WHY STUDY COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS?

A career in communicative disorders offers many challenges and opportunities. “Employment of speech-language pathologists is projected to grow 21 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-17 Edition, Speech-Language Pathologists, https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/speech-language-pathologists.htm). In addition to the number of opportunities, the scope of the opportunities is wide. There are opportunities to work with persons across the life span and within a variety of settings. Taking advantage of these opportunities depends on getting the best possible education, both at the undergraduate and at the graduate level.

WHAT TYPE OF CAREERS ARE AVAILABLE?

You can become a speech-language pathologist (SLP) or audiologist after completing a graduate degree. You can become a speech-language pathologist assistant (SLPA) or hearing aid dispenser after completing an undergraduate and necessary training.

Where do SLPs/audiologists work:

• Public schools,
• Clinics and agencies,
• Private practices, or
• Hospitals of various types (including acute, rehabilitation, psychiatric, and extended care hospitals).

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BECOME A LICENSED/CERTIFIED SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST OR AUDIOLOGIST?

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) must earn a master’s degree in speech-language pathology or communication sciences and disorders (M.A. or M.S.). Audiologists must earn a clinical doctorate in audiology (Au.D.).

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS?

Accreditation

We are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, MD 20850, Phone: (800) 498-2071.

Faculty

The faculty’s first priority is students: teaching, mentoring, and guiding students with their research. All our faculty are specialists in communicative disorders and many are recognized nationally/internationally for their research and professional service.
Speech and Hearing Clinic
The Speech and Hearing Clinic, as a nonprofit CSUF Foundation agency, offers speech and hearing services to persons with communicative disorders. The primary objective of our clinic is to provide opportunities for teaching, service, and research. Undergraduate students observe clinic sessions as part of their course requirement, serve as translators if they speak other languages than English, or work as clinic assistants.

Research
Students have opportunities to work on research projects with faculty members.

WHAT ARE THE COURSES TO TAKE IN THE MAJOR?

Required Courses (39 units)
The following four courses are prerequisites for the next courses:

- COMD 241 Introduction to Phonetics (3)
- COMD 242 Introduction to Communicative Disorders (3)
- COMD 307 Speech & Language Development (3)
- COMD 344 Anatomy & Physiology of Speech & Hearing Mechanism (3)
- COMD/HCOM 300 Introduction to Research in Speech Communication (3)
- COMD 350 Speech & Hearing Science (3)
- COMD 352 Child Language Disorders & Phonological Disorders (3)
- COMD 461 Audiology & Audiometry (3)
- COMD 465 Aural Rehabilitation (3)
- COMD 472 Voice & Craniofacial Disorders (3)
- COMD 474 Neurology & Neurogenic Communicative Disorders (3)
- COMD 475 Fluency Disorders (3)
- COMD 476 Clinical & Procedures (3)

Elective Courses (3 units)

- COMD 302 Introduction to Manual Communication (3)
- COMD 345 Communication & Aging (3)
- COMD 404 Communication Disorders of the Bilingual/Multicultural Child (3) OR
- COMD 478 Counseling skills in CD (3)

WHAT SCHOLARSHIPS, ASSISTANTSHIPS, AND AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE?
The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers several awards that provide recognition and/or financial assistance to outstanding students majoring in Communicative Disorders. For more information, please visit http://communications.fullerton.edu/comd/scholarship/COMD_scholarship.pdf.

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE?
The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders sponsors active chapters of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA), Student Speech Therapists and Audiologists Nurturing Cultural Enrichment (S.T.A.N.C.E), and Student Academy of Audiology (SAA).

The NSSLHA chapter provides a bridge between students and their future professional lives by bringing in speakers from various facets of the profession. In addition, NSSLHA coordinates social activities for students and faculty and raises funds for the Speech and Hearing Clinic. For more details please visit http://communications.fullerton.edu/studentlife/nsslha/.

S.T.A.N.C.E. facilitates an open forum between community representatives, professionals, and aspiring speech-language pathologists and audiologists to share insights and ideas that will aid students in serving culturally and linguistically diverse populations. For more details please visit http://communications.fullerton.edu/studentlife/stance/.

The Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) is the national student division of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA) that serves as a collective voice for students and advances the rights, interests, and welfare of students pursuing careers in audiology. For more details please visit https://saa.audiology.org/.

HOW DO I GET ADVISEMENT?
You must obtain initial advisement from the Department Undergraduate Adviser, Dr. Minjung Kim, who will develop your major course plan and assign you a faculty adviser. As a Communication Sciences and Disorders major, you will receive advisement from full-time faculty members who are committed to helping each student accomplish his or her professional goals. Advisement materials are also available at the department office located in College Park (CP) 425 or by calling (657) 278-3274.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM?
If you have any questions, please visit the department website http://communications.fullerton.edu/comd/degree/cd-ba.php.

Or contact the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders office:
Phone: 657-278-3274 | Email: comdassistant@fullerton.edu

Or contact the undergraduate adviser:
Dr. Minjung Kim,
Phone: 657-278-3927 | Email: minjungk@fullerton.edu

For more information about our program, please contact our undergraduate advisor, Dr. Minjung Kim, at 657-278-3927. Visit our department in Room 425, College Park, or our website: http://communications.fullerton.edu/comd/degree/cd-ba.php.