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# Master of Science Degree Program in Speech and Language Pathology

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MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM IN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

## MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM in SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Nova's Master of Science Degree Program with a major in Speech and Language Pathology was designed to provide the necessary course work and clinical experience for persons who wish to obtain Florida licensure in Speech and Language Pathology and who wish to prepare for the Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

The Speech and Language Pathology major is offered only at the masters level. However, interested undergraduate students or persons with baccalaureate degrees in unrelated disciplines can obtain necessary background courses by enrolling in Nova College.

## Admission Requirements

The M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology was developed to enable individuals to meet licensing and certification requirements. There are no prerequisites for entry into the Program. However, persons with appropriate preparation (a bachelor's in speech correction or speech pathology) will have fewer courses to complete to meet certification and licensure requirements. Individuals who have not completed a baccalaureate degree will be expected to give evidence of competency to complete demanding master's level coursework.

Persons eligible for admission to the Program are:

- 1) Individuals with a baccalaureate degree (in any major) from a regionally accredited college or university.
- 2) Individuals with 90 credit-hours of undergraduate coursework who have either:

A cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4 point scale).

A grade-point average of 3.0 or above for all coursework taken beyond the first 30 hours of coursework, and,

have been recommended for admission after an interview with Program faculty.

#### Transfer of Credit

Thirty-nine credits of graduate work must be completed for the M.S. degree in Speech and Language Pathology. Transfer of graduate level credit up to a maximum of six semester hours from an accredited institution (with a grade of A or B) may be allowed upon approval of the Student Affairs Advisor. These credits must have been earned within the ten years prior to acceptance into the Program.

Note that transfer of graduate-level credit hours for the purpose of obtaining a master of science degree is a different process from the accumulation of a total of 60 credit hours, graduate and undergraduate, in an integrated program meeting course requirements for licensure and certification. Courses from several institutions may be listed on forms sent in for purposes of licensure or certification, and these courses need not be a part of the masters program completed at Nova University.

#### Program Overview

All students are expected to complete a minimum of 39 credit-hours in specific required masters level course work at Nova University. basic 39 credit-hour program is designed so that it meets course requirements for state licensing and AS-LHA certification for persons holding Florida teacher certification in speech correction. Applicants with baccalaureate degrees in fields unrelated to speech and language pathology will need to take additional coursework at the graduate, and possibly at the undergraduate, level prior to and after entering the basic 39 credithour program. Undergraduate students at Nova College may apply for admission to the Program after completion of 90 credit-hours of undergraduate coursework. Undergraduate students from Nova College who apply and meet admission requirements will be accepted as special students in the 9 credithour "Basic Module." Admission to further coursework in the Program requires completion of the baccalaureate degree. The 39 credit-hour basic graduate program involves evening and Saturday classes offered over five cycles. Cycles begin in September, March, and July. Supervised clinical practicum experience is offered during the cycles and in January and February. Students enter the program in cohorts of 15 to 20, and are expected to follow the sequence listed for their cohort. Courses are blocked into modules of two or more courses with related content. Individual courses are not available. Typical Program sequences for three cohorts are illustrated below. The first two sequences are for March and September entry students who already have baccalaureate degrees in an appropriate major. The third sequence represents a typical program for undergraduate students who are permitted to begin initial coursework as specical students.

### Academic Expectations

### Admission to Candidacy

Students majoring in Speech and Langauge Pathology become eligible for admission to candidacy for the Master of Science degree after:

- 1) Completion of their first 6 to 9 credit-hour module of graduate level work taken within the major. Courses taken in related areas may not be used for this purpose.
- 2) Completion of 25 hours of supervised clinical experience at Nova University.

Requirements for admission to candidacy are:

- 1) A 3.0 ("B") grade point average or higher in coursework taken within the major at Nova University.
- 2) A positive recommendation from Program faculty who have worked with the student in an instructional or supervisory capacity.
- 3) A rating of "Satisfactory" or better for the first 25 hours of supervised clinical experience at Nova University.

