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Introduction

The purpose of this booklet is to help orient you to the profession involved with communication disorders, to provide some insight into the requirements of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and generally to inform you about undergraduate and graduate course work and clinical practicum.

Philosophically, the Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic of the University of Nebraska Kearney has two objectives: the first is to provide superior instruction for speech-language pathologists and the second is to provide competent clinical services for clients with speech, language and/or hearing problems. It is the view of the faculty in the Department of Communication Disorders at the University of Nebraska Kearney that these two objectives are mutually compatible and attainable. In an effort to provide students with superior education that will enable them to assume professional responsibilities, students must be educated in a clinical setting in which exemplary standards and procedures are maintained. Consequently, the student and client both receive the best that the profession has to offer.
The Communication Disorders Program at the University of Nebraska Kearney is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

If you have complaints or concerns about the program, please feel free to contact:
Council on Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)

Written Complaints/Concerns
ASHA National Office
2200 Research Blvd.
Rockville, MD 20850

Telephone Complaints/Concerns: (301) 897-5700

E-Mail Complaints/Concerns: http://www.asha.org

Master of Science in Education degree in Speech Language Pathology Program at University of Nebraska Kearney is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, MD 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700

The University of Nebraska at Kearney declares and affirms a policy of equal educational and employment opportunities, affirmative action in employment, and nondiscrimination in providing its services to the public. Therefore, the University of Nebraska Kearney shall not discriminate against anyone based on race, age, color, disability, religion, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, marital status or veteran status.

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals who wish to file a formal complaint should contact the Accreditation Office to obtain a copy of the complaint procedures.
http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/

Chair, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
2200 Research Boulevard, #310
Rockville, MD 20850
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION ASSESSMENT PLAN

The Department of Communication Disorders is student-centered and committed to excellence in both undergraduate and graduate professional education. The department seeks to provide high quality education in speech-language pathology and audiology with appropriate scientific background, technological and clinical skill, and an appreciation for the need to continue learning beyond formal academic training. The Council for Accreditation of Academic Programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) accredits the graduate program in speech-language pathology. The program meets the Nebraska State Department of Education endorsement standards and the standards set forth by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

ASSESSMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Consistent with the Mission of the University of Nebraska Kearney, the primary purpose of the Department of Communication Disorders is to provide a high quality instructional program in speech-language pathology. The Department engages students in research and professional activities that promote lifelong learning. The goal of the Department is to educate and prepare students to be responsive, reflective, and collaborative decision makers who have the requisite knowledge, skills, and technological expertise to earn appropriate credentials, licenses and/or certifications to practice ethically and successfully.

Upon completion of the graduate program, the student in speech-language pathology will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the critical elements required to analyze and differentiate various communication and swallowing disorders. (knowledge of assessment)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of theory and evidence-based strategies to address various communication and swallowing disorders. (knowledge of intervention)
3. Assess speech, language, and hearing performance of clients across the lifespan to make critical evaluations based on sound theoretical and research constructs. (skills of assessment)
4. Apply evidence-based practices to plan, implement, and modify treatment for clients with various communication and swallowing disorders. (skills of intervention)

These four basic student learning objectives will be assessed using five outcome measures. A matrix is presented to outline how each objective will be measured.
MISSION OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The mission and philosophy of the College of Education builds on the scholarly teaching focus of the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The primary purpose of the College of Education is to prepare students for professional careers in Education and related fields. As an integral part of providing outstanding programs, faculty are committed to quality teaching, advancing knowledge through scholarship and providing professional service. The basic premise guiding all education programs is that quality and equality are essential elements.

College of Education – Desired Outcomes for Graduates
Morally Responsible Professionals in a Social/Political Democracy

The University of Nebraska at Kearney recognizes the importance of education in and for a democratic society and has identified the following desired outcomes. Therefore, by the time UNK students complete their education program, the student/graduate will:

I. **Knowledge: Demonstrates understanding of:**
   a. teaching area content.
   b. learning theory, instructional strategies and management practices that accommodate and enhance learning of all learners.
   c. purposes of schooling in a diverse and democratic society.
   d. data collection and interpretation procedures necessary to maximize learning for all learners.

II. **Skills:**
   a. Develops and implements lesson plans that utilize appropriate P-12 content standards and subject matter.
   b. Utilizes student data to implement multiple instructional and management strategies.
   c. Uses technology effectively in the school setting.

III. **Dispositions:**
   a. Collaboration: Demonstrates ability to work productively with colleagues and students in school and community settings.
   b. Reflection: Demonstrates self-assessment abilities and adjusts/adapts teaching and learning strategies to enhance learning of all learners.
   c. Responsibility: Assumes accountability for professional and ethical behavior to promote a safe and supportive learning environment.
**NCATE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (Renewed, October, 2009)**

**Democracy**

Public education is the single unifying institution charged with the preparation of the young for life in our social and political democracy. Through their continuing commitment to providing quality education for all, regardless of background or heritage, schools have the responsibility to ensure that young people acquire the knowledge, skills, dispositions, and ethical guidance needed for lifelong learning and for productive living in a democratic society. Accordingly, educator preparation programs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney demonstrate an enduring commitment to high quality education. The foundation for this commitment is insuring that graduates acquire the content knowledge and demonstrate the pedagogical skills associated with a high quality education.

