

CSUF Communication Sciences and Disorders Undergraduate Advisement Overview

B.A. Degree Requirements

In order to receive a B.A. degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from CSUF, students need to complete a total of 120 units which includes the following:

a) 48 General Education (GE) units

b) 9 units of upper division GE courses taken in residence at CSUF even if you have met all GE requirements at another institution

b) 42 units in the major (39 units of required courses & one elective: COMD 302, 345, 404, 478, 495)

c) 30 additional unrestricted elective course units may be needed to help students obtain the 120 units needed for graduation (e.g., extra GE classes or COMD electives, classes to meet public school credential and/or ASHA certification requirements, classes for a second major, minor or the honors program)

*For more info on CSUF COMD BA program degree requirements, go to the university's on-line course catalogue at: http://catalog.fullerton.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=1&pooid=295&returnto=47
The catalog can also be accessed on the university's home page (go to the quick links menu).*

Additional Course Requirements

In addition to the above listed BA degree requirements, there are other coursework requirements that are not required for graduation but that must be completed by the end of a student's graduate degree program if they are planning to obtain the following two credentials: a) Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC) from ASHA (required for employment in hospitals, private practice and licensure for most states) and b) preliminary Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential in Language, Speech, and Hearing (SLPSC) required for work in California's public schools

*For ASHA certification: At least one course in: 1) **statistics** (a course with "statistics" in the title), 2) **chemistry** or **physics**, and 3) **biological sciences**. Students can take lower level courses and/or courses at a JC to fulfill these requirements.*

*For more information about ASHA certification requirements, go to:
<https://www.asha.org/Certification/2020-SLP-Certification-Standards/>*

*For the California public school credential: **Psych 361** (Developmental Psychology) and **SPED 371** (Exceptional Individual).*

These additional courses can be taken as part of other GE requirements or the 27 unrestricted electives required for helping undergrad students meet the 120-unit degree requirement. It is recommended that students attempt to complete as many of these courses during their undergraduate degree program. Those not completed will either need to be taken in graduate school or in some cases, dependent on the institution, may be required before being admitted to the graduate degree programs.

***When should I begin taking COMD major courses?** Admission to CSUF Communication Sciences and Disorders and other CSD graduate programs can be extremely competitive. To the extent possible, students should strive toward a strong GPA (e.g., 3.5 or above) in the major at the end of their undergraduate coursework to be in the best position to apply for future graduate program study. Taking COMD major courses too early can have an impact on your GPA for future graduate study. In order to be best prepared for courses in the major, it is recommended that students wait until they have completed at least 45 units of university level coursework before taking their first COMD major class*

(after their 3rd semester). Once students begin to take COMD major coursework, it is recommended that they take no more than 12 units of COMD courses per semester to maintain a high GPA.

What types of classes should I be taking prior to starting my major courses if I am still a freshman or sophomore or am having difficulty getting major classes during my first semester as a new transfer student? During your initial orientation or advisement meeting, you will be provided with a list of non-COMD classes that are important for freshman and sophomores to complete their first semester. See also the COMD program roadmap for freshman and sophomores for an example of the coursework sequence that students should consider following the first two years. For those students who decide to begin their major work during the 3rd semester, only one COMD course (COMD 242) is recommended. For new transfer students, it is recommended that they take upper division GE courses in residence at CSUF and courses for ASHA certification and the public school credential if they have not taken equivalent courses at another institution.

Which major classes should I begin to take first? The major classes that are most important to take during the first two semesters of major coursework (after completing 48 units or 4 semesters of coursework) are: COMD 241, 242, 307, 344. These courses serve as pre-requisites for most of the remaining major courses. For transfer students, it is recommended that you only take 2-3 of the above listed classes your first semester of major coursework. The other 1-2 courses should involve classes outside of the major. It is also strongly recommended that you take no more than 12 units of COMD courses per semester. Once you begin taking courses in the major, make sure that you see the COMD undergraduate advisor, Dr. Minjung Kim, minjungk@fullerton.edu, 657-278-3927, CP 420-20, for an academic plan and advisor assignment. She will also be able to provide you with the documentation needed to use our COMD peer mentor center that provides academic support (e.g., tutoring and study groups) for COMD majors.

For questions and information re: GE course requirements and the Titan Degree Audit (TDA)

1) **College of Communications Student Success Center**, College Park, CP 210, (657) 278-4926, collcommadvising@fullerton.edu

2) **University Academic Advisement Center**; Gordon Hall, GH 123, 657-278-3606. Walk-in appointments are available. For more information, go to: <http://www.fullerton.edu/aac>

For questions and information on admissions, transcripts and transfer course requirements

Contact the Admissions and Records Service Center located in Langsdorf Hall, LH 114, 657-278-7601. Walk-in appointments are available. For more information, go to: <http://www.fullerton.edu/Admissions>. If you have questions about a COMD major transfer course requirement, contact the COMD advisor.

For more information about professional careers in speech-language pathology and audiology

Go to www.asha.org (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) website.

National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA)-National and Local Chapters

Go to <http://www.asha.org/students/> and <http://commstudents.fullerton.edu/nsslha/>

Speech-language pathology assistant (SLPA) info

Students with a B. A. in communication sciences and disorders or AA-degree equivalent from a state board approved program can work under the supervision of licensed/credential speech-language pathologists and audiologists as a SLPA. For more info, go to:

<http://www.asha.org/associates/SLPA-FAQs/>

http://www.speechandhearing.ca.gov/applicants/approved_programs.shtml