The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) offers one undergraduate major (BS in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology), a BS/MS PlusOne program, and two undergraduate minors.

Speech-language pathologists and audiologists (who require graduate education to practice) are involved with the evaluation and treatment of, and counseling and research in, human communication and its disorders. They provide clinical services to a full range of individuals with communication delays/differences/disorders, from infants through geriatrics. Speech-language pathologists treat disorders such as developmental language and articulation disorders; voice and resonance problems; stuttering; pediatric and adult swallowing disorders; and language and cognitive impairments due to stroke, head injury, and progressive neurological diseases. Audiologists specialize in the prevention, identification, assessment, and rehabilitation of hearing disorders. Individuals with congenital and acquired hearing impairments are seen for services by audiologists. They prescribe and dispense hearing aids and instruct individuals in the use of amplification.

**BS in Speech-Language Pathology**

The Bachelor of Science degree program in speech-language pathology and audiology (SLPA) includes an experiential learning component, a broad-based academic core, and the scientific and clinical courses necessary for understanding normal and disordered communication. The degree offers preprofessional training for individuals who want to pursue graduate education in SLPA. Alternatively, graduates may be hired as speech and hearing assistants in a variety of clinical settings; or they may pursue other career paths in healthcare and education. The SLPA curriculum is designed to facilitate critical thinking, information literacy, and oral and written communication skills. In addition to course work in the basic communication sciences, course work is required in education, allied health, ethics, multicultural/diversity issues, and psychology. The curriculum provides a solid foundation in SLPA and basic sciences, and it is sufficiently flexible to provide students with the opportunity to minor in an area of related interest.

**BS/MS PlusOne Program**

A unique aspect of the speech-language pathology and audiology (SLPA) program is a five-year BS/MS PlusOne program. Students who have maintained an overall GPA of 3.350 or better and a C or better in all SLPA courses; who have satisfied all graduate program admissions requirements; and who have access to a car and/or utilization of public transportation to get to and from all clinic assignments may seek admission to this program in their third year. Students will, if successful, earn the Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at the end of their fourth year and the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology at the end of the program, as well as meet national certification requirements. The PlusOne program is selective because of the intensity of the combined program.

**Minors**

The two flexible minors allow students from various fields of study to enhance their academics with courses related to the field of communication sciences in general, as well as specific courses covering topics such as audiology or speech/language disorders across the life span. Advisors assist students minoring in this area with accommodating their interests and graduate plans.

**COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS MINOR**

The minor in communication sciences and disorders (CSD) includes courses that offer exposure to a variety of aspects of the CSD field. Students progress to graduate programs in fields such as applied psychology, linguistics, neuroscience, and education, among others; but the minor does not by itself prepare students for admission to graduate programs in speech-language pathology or audiology. Speech-language pathology and audiology courses are designed to help students develop entry-level competencies that will enable them to function in a preprofessional capacity in educational settings, medical and rehabilitation centers, and private-practice clinics.

The CSD minor consists of one required foundation course taken prior to any core or elective courses, then two core courses and one elective from either the remaining core courses in the list or from a specified set of elective courses that are taught outside of the CSD department.

**CLINICAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY MINOR**

The minor in clinical speech-language pathology and audiology (SLPA) seeks to prepare students for admission into a graduate program in SLPA. In particular, students in this minor are on a track that, if supplemented with certain elective choices within their major, would meet all admissions requirements for our department's own MS in Speech-Language Pathology (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/speech-language-pathology-ms/ ) program.

Students pursuing this minor are advised to consult early and regularly with their academic advisors in order to ensure a timely completion of the combination of their majors and the clinical SLPA minor requirements.

Students pursuing this minor who plan to apply to graduate school at institutions other than Northeastern are advised to carefully check admissions requirements for those programs.

**Programs**

**Bachelor of Science (BS)**

- Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

**Minors**

- Communication Sciences and Disorders (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/communication-sciences-disorders-minor/)
- Early Intervention (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/communication-sciences-disorders/early-intervention-minor/)
- Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/early-intervention-minor/)
Courses

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Courses

Search SLPA Courses using FocusSearch (http://catalog.northeastern.edu/class-search/?subject=SLPA/)

SLPA 1000. College: An Introduction. 1 Hour.
Introduces the university, college, and the speech-language pathology and audiology major. Seeks to enhance students' understanding of self and the decisions they make personally, academically, and professionally as members of the university's diverse community. Designed to help students gain knowledge and experiences that will ease the transition to Northeastern University and assist in developing strategies for success in college and in life beyond. Group activities, individual assignments, and active participation in a learning community are designed to help students adjust to life on an urban campus; develop a better understanding of the learning process; acquire essential academic and co-curricular skills; and make connections with faculty, students, and across majors in Bouvé College.

SLPA 1101. Introduction to Communication Disorders. 4 Hours.
Offers an overview of disorders of speech and hearing and their treatment, and a review of normal speech and hearing development. Requires clinical observations of persons with speech, language, and hearing disorders.

SLPA 1102. Language Development. 3-4 Hours.
Provides an overview of the development of the language system from birth to adolescence. Studies compare different theories of language acquisition and understand their implications for intervention approaches; become familiar with broad developmental stages in infancy and childhood in the domains of motor skills, cognition, social skills, and speech and language, and the connections among these domains; understand the social dynamics between parents and children from which early gestures and prespeech vocalizations emerge; utilize some informal measures of language development covering form, content, and use; and understand broad differences in development in multicultural populations including Asian, Hispanic, and African-American children.

SLPA 1103. Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanism. 3-4 Hours.
Offers an in-depth study of the static structure, musculature, and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanism. Emphasizes current research in speech and hearing physiology.

SLPA 1200. Phonetics. 3-4 Hours.
Introduces students to articulatory, perceptual, and linguistic aspects of speech sounds, and phonetic transcription of normal and disordered speech using the International Phonetic Alphabet. Utilizes lectures, discussions, laboratory exercises, demonstrations, readings, audiotape exercises, problem sets, quizzes, and examinations.

SLPA 1203. Introduction to Audiology. 3-4 Hours.
Offers the opportunity to gain knowledge of the physics of sound and the anatomy/physiology of the human hearing mechanism, and how these two areas are interrelated. Familiarizes students with some of the diagnostic tests performed by the audiologist in order to assess the integrity of the hearing mechanism. Concludes with a brief overview of amplification and the rehabilitation process for hearing-impaired individuals.

SLPA 1205. Speech and Hearing Science. 3-4 Hours.
Introduces facts and theories related to the physical bases of sound as relevant to speech acoustics; anatomy of the hearing mechanisms; psychoacoustics; and speech perception. While primarily concerned with normal communication, the course also includes discussion of communication disorders. Lab demonstrations and problem sets augment lectures and discussions.

SLPA 1555. Communication Disorders in Movies. 4 Hours.
Seeks to increase student understanding of communication disorders through film. By watching Oscar-awarded, Oscar-nominated, and other Hollywood movies, students are offered an opportunity to develop a heightened sensitivity for how society views specific communication disorders. Through related lectures, discussion, structured activities, and assignments, studies the etiology and diagnosis of a variety of communication disorders and how individuals with these disorders may be helped.

SLPA 1990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.
Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SLPA 2000. Introduction to Co-op. 1 Hour.
Prepares students for all aspects of the cooperative education component of their curriculum by comparing the goals and expectations of co-op employer, co-op faculty, and students themselves. Through professional goal exploration, students gain an understanding of the policies and procedures of the Department of Cooperative Education. The spectrum of clinical settings for speech, language, and hearing professionals is examined as well as current trends in the job market. Effective job search strategies through developing résumés, preparing for interviews, and making informed choices are targeted. Also examines on-the-job scenarios involving problem solving, ethical issues, and confidentiality, and discusses appropriate ways to handle difficult workplace situations.

SLPA 2990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.
Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SLPA 2991. Research in Communication Sciences and Disorders. 1-4 Hours.
Offers an opportunity to conduct introductory-level research or creative endeavors under faculty supervision.

SLPA 3990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.
Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions.

SLPA 4651. Speech Disorders across the Life Span. 4 Hours.
Offers students an opportunity to obtain the foundation needed to work with adults and children who demonstrate delays and disorders of speech production across the life span. Discusses articulation and phonological development and disorders, phonological differences, disorders of fluency of speech, and disorders of resonance and voice. Presents formal and informal diagnostic and therapeutic intervention for each disorder/difference and discusses the impact of these communication problems in relation to the individual and family.
SLPA 4652. Seminar in SLP and Audiology Abroad: Achieving Cultural Competency. 4 Hours.
Offers students opportunities to improve their cultural awareness; to develop their knowledge of different cultures; to increase their appreciation of—and sensitivity to-cultural differences (e.g., healthcare, legal/political, musical, religious); and to experience rehabilitation-related, culturally diverse experiences while abroad. Rehabilitation services are provided in a variety of educational, medical, and community settings. Effectiveness of rehabilitation across these settings is impacted by many factors, including interactions between cultural influences of the healthcare and legal/political systems and of the clinician and the clients/patients with whom he or she is working.

SLPA 4990. Elective. 1-4 Hours.
Offers elective credit for courses taken at other academic institutions. May be repeated without limit.

SLPA 4991. Research. 4 Hours.
Offers an opportunity to conduct research under faculty supervision.

SLPA 4992. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.
Offers independent work under the direction of members of the department on a chosen topic. Course content depends on instructor. May be repeated without limit.

SLPA 5100. Diagnostic Audiometry. 3 Hours.
Presents an in-depth examination of the various uses of pure tone, speech, and impedance measures as they relate to the standard audiological assessment. Covers case history and case reporting.

SLPA 5107. Clinical Procedures. 3-4 Hours.
Reviews principles and procedures of the functional analysis of behavior and focuses on the application of behavioral theory and research to speech, language, and hearing training. Emphasizes clinical investigation in the experimental analysis of the behavior of communication disorders and experiences in the application of experimental procedures in assessment and treatment programs.

SLPA 5109. Neurology of Communication. 3 Hours.
Provides students with the opportunity to acquire a basic understanding of human neuroanatomy and neurophysiology as related to normal aspects of speech, hearing, and language. Reviews central and peripheral nervous system anatomy and physiology developmentally from embryologic through the life span perspectives. Neurology of common speech-language pathologies are similarly addressed.

SLPA 5110. Language Disorders across the Life Span. 3-4 Hours.
Offers students an opportunity to obtain the foundation needed to work with children and adults with frequently referred language disorders that are typical consequences of congenital and acquired central and peripheral nervous-system impairments. Emphasizes the anatomy/ etiology/neurology/physiology of common disorders, characteristics of these disorders, and intervention approaches (diagnostic and therapeutic). Addresses prevention, outcome, efficacy, and service-delivery considerations.

SLPA 5111. Anatomy and Physiology of the Auditory System. 3 Hours.
Details the anatomy, physiology, and neurology of the outer, middle, and inner ear, as well as providing basic coverage of the higher peripheral and central auditory mechanisms.

SLPA 5152. Early Intervention: Planning and Evaluating Services. 3 Hours.
Comprises a systematic, family-centered, team approach to service delivery. Cases are used as a focal point for learning how to plan and evaluate individualized family services and group service plans. Covers important aspects of teamwork and leadership in early intervention with respect to service and coordination. Addresses practical approaches to assessing needs for group programs, and evaluating the implementation and outcomes of programs. Also considers the impact of legal and financial issues on service coordination and approaches to service delivery.

SLPA 5154. Early Intervention Practicum 1. 2 Hours.
Provides students from school psychology, special education, speech-language pathology and audiology, physical therapy, nursing, and related fields with supervised field work experience in team-oriented interventions for infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk for developmental delays and their families from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds. The practicum class sessions are conceptualized as the linchpin training experience between what the theory addresses in didactic courses and the student's fieldwork. Students are expected to master early intervention and team participation core competencies to work effectively with infants and toddlers and their families, interdisciplinary team members, and administrative personnel.

SLPA 5155. Early Intervention Practicum 2. 2 Hours.
Provides students from school psychology, special education, speech-language pathology and audiology, physical therapy, nursing, and related fields with supervised field work experience in team-oriented interventions for infants and toddlers with disabilities or at risk for developmental delays and their families from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds. The practicum class sessions are conceptualized as the linchpin training experience between what the theory addresses in didactic courses and the student's fieldwork. Students are expected to master early intervention and team participation core competencies to work effectively with infants and toddlers and their families, interdisciplinary team members, and administrative personnel.

SLPA 5201. Diagnostic Testing in Speech-Language Pathology. 2 Hours.
Offers students an opportunity to review diagnostic tests and test manuals in the field of speech-language pathology and to practice their administration. Discusses information about test content, reliability, and validity. Principles of standardized testing, norm referencing, and test scoring are reviewed and practiced.

SLPA 5202. Evaluation and Diagnosis. 2 Hours.
Offers students an opportunity to review diagnostic tests and test manuals in the field of speech-language pathology and to practice their administration. Discusses information about test content, reliability, and validity. Reviews and practices principles of standardized testing, norm referencing, and test scoring. Offers a foundation in principles of diagnostics and diagnostic thinking as preparation for the Advanced Clinic 1 Practicum diagnostic teams. Students work in teams to rehearse all aspects of test administration.

SLPA 5976. Directed Study. 1-4 Hours.
Allows students to pursue topics of individual interest beyond the scope of formal course work under the direction of faculty. May be repeated without limit.