of the following: | 3-4 |
KIN 270 | Statistics in the Health Professions: Theory and Practice |  |
PSYCH 210 | Psychological Statistics |  |
ED PSY 624 | Educational Statistical Methods I |  |
Select one of the following: | 3 |
ED POL 375 | Cultural Foundations of Education |  |
ED POL 500 | Sociology and Policy of Urban Communities and Schools |  |
ED POL 530 | Urban Education: Foundations |  |
ED POL 650 | The Civil Rights Movement in Northern Cities |  |
Select one of the following: | 2-3 |
CURRINS 343 | Teaching of Reading (ExcEduc sec) |  |
CURRINS 643 | Balanced Literacy Instruction in the Elementary School |  |
CURRINS 537 | Literacy 2: Assessing and Teaching Literacy through Early Adolescence |  |
Communication Sciences and Disorders, BS

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<tr>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMSDIS 460</td>
<td>Survey of Adult Neurogenic Language and Speech Disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMSDIS 470</td>
<td>Introduction to Audiology</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<th>Semester 2</th>
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<td>COMSDIS 490</td>
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<td>CURRINS 537 or CURRINS 643</td>
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<td>EXCEDUC 600 or EXCEDUC 300</td>
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<td>Total Credits</td>
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Admission to the Major

To be accepted as a communication sciences and disorders major you must have:

1. A cumulative GPA of 2.75 or better in at least the first 58 credits taken;
2. A GPA of 3.0 or better in COMSDIS 220, COMSDIS 230, and COMSDIS 240 must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 for admission to the major.
3. These courses meet a subset of the requirements for Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction for School Certification in Speech-Language Pathology.

Appeal Procedures

Students who are refused admission to the major may appeal the decision by writing to the department chairperson and enumerating the reasons they believe their case is exceptional and merits additional consideration. If possible, the appeal should be accompanied by written support from one or more of the faculty, and should include documentation of any extenuating circumstances cited in support of the appeal. A committee composed of the entire faculty of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders will consider individual student appeals for admission to the major. Students are notified in writing of the faculty’s decision concerning the appeal.
Individuals who have an educational background in Communication Sciences and Disorders have a variety of employment and career opportunities available to them upon completion of the Bachelor’s Degree. For those interested in working with children and adults with disabilities, positions may be found in schools, agencies, health-care facilities, and government. The Communication Sciences and Disorders undergraduate major also provides a good preparation for graduate and certification training in human service-related fields.

**Examples of Jobs for Undergraduate Majors**

- Care Coordinator for high-risk children and families
- Case Manager for individuals with developmental disabilities
- Job Coach
- Activity Assistant
- Life Skills Instructor
- Rehabilitation Technician (assists rehabilitation professionals in healthcare settings)
- Classroom Aide
- Special Ed Educational Assistant
- Autism Line Therapist
- In-home Behavioral Support Specialist
- Substitute Teacher
- Childcare Teacher (certification required)
- Peer Recovery Specialist (certification required)

**Jobs Requiring Additional Education**

(graduate degree or post-baccalaureate certification)

- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Audiologist
- Social Worker
- Occupational Therapist
- Manager, Day Services Program
- Special Education Teacher
- Reading Specialist
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor
- Manager, Autism Therapy Agency

**Commencement Honors**

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is not rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

**Final Honors**

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

**Contact Information**

Undergraduate Program Coordinator
Enderis Hall

Phone: use dept phone number

**Honors in the Major**

Honors in the major are granted to students who earn a GPA of 3.500 or above on a minimum of 30 completed credits at UWM following advancement to a Health Sciences major.

**Honors in the College of Health Sciences**

**Dean’s Honor List**

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student’s GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

**Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis**

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college/) section of this site.