Maintaining and advancing our democracy requires firm commitment to a system of education rooted in the core ideals of liberty, equality, and justice. Realization of these ideals, as set forth in the United States Constitution and in the constitutions of the fifty states, requires citizens who are both caring and compassionate, as well as skillful critical thinkers. The goal for teacher educators based in the Arts and Sciences, College of Education, and P-12 partner schools, then, is to prepare graduates who will uphold and promote these ideals in the public schools and in the broader community. Accordingly, our programs strive to prepare educators who value self-reflection as a powerful tool for purposeful change, model responsible and ethical behavior, and effectively collaborate with others.

**Diversity**

Demographic indicators tell us that student populations are becoming increasingly diverse in the 21st century. To prepare the young for full participation in a global society, educators need to acquire and demonstrate the ability to apply diversity-related proficiencies in the domains of knowledge, skill, and professional dispositions. Central to our educator preparation programs is the belief that all students can become successful learners. Student success will be impacted by the educator’s skill in recognizing and understanding diversity in learners and their families, and in understanding how diverse perspectives and life experiences affect learning. Therefore, educators must work toward both quality and equity in public education. To accomplish this, educators must be skilled in the creation of learning environments that show understanding for students with exceptionalities as well as students from diverse populations, provide students with differentiated learning tasks, and encourage both individual and collective responsibility. Consistent with this, educator programs strive to effectively prepare graduates for meaningful community and global engagement. In turn, these graduates will facilitate the active participation of their students as citizens of the pluralistic global community. To this end, teacher educators based in the Arts and Sciences, College of Education, and P-12 schools, endeavor to prepare, inspire, and support the development of its graduates by promoting dispositions that respect and value differences so that all students learn.
Technology

As our society changes and embraces a global orientation, it becomes essential for people to be informed about knowledge acquisition, data analysis and management, and how to connect to others both within and outside their communities. Technology and its many applications have provided the means to accomplish these global connections. As a result, it has become imperative that educators embrace technological advances and use them effectively.

Educators must recognize the importance of technological and information literacy and the capabilities of technology to facilitate learning while connecting students to the larger world. They should understand that instructional technologies and applications impact the dissemination of information, inform professional practice, and enhance services for students. Educators should be skilled in a variety of instructional technologies and their applications and able to reflect and discriminate in embracing and mastering appropriate information technologies. Finally, educators must be able to integrate technology with teaching strategies and curriculum design, utilize technology as a tool to diagnose and plan instruction, and be knowledgeable about legal and ethical uses of information and instructional technologies.

To this end, teacher educators based in the Arts and Sciences, College of Education, and P-12 partner schools aim to prepare graduates who can reflect and make responsible decisions concerning the use of technology as a tool to enhance the learning process.
OUTCOME MEASURES

The Department of Communication Disorders will administer the following measures to assess student outcomes. Table 1 shows each objective and the measures that will be used to assess the outcomes for that objective.

(1). **Written Comprehensive Exam/Thesis** – Each comprehensive exam or thesis will be evaluated with regard to knowledge, analysis, and synthesis. The comprehensive exam is 8 hours and covers multiple areas of speech-language pathology. The thesis is a major integrative paper with one faculty member responsible for directing the project. All students who complete the non-thesis option will be required to complete the written comprehensive exam. Students who select the thesis option will be required to complete and oral defense of thesis with graduate committee.

(2). **Clinic, Field Placement, and Student Teaching Evaluation** – Each semester clinic and field Clinical Educators complete an evaluation of students under their supervision. These items will be reviewed by faculty members for strengths and weaknesses among our students.

(3). **Praxis Subject Assessment** – All master’s degree candidates must pass the national examination required for Nebraska State Licensing and national certification (Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology). These scores provide specific information related to the effectiveness of the program. The faculty evaluates the results related to student outcomes.

(4). **Alumni Survey** – Each alumnus will be sent a survey one year after graduation. The results for each item will be averaged. The survey will also contain items designed to determine if the alumnus has acquired any of the following:
   a. Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology
   b. Nebraska or any other state license in Speech-Language Pathology
   c. Nebraska or any other state teacher certification.

The department will review and analyze the assessment data annually.

(5). **Employer Survey** – A survey will be sent to area employers. The results of each item will be averaged. The department will review and analyze the data annually.

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<th>Outcome Measures</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>2. Knowledge of intervention</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Skills of assessment</td>
<td>1, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Skills of intervention</td>
<td>1, 4, 5</td>
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FACULTY AND STAFF

Department Chair
The department chair provides academic leadership for the department, and is responsible for the relationship between the department and the university administration. In addition, the chair will teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses in communication disorders, provide supervision of student practicum, conduct research and develop grants in areas of interest, serve on departmental and university committees, and advise students.

Coordinator of Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology Clinical Services
The clinic coordinator coordinates all clinic activities, schedules therapy, and assigns clients.

Academic Faculty
The academic faculty is responsible for providing the academic training in the area of communication disorders. Academic faculty will also be assigned to part-time diagnostic or clinical educator duties. They will also be the major advisors for undergraduate and graduate students who are majoring in Speech-Language Pathology. Other duties may also be assigned, such as administrative functions, when they do not interfere with the primary purpose of providing academic education for the students.