Program faculty will review the files of eligible students and recommend one of three actions to the CAE Candidacy Committee:

- a) unqualified acceptance;
- b) probationary status;
- c) termination from the Program.

After the Candidacy Committee has reviewed the students file and recommendations a formal letter is mailed to the student indicating his or her status.

### Grading

Since students are expected to produce quality, graduate level work, a grade-point average of at least 3.0 (B) must be maintained for retention in the program. Incomplete grades must be made up within four months. Failure to do so within the four-month limit will result in a change of grade from I to F.

The evaluation system includes:

A = Excellent achievement

D = Poor achievement

B = Good achievement

F = Failure

C = Below expectations for a graduate student

I = Incomplete

### Degree Completion Requirements

To graduate, a student must complete a minimum of 39 credit-hours of masters level course work and all necessary course work and clinical practicum requirements for eligibility for the Certificate of Clinical Competence offered through the American Speech-Language, and Hearing Association. Students who find that they will need more than the minimum 39 credit-hour basic program may take up to a maximum of four years from the date of their first registration to complete degree requirements.

Students who are faced with a temporary personal or professional crisis and find that they cannot keep up with the sequence developed for their cohort may withdraw from the Program by notifying the Director of the Program by letter. Students who officially withdraw may petition the Director if they wish to re-enter the Program with another cohort, picking up their course of study at the point following the last module of courses for which they received a grade. Students may re-enter the Program only once and will be expected to follow all regulations applying to the new cohort that they join.

## Registration

Students register through the Director of the M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology. Application forms and registration information will be provided by applying to the Director, M.S. Program in Speech and Language Pathology, at the Center for the Advancement of Education, Nova University, 3301 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314. Please note that transcripts of all of the applicant's previous course work, undergraduate and graduate, must be received by the Program Director at least one month prior to the student's registration for his/her first module taken in the Program. This step is important to ensure that the student has an accurate, individualized, outline of all course work that the student must take to be eligible for licensure and certification. (Unofficial transcripts from the applicant's files will be accepted for this program analysis. Official copies of all transcripts for our files must be sent prior to admission to candidacy.)

#### Student Costs

Costs include a \$25.00 one-time, nonrefundable application fee for students who have not previously applied to a Nova program. Tuition is \$120.00 per credit-hour for all work taken in the Program. Students who must take additional course work at the graduate or undergraduate level register for these additional courses at the tuition rate prevailing at the time in either Nova College or the Graduate Education Module (GEM) Program. Tuition and registration fees must be received at least one week before the first class session: otherwise, a \$20.00 late fee will be charged.

### Tuition Refund Policy

Fees other than tuition are not refundable. Students who wish to receive a refund of tuition must notify, in writing, the Director of the Program of their reasons for withdrawal. Refunds will be based on the postmark date of written notification. Unless written notification of withdrawal is on file, students are assumed to be active participants and are responsible for tuition payments connected with their signed registration forms. In the case of a refund, the following schedule applies:

- \* For 100% refund: withdrawal in writing prior to the first class session.
- \* For a 75% refund: withdrawal in writing before the second class session, regardless of class attendance.
- \* For a 50% refund: withdrawal in writing before the third class session, regardless of class attendance.
- \* No refunds after the third class session, regardless of class attendance.

#### Grievance

When questions about procedures, decisions, or judgments occur, counseling is available for discussion and resolution of differences. Students may also have recourse to more formal avenues of appeal and redress. An appeals policy is available upon request from the Student Affairs Department.

#### Financial Aid

Information regarding financial aid and Veteran's benefits can be obtained by using the toll-free telephone within Florida, extension 7409, or writing to the Nova University Financial Aid Office.

Basic Module		
The Development of the Communicative Processes The Scientific Bases of Human Communication Hearing, Language, and Speech Disorders		credits credits credits
Clinical Module		
Diagnosis of Language and Speech Problems Clinical Procedures Practicum I		credits credits
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures Module I		
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Voice and Fluency Disorders Recent Research in Speech and Language Development Practicum II		credits credit (of 2)
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures Module II		
Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Language Disorders Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Speech Disorders Practicum II	3 3 1 7	
Audiology Modùle		
Fundamentals of Audiology Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures for the Hearing Impaired Practicum III	2	credits credits
	8	credits

# Typical Sequences for Students Starting at the Graduate Level

Cohort B

Cohort A

Spring Cycle	Basic Module 9 credits					
Summer Cycle	Clinical Module 8 credits					
Fall Cycle	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Module I 7 credits	Basic Module 9 credits				
Spring Cycle	Habilitative/Rehabilitative Habilitative/Rehabilitative/Rodule II 7 credits 7 credits					
Summer Cycle	Audiology Module 8 credits	Clinical Module 8 credits				
Fall Cycle		Habilitative/Rehabilitative Module I 7 credits				
Spring Cycle		Audiology Module 8 credits				
Typical Sequence for Students Starting at the Undergraduate Level (full-time)						
Fall Basic Module 9 credits (taken at 400 level as a special student)						
Spring Completion of Undergraduate Requirements						
Summer Clinical Module 8 credits						
Fall Habilitative/Rehabilitative Module I (and additional clinical practicum hours) 7 credits						
Spring SLD II Moo	dule 9 credits ive/Rehabilitative Module II	7 credits				
Summer Audiology Module 8 credits						

SLP 4101/SLP 5101 Development of the Communicative Processes. Anatomic and physiological bases for the normal development and use of speech, language, and hearing, including the anatomy, neurology, and physiology of speech, language, and hearing mechanisms. 3 credit hours.

SLP 4201/SLP 5201 The Scientific Bases of Human Communication. Psychoacoustical and linguistic bases of the production and perception of speech, language and audition, including self-monitoring of sensory information. 3 credit hours.

SLP 4301/SLP 5301 Recent Research in Speech and Language Development. Study of normally developing communicative skills in infants and young children. Observational techniques, phonetic transcription, non-verbal exchanges, and analysis of vocal output. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5401 Hearing, Language, and Speech Disorders. An overview of hearing, language, and speech disorders, their manifestations, classifications, and causes. Identification, screening and referral procedures for speech pathologists, classroom teachers, special educators, school and public health nurses and administrators. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5501 Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Voice and Fluency Disorders of Children and Adults. Etiological factors, procedures for diagnosis, remediation, and interdisciplinary management. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5502 Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Language Disorders of Children and Adults. Therapeutic clinical procedures for an array of pathological conditions of language affecting children and adults, including developmental and acquired problems. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5503 Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures: Speech Disorders of Children and Adults. Procedures for remediation of articulation disorders, such as dyspraxia, cleft palate, and dysarthria. Alternative communication systems. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5601 Clinical Procedures. Service delivery systems and settings, including diagnostic and therapeutic practices in the public and private schools, in private practice, in medical settings and public agencies. Total case management including referrals, reporting, case follow-up, counseling and interagency coordination. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5701 Diagnosis of Language and Speech Problems. Diagnosis and management of complex communicative disorders including test interpretation and relationships between subtests in order to make a differential diagnosis. 3 credit hours.

SLP 5400 Practicum I. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults. Procedures for evaluation, test interpretation, remediation, reporting and family counseling. 2 credit hours.

SLP 5500 Practicum II. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults. Procedures for test interpretation and remediation. 2 credit hours.

AUD 5101 Fundamentals of Audiology: Introduction to hearing testing, test interpretation and implications for client management. 3 credit hours.

AUD 5501 Habilitative/Rehabilitative Procedures for the Hearing Impaired. Remediation of communication problems resulting from hearing impairment. Use of amplification and assistive devices. 3 credit hours.

AUD 5100 Practicum III. Supervised, direct clinical experience with children and adults with hearing impairment. Remedial procedures, use of amplification and speech reading. 2 credit hours.

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