Clinical Educators of Clinical Services and Training
Clinical Educators are members of the faculty and carry full authority and responsibility regarding all matters pertaining to clinical function and academic education. For students in training in the clinic, the Clinical Educator and/or appropriate faculty is/are the final authority in all matters of clinical procedures, such as interviewing and counseling of parents, evaluations, planning of therapy, and all therapy performed in all clinics.

Clinic Office Associate
The clinic office associate is responsible for the administrative procedures of initial intake of clients, maintaining all clinical records and files, photocopying and distributing diagnostic reports, and other duties assigned by the department chair, clinic coordinator and faculty.

Ghazi Saidi, Ladan – Assistant Professor: adult language disorders; aging, bilingualism; neuroimaging; neurosciences

Lai, Philip – Assistant Professor: autism; language development and disorders

McKelvey, Miechelle – Professor, interim department chair: adult acquired neurogenic communication disorders; augmentative alternative communication

Moody, Laura – Lecturer, Clinic & Internship Coordinator, Clinical Educator

Moore, Jan – Professor: dual certification; audiology; aural rehabilitation; early intervention; multiculturalism

Schneider-Cline, Whitney – Assistant Professor, Graduate Program Chair: clinical writing; language development and disorders; literacy

Wilson, Jill – Lecturer, Clinical Educator

Wolfe, Denise – Lecturer, Clinical Educator
ASHA STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION OF CLINICAL COMPETENCY

The Department of Communication Disorders at UNK utilizes the ASHA Standards and Implementation Procedures for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology to educate and train undergraduate and graduate students for the field of speech-language pathology. To view these standards and implementation procedures, please visit the ASHA website:


ASHA CODE OF ETHICS

The Department of Communication Disorders at UNK adheres to the ASHA Code of Ethics and trains students to follow the ASHA Code of Ethics throughout their academic, pre-professional and professional careers. To view the full code of ethics, visit:

http://www.asha.org/Code-of-Ethics/

UNK STUDENT HANDBOOK

For current information about registration, tuition, and admission requirements go to UNK home page, clinic on Admissions tab and then Undergraduate or Graduate.

http://www.unk.edu/admissions/index.php

To view UNK’s overall student code of conduct, please access this information on the UNK website link for Student Affairs, and the right hand side lists the Student Handbook:


To view UNK’s academic integrity policy followed by the Communication Disorders Department, please access this information on the UNK website link for the Graduate Catalog, then Academics, and finally Academic Integrity Policy:

http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/academics/academic-regulations/expectations-in-the-classroom/academic-integrity-policy/

For current information about the UNK Youth Activities Safety Guidelines, visit:

www.unk.edu/academics/cdis/_files/clinic_forms/UNK%20Youth%20Activities%20Safety%20Policy.pdf

UNK NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Nebraska at Kearney declares and affirms a policy of equal educational and employment opportunities, affirmative action in employment, and nondiscrimination in providing its services to the public. Therefore, the University of Nebraska at Kearney shall not discriminate against anyone based on race, age, color, disability, religion, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, marital status, or veteran status.

www.unk.edu/offices/human_resources/aaeo/policies/nondiscrimination_policy.php

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with UNK Disabilities
STUDENTS WHO ARE PREGNANT

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services due to pregnancy, students must contact Cindy Hayes in Student Health, 308-865-8218. The following link provides information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights. http://www.nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights/faqs-college-and-graduate-students

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The University of Nebraska at Kearney reaffirms that all women and men -- students, staff, faculty and administrators -- are to be treated fairly and equally with dignity and respect. Any form of discrimination, including sexual harassment, is prohibited. For information about sexual harassment and reporting incidents, please visit: https://www.unk.edu/about/compliance/aaeo/sexual_harassment/index.php

Reporting Student Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence or Sexual Assault
Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes they may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency 308-237-2599

Campus Police (or Security) 308-865-8911

Title IX Coordinator 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

If you have questions regarding the information in this email please contact Mary Chinnock Petroski, Chief Compliance Officer (petroskimj@unk.edu or phone 8400).

GRIEVANCE POLICY FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

http://www.unk.edu/about/compliance/discrimination-and-harassment/sexual_grievance.php
GRADUATE STUDENT APPEAL POLICY

Appeal Of Grades In Graduate-Level Courses

I. Appeal of grades in graduate-level courses shall be made through the graduate student grade appeal procedures of the campus through which the grade was awarded. Graduate students holding admission with Non-degree status in the Graduate College, admission with a Master's objective, or a Specialist's objective should appeal as follows:
   a. Students who believe their evaluation in a course has been prejudiced or capricious must first attempt to resolve the matter with the course instructor.
   b. If denied, the student should then appeal to the Graduate Program Chair or Director through which the course was offered. The appropriate Graduate Program Committee will meet to consider the student's appeal.
   c. If denied, the appeal may be made to the UNK Graduate Council. The appeal should be filed with the UNK Dean of Graduate Studies and Research. The Dean will forward the appeal to the Faculty/Student Affairs Committee of the Graduate Council. Since awarding grades in courses occurs at the individual campus level, the decision of the Faculty/Student Affairs Committee of the Graduate Council on behalf of the campus Graduate Faculty shall be final and is not subject to further appeal.

II. If a student feels the grade they received in a class is incorrect, they must contact the instructor of record or in the absence of the instructor, the appropriate Graduate Program Chair or Director, within 30 days of the end of the term for which the grade was assigned. Failure to notify the instructor/department of record within the allotted time will render the initial grade final and no changes will be permitted. If the grade appeal cannot be resolved with the instructor, a formal, written appeal must be filed with the Graduate Program Chair or Director within 60 days of the end of the term for which the grade was assigned. If the instructor of record is also the Graduate Program Chair or Director, the formal appeal should be made to the UNK Dean of Graduate Studies and Research.

III. The appeal must be the student's written statement specifying what the appeal is, the reason(s) for the appeal, and what outcome they are requesting. The student must also include documentation of course work pertinent to the course under appeal.

Appeal Of General Academic Matters Related To Student Programs (Other Than Grade Appeals)

I. Graduate students holding admission with Non-degree status in the Graduate College, admission with a Master's objective, or a Specialist's objective should appeal as follows:

II. Initially, the appeal may be submitted to the student's advisor.

III. If denied, the appeal may be submitted to the UNK departmental Graduate Program Chair or Director responsible for the student's graduate program. The Student's Graduate Program Committee will meet to consider the appeal.

IV. If denied, the appeal may be made to the UNK Graduate Council. The appeal should be filed with the UNK Dean of Graduate Studies and Research. Normally, this will be the final appeals body (for exceptions, see section IV).

V. When a student's graduate program consists of registrations essentially or entirely on the UNK campus, the UNK Graduate Council will constitute the appeal board. When a student's graduate program includes substantial registrations on a campus other than the one administratively responsible for the program, three members of the Graduate
Council for the other campus will be designated by the Dean for Graduate Studies on that campus to augment the Graduate Council on the campus administratively responsible for the program. In this case, the augmented Council will constitute the appeal board. The decision concerning augmentation of a campus Graduate Council for a specific appeal involving registrations on a campus other than the one administratively responsible for the student’s program will be made by the Deans for Graduate Studies on the campuses involved.

VI. In all cases, appeals should be made in writing to the appropriate advisor, committee or council. In those cases where the appeal concerns graduate-level qualifying exams, comprehensive exams or final oral exams, the following deadlines must be observed. It is the responsibility of the student to make reasonable efforts to ascertain the results of the examination within 30 days after its completion.

The initiation of the appeal, in writing, by the student must be filed within 30 days following the student’s receipt of notification of the evaluation. In those cases involving an appeal of termination of program, initiation of the appeal, in writing, by the student must be filed within 30 days following the student's receipt of the official written notification by the campus Office for Graduate Studies.

VII. There is no absolute right of appeal to the University of Nebraska Executive Graduate Council. The Executive Graduate Council will accept appeals only in those cases where in the exercise of its sole discretion it shall first find that one or more of the following grounds for accepting the appeal exist:< >That the campus Graduate Council has violated some element of fair procedure (example: has failed to allow the parties concerned to present their cases fully to their campus Graduate Council);That the campus Graduate Council has failed to examine or give adequate weight to important evidence relevant to one party’s position;That the campus Graduate Council has given undue weight to evidence not pertinent to the case; orThat some gross miscarriage of justice would be perpetrated if the decision of the campus Graduate Council is allowed to stand. Appeals to the Executive Graduate Council must be made in writing to the University of Nebraska Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and must specifically outline the grounds for the appeal. Such appeal must be made within 20 working days of the day the decision of the campus Graduate Council is received (working days shall not include those days the University is not in session.)

VIII. The Executive Council must make a decision to hear the appeal or not to hear the appeal within 30 working days after receipt of the appeal. Acceptance or denial of jurisdiction over the appeal will be made in writing.

IX. The decision of the Executive Graduate Council on the merits of the case will be made and transmitted to the concerned parties within 40 working days after the decision to hear the appeal.

X. No person who was a member of the department or campus Graduate Council involved in the case will be eligible to participate in the decisions of the Executive Graduate Council either to decide whether the case should be heard or to decide the merits of the case. However, the Dean for Graduate Studies may replace members of the Executive Graduate Council not eligible for participation in the decision to hear the appeal or in the appeal itself.
ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STANDARD

International students must submit an official TOEFL score sent directly from the Educational Testing Service to the Office of Graduate Studies & Research. This aligns with the policy stated in the Graduate Course Catalog for International Student admission.

Minimum TOEFL score of 550 on paper-based test or 79 on the internet based test (scores over 2 years old cannot be reported or validated)

Minimum IELTS score of 6.5

http://catalog.unk.edu/graduate/admissions/international-students/

Non-General American English Speakers CDIS graduate students identified as presenting with language differences that may interfere with successful completion of clinical training will be counseled by their Academic Advisor and the Clinic Director. Strategies to improve their oral and/or written proficiency will be provided to the student via documented consultation with the Academic Advisor and/or the Clinic Director, and via feedback received from clinical faculty/instructors. Documented consultation may be drafted as a clinical action plan. If documented consultation does not meet the student’s needs, attempts will be made to provide resources for individualized intervention, including, at the student’s request, the program’s Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic. The student will not be required to participate as a client in therapy; however, the student will be held responsible for development of communication skills sufficient to achieve effective clinical and professional interaction with clients and relevant others.

Students with Communication Disorders Students with communication disorders that may interfere with successful completion of clinical training will be counseled by their Academic Advisor and/or the Clinic Director. Students will be provided with information on assessment and intervention services available in the community, including the program’s Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic. The student will not be required to participate as a client in therapy; however, the student will be held responsible for development of communication skills sufficient to achieve effective clinical and professional interaction with clients and relevant others.

Amended 10-22-2018
STUDENT FILES

Each student majoring in Communication Disorders is assigned a student file at the time they declare a major in Communication Disorders. The following information is contained in the student's file and readily available for the student's inspection at any time (by requesting the file from the clinic office associate):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Nebraska Kearney check sheet</th>
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<td>Program of Study</td>
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<td>ASHA checklist</td>
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<td>Student teaching checklist for non-UNK undergraduates</td>
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<td>Graduate comprehensive exam notification</td>
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<td>Graduate application materials</td>
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<td>Student handbook signature sheet</td>
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<td>Confidentiality agreement</td>
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<td>UNK undergraduate program materials</td>
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<td>Clockhours - observation and accrued hours</td>
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Students need to keep personal copies of all ASHA clock hour records (both observation and clinical).

Academic and Professional References

Undergraduate
Communication Disorders Curriculum
Communication Disorders Core Requirements
Communication Disorders Class Checklist
Undergraduate Course Sequence

Graduate
Graduate Information
Academic Requirements
Graduate Curriculum
Graduate Checklist (Program of Study)
Graduate Course Sequence
ASHA Checklist

Professional
Program Information and Admission Requirements
List of Courses
Procedures for Obtaining CCC
Information on the Audiology-Speech-Pathology Licensure Act
Communication Disorders Comprehensive Major
B.S. in Education

Note: Licensure, teacher certification, and ASHA certification require a Master of Science in Education degree with a Speech-Language Pathology Major.

General Studies Program Hours = 45
General Studies coursework required by Teacher Education and major = 46
Foundational Core (Written, Math, Oral, Democracy) = 12 including:
   - ENG 101GS, Introduction to Academic Writing - 3
   - ENG 102GS, Academic Writing and Research - 3 hours
   - SPCH 100GS, Fundamentals of Speech Communication - 3 hours
Take 1 course from:
   - MATH 102GS, College Algebra - 3 hours
   - MATH 103GS, Plane Trigonometry - 3 hours (Prereq: MATH 102GS)
   - MATH 120GS, Finite Mathematics - 3 hours (Prereq: MATH 102GS)
   - MATH 123GS, Applied Calculus I - 3 hours (Prereq: MATH 102GS)
Take Democracy course - 3
Portal = 3
Distribution = 29
   - Aesthetics minimum = 3
   - Humanities minimum = 6
   - Social Sciences minimum = 6 including:
     - PSCI 110GS, Introduction to American Politics - 3 hours
     - PSY 203GS, General Psychology - 3 hours
Natural Sciences minimum = 7 including:
   - BIOL 103GS, General Biology - 4 hours
   - Take any CDIS departmentally approved CHEM, or PHYS GS course- 3-4
Analytical and Quantitative Thought minimum = 3 including:
   - PSY 250GS, Behavioral Statistics - 4 hours
Wellness minimum = 3 including:
   - PE 150GS, Healthy, Wealthy and Wise - 3 hours
Capstone = 3
Professional Sequence = 14 including:
   - TE 100GS, Teaching in a Democratic Society - 3 hours
   - TE 204, Typical/Atypical Growth and Development - 4 hours
   - TE 206, Instructional Technology and the Preservice Teacher - 3 hours
   - TE 306, Reading and Inclusion in K-12 Classrooms - 2 hours
   - TE 319, Management and Assessment in K-12/Secondary Classrooms - 2 hours
   - (must be taken concurrently with CDIS 311 and CDIS 312)
   - Students must apply for admission to Teacher Education program.

Major Option = 73
   - Communication Disorders Core & Special Professional Courses – 49 hours
   - Communication Disorders Professional Electives – 9 hours
   - Unrestrictive Elective - 1 hour
Minimum total hours required coursework = 119
Unrestricted electives in 120 hour program = 1
Minimum total hours required for BSE in Communication Disorders Comprehensive = 120
   - All UNK degrees require a minimum of 120 hours. Forty (40) of the hours required for all UNK degrees must be upper division hours, which are courses numbered 300 or above taken at a 4-year college or university.
Communication Disorders Core Requirements (49 hours required)
Take all of the following:
- CDIS 210, Survey of Communication Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 215, Introduction to Phonetics - 3 hours
- CDIS 252, Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism - 3 hours
- CDIS 261, Normal Language Development - 3 hours
- CDIS 311, Clinical Methods and Procedures in Communication Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 312, Field Experience in Communication Disorders - 1 hour
- CDIS 335, Speech and Hearing Science - 4 hours
- CDIS 354, Preschool Language Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 356, Adolescent Language and Communication Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 362, Articulation Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 406, Adult Communication Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 410, Introduction to Audiology - 4 hours
- CDIS 415, Aural Rehabilitation - 3 hours
- CDIS 420, Research in Communication Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 470, Professional Issues in Speech/Language Pathology - 3 hours
- CDIS 488, Senior Seminar - 3 hours
- PSY 230GS, Human Development - 3 hours

Professional Electives (9 hours required)
Take 9 hours from:
- CDIS 413, American Sign Language I - 3 hours
- CDIS 416, American Sign Language II - 3 hours (Prereq: CDIS 413)
- CDIS 480A, Clinical Practicum in Speech/Language Pathology - 2 hours
- BIOL 110, Introduction to Epidemiology - 3 hours
- BIOL 325, Medical Terminology - 1 hour
- CSP 417, Counseling Skills - 3 hours
- CSP 418, Introduction to Counseling and Social Advocacy - 3 hours
- CSP 441, Special Topics: Medial and Psychosocial Aspects of Alcohol/Drug Use, Abuse and Addiction - 3 hours
  (See advisor for approved topic.)
- PSY 403, Psychology of Motivation - 3 hours
- PSY 430, Memory and Cognition - 3 hours
- PSY 455, Adolescent Psychology - 3 hours
- PSY 462, Adult Development and Aging - 3 hours
- TE 327, Introduction to Language Minority Students - 2 hours
- TESE 430, Collaboration, Consultation, and Teamwork - 2 hours
- TESE 437, Medical Aspects of Individuals with Disabilities - 3 hours
## General Studies (45 hrs minimum)
47 hrs minimum required for Communication Disorders

### Foundational Core (12 hours minimum)
*Communication (written & oral) (6-9 hrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENG 101</td>
<td>GS (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 102</td>
<td>GS (3)</td>
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</table>

**Math (3 hrs)

Select one Math from the following: 102, 103, 120 or 123.

**Democracy in Perspective (3 hrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TE 204</td>
<td>(4)</td>
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**II Portal Course (3 hours)

Take ONE 188 from approved list

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TE 100</td>
<td>(3)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**III Distribution Courses (27 hours minimum)

0-1 hrs GS distribution electives needed to meet the 45-hr

Aesthetics (3 hrs)

Take ONE from approved list

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 210</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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</table>

**Social Sciences (6 hrs) Must be from 2 different disciplines

Take BOTH of the following

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 110</td>
<td>GS (4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 145, 150, 160 or PHYSICS 205</td>
<td>GS</td>
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**Natural Sciences (8-9 hrs with at least 1 lab)

Must be from 2 different disciplines

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 203</td>
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**Analytical & Quantitative Thought (0-3 hrs)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 250</td>
<td>GS (4)</td>
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**Wellness (3 hrs)

<table>
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GS Elective (0-1 hrs)

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<tr>
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**UNRESTRICTED ELECTIVES (minimum 1 hr)

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<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 503</td>
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</table>

Note: National certification requires coursework in culturally diverse populations.

*Grades of "C" or higher are required for all Professional Studies courses.
### Bachelor of Science in Education: Communication Disorders Comprehensive Degree

#### UNDERGRADUATE SEQUENCE (Fall 2017)

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<th>SPRING</th>
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<tr>
<td>___ENG 101</td>
<td>Intro to Academic Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>___Biol103</td>
<td>General Biology (with lab) GS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___MATH102</td>
<td>College Algebra GS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ANY 188</td>
<td>General Studies – Portal</td>
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<tr>
<td>___SPCH100</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Speech GS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sophomore</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS210</td>
<td>Survey of Com Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___TE 204</td>
<td>Typical/Atypical Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___PE 150</td>
<td>Healthy, Wealthy &amp; Wise GS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Studies – Humanities</td>
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<td>General Studies – Aesthetics</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Junior</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>___PSY 250</td>
<td>Behavioral Stats GS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 252</td>
<td>Anatomy/Phys of Speech Mech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 261</td>
<td>Normal Language Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 413</td>
<td>American Sign Lang I (prof elective)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Professional Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Senior</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 311</td>
<td>Clinical Methods &amp; Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 312</td>
<td>Field Experience in Com Dis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 356</td>
<td>Adolesc Com &amp; Lang Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 410</td>
<td>Introduction to Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___CDIS 420</td>
<td>Research in Communication Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___TE 319</td>
<td>Mgt &amp; Assess in K-12/Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GRADUATE INFORMATION

Students successfully completing the Master’s degree and appropriate education requirements, the National Examination in Speech-Language Pathology, and a year of supervised professional experience are eligible for the following credentials:

1. National certification in speech-language pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
2. Nebraska licensure in speech-language pathology, issued by the State Department of Health
3. Teacher certification in speech-language pathology, issued by the Nebraska Department of Education

Full-time graduate students can expect to complete the Master’s degree program in 2-2 1/2 years, barring unforeseen events. Students who take fewer than 11 credit hours per semester can expect to have difficulty completing all requirements in this time period. While the program faculty does their best to provide appropriate clinical practicum opportunities for all students, inflexible student schedules can make it difficult to meet clinical practicum requirements. Since all students must obtain clinical experience with a variety of clients, it is important to be available when clients are available.

It is a requirement of the Department of Communication Disorders that a graduate student complete both the clinical and academic requirements for ASHA certification as well as take the national exam prior to obtaining a Master’s degree from the University of Nebraska Kearney.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

I. Undergraduate Coursework Each student must successfully complete all undergraduate courses in Communication Disorders with a grade of C or better. In the event that a grade lower than a C is achieved, that course must be repeated. Undergraduate students must have maintained an overall cumulative grade point average of at least 2.8 in order to participate in the clinical practicum experience.

II. Graduate Coursework In the graduate course sequence, a student must complete all academic courses with a grade of C or better. If a student, during the course of their graduate program, receives more than two grades below B in the major area or has a cumulative GPA below 3.0, the graduate program may be terminated. This includes clinical practicum courses.

III. Clinical Practicum Graduate students are required to enroll in Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology (CDIS 860, 861, 862, or 863) during each semester that they are enrolled in six or more hours of academic course work. Practicum includes a variety of supervised clinical experiences, including individual and group therapy, screenings, parent conferences, and diagnostic evaluations. Students are expected to participate in occasional special projects, such as Health Fairs, preschool and industrial screenings, as outlined in the practicum course descriptions. In clinical practicum courses, the student must earn a B or higher to count the clinical practicum hours toward the ASHA standard. Students who receive a grade lower than a B in a clinical practicum course may need to repeat their clinical experience prior to student teaching or externship and this may delay their anticipated date of graduation. See UNK Clinic Handbook.

IV. Internships In order for students to qualify for an internship, they typically have completed all required courses for the Communication Disorders major and must have the consent of the clinic faculty. All students must be admitted to Teacher Education before their school placement application will be accepted. Admission requirements and procedures can be found at: http://www.unk.edu/academics/certification/. **Praxis Core must be taken by October 1st of first semester of graduate program. Students with degrees from UNL & UNO must provide proof of Praxis Core
scores at new student orientation. Students should have accrued 95-115 hours that count toward the ASHA required total of 400 hours BEFORE beginning internships. These 95-115 hours include observation, alternative clinical education, diagnostic, and intervention hours. Each student’s internship application must be accepted by a public or private school, hospital, state institution, or clinic.

Students are to enroll in a school and a medical internship during the final semester of their program. The internship should simulate as closely as possible a full-time work setting in which this student might eventually be employed. In keeping with Rule 20, a CDIS internship supervisor will provide three formal, onsite observations of each graduate student at their internship site. The internship coordinator will arrange for communication with out of state placements via email, phone and/or video conference. All supervised visits are arranged by the CDIS internship coordinator. The visits will include observing the student and meeting with the on-site, certified SLP supervisor, who oversees the student on a regular basis.

V. Comprehensive Examinations  During the last semester of their graduate program, students must take a written comprehensive examination in the following areas: Normal Processes of Communication, Professional Issues, Communication Disorders I, and Communication Disorders II. In order to be successful in future employment settings, students must integrate information and demonstrate application of acquired knowledge and clinical skills. The adequacy of students’ clinical skills in assessing and treating individuals with communication disorders is the basis for determining the ultimate success of our graduate program. Thus, the comprehensive examination is scheduled during the last semester of students’ program of study, when they can demonstrate the integrated information they have learned through academic course work, on-campus clinical practica, and off-campus internship experiences.

A. Students are responsible for the following four categories:

i. Normal Processes of Communication  
   - include information related to acoustics, respiration, phonation, articulation, and resonance; instrumentation involved in measurement of such activity; production and perception of the speech signal; scientific bases for such knowledge; states of normal speech, language, and swallowing development.

ii. Professional Issues  
   - include information related to confidentiality; ethical behavior; problem solving strategies; collaboration and consultation; service delivery models; scope of practice; current educational and health care trends; procedures related to certification, licensure, and affiliation with professional organizations.

iii. Communication Disorders I & II  
   - address background information, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment planning for select disorders. Information may be divided according to such distinction as congenital vs. acquired disorders, neurogenic vs. learning based (environmental)

Faculty will evaluate students’ written work as to the thoroughness and appropriateness of responses.
Master of Science in Education Degree
Speech-Language Pathology
(47 hours)

Requirements (34 hours required)
Take all of the following:
- CDIS 815, Neurological Foundations - 2 hours
- CDIS 840P, Augmentative/Alternative Communication - 3 hours
- CDIS 852, Reading and Writing Strategies for the SLP: Serving Students with Language-Based Literacy Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 857, Dysphagia - 2 hours
- CDIS 865, Voice and Resonance Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 868, Motor Speech Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 876, TBI and Related Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 881, Seminar in Speech-Language Pathology - 3 hours
- CDIS 885P, Fluency Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 887, Aphasia Rehabilitation - 3 hours

Take EACH of the following, for a total of 7 hours:
- CDIS 860, Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology - 1 hour
- CDIS 861, Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology - 2 hours
- CDIS 862, Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology - 2 hours
- CDIS 863, Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology - 2 hours

Electives (6 hours required)
Take a minimum of 6 hours from:
- CDIS 820, Research in Communication Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 818P Diagnostics Methods – 3 hours
- CDIS 830P Pediatric Swallowing Disorders - 1 hour
- CDIS 879P Aging and Cognition – 3 hours
- CDIS 828P, Advanced Audiology - 3 hours
- CDIS 832, Independent Study in Audiology - 1-3 hours
- CDIS 851, Phonological Disorders - 3 hours
- CDIS 856P, Adolescent Communication and Language Disorders - 2 hours
- CDIS 870P, Professional Issues - 3 hours
- CDIS 886, Infant/Preschool Assessment - 3 hours
- CDIS 895, Independent Study in Speech-Language Pathology - 1-3 hours
- CDIS 896, Thesis - 6 hours
- CDIS 899P, Special Topics in Speech-Language Pathology - 1-3 hours

May choose 3 hours from either:
- CSP 801P, Counseling Skills - 3 hours
- CSP 850P, Introduction to Counseling and Social Advocacy - 3 hours

*any graduate course not listed must be approved by the students’ academic advisor and the department chair.

To be eligible for professional credentialing by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Nebraska Department of Health, and Nebraska State Department of Education, students also must complete the following internships:
Professional Certification Requirements (9 hours required)
Take 9 hours from:
- CDIS 893P, Internship (pediatric/school) - 5 hours
- CDIS 894P, Internship (clinical) - 4 hours

Amended 10-22-2018
**Graduate Program of Study**

Name: ___________________________  NUID: ____________  Advisor: ________________

GRE: Full Scale: ______  Vrbl ______  Quant ______  Wrtng ______  UG GPA: ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Grade Received</th>
<th>Semester Taken</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 815</td>
<td>Neurological Foundations</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 840P</td>
<td>Augmentative/Alternative Communication</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 852</td>
<td>Reading &amp; Writing Strategies for the SLP</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 857</td>
<td>Dysphagia</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 865</td>
<td>Voice and Resonance Disorders</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 868</td>
<td>Motor Speech Disorders</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 876</td>
<td>TBI &amp; Related Disorders</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 881</td>
<td>Seminar in Speech-Language Pathology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 885P</td>
<td>Fluency Disorders</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 887</td>
<td>Aphasia</td>
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**Practicum (7 hours required)**

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<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Grade Received</th>
<th>Semester Taken</th>
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<td>Practicum in SLP</td>
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<td>CDIS 862</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 863</td>
<td>Practicum in SLP</td>
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**Electives (6 hours required)**

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<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Grade Received</th>
<th>Semester Taken</th>
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<tbody>
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**Internships (9 hours)**

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<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Internship (school/child)</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Grade Received</th>
<th>Semester Taken</th>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 893P</td>
<td>Internship (school/child)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 894P</td>
<td>Internship (clinical/adult)</td>
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**Teacher Ed Requirements**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TE 100</td>
<td>Teaching in a Dem Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>TE 204</td>
<td>Typical &amp; Atypical Dev</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE 206</td>
<td>Instructional Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE 306</td>
<td>Reading &amp; Inclusion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE 319</td>
<td>Management &amp; Assessment K-12</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional TE Requirements: ___________  Date Praxis Passed ___________  Date Applied/Admitted to Teacher Ed.  

**I DO ____  DO NOT ____ want to be eligible for teacher certification in Nebraska.**

_________________________________________  Date  ______________________
Student Signature  ______________________  Advisor Signature
## UNK CDIS Undergraduate Majors
### Sample Graduate Sequence
Total Required = 47 (38 academic; 9 clinical)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td><strong>Fall 1</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 815</td>
<td>Neurological Foundations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 840P</td>
<td>Augmentative &amp; Alternative Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 852</td>
<td>Reading &amp; Writing Strategies for the SLP</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grad Elective (e.g., CDIS 818P, CSP 850P, 801P)</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 860</td>
<td>Practicum in SLP</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10-11 hours</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 1</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 857</td>
<td>Dysphagia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 868</td>
<td>Motor Speech Disorders</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDIS 876</td>
<td>TBI</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDIS 861</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9 hours</strong></td>
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<td>CDIS 887</td>
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Amended 10-22-2018
# ASHA Checklist

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<td>Voice and Resonance Disorders</td>
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<td>Motor Speech Disorders</td>
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<td>TBI &amp; Related Disorders</td>
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<td>Fluency Disorders</td>
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Speech/Language Pathology, Master of Science in Education

- Overview
- Requirements

Offered by Department of Communication Disorders

Program Information and Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

A student desiring to pursue the Master's Degree in the area of Speech/Language Pathology must have completed an undergraduate degree or equivalent from an accredited institution. If the degree was not comparable to that offered at the University of Nebraska at Kearney or if deficiencies exist, the student must take those undergraduate courses deemed necessary by the Communication Disorders faculty to make up the deficiencies. An applicant who has obtained a Bachelor's Degree in some other area will be required to take those undergraduate courses in Speech/Language Pathology and possibly in related areas necessary to complete the equivalent requirements for the undergraduate major. Applications are accepted for the fall term only and are due by January 15th.

Admission for Unconditional (Full) status is based on the following preferred qualifications:

1. Competitive Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores,
2. Undergraduate overall grade point average of B or better,
3. Undergraduate Communication Disorders major grade point average of B+ or better,
4. Graduate grade point average of B+,
5. Three letters of recommendation, and
6. Written communication skills assessed with submission of a personal statement for the on-line application.
7. International students must meet the Graduate School minimum TOEFL score and all of the above minimum admission criteria.
8. When all application materials have been received by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, completed files will be forwarded to the CDIS Department for consideration and recommendation.
9. Top candidates for admission will be contacted regarding the next phase of the admission process, a CDIS Department interview/intake to be completed via video conferencing. Selected applicants will receive a confirmation notice via e-mail detailing the date and time of the interview/intake and the questions required for the interview.

Students may be admitted on a conditional basis if the applicant's materials do not meet minimal grade point or GRE standards. Unconditional (full) admission will not be granted until the student completes 12 credit hours of graduate course work in CDIS with a cumulative GPA of B or better.
Procedure

Applications can be completed online at http://www.unk.edu/admissions/graduate-student.php. Applicants will upload required documents and pay the application fee through this online application. The Department of Communication Disorders graduate admissions committee will review application materials and determine students who will be offered admissions. The Office of Graduate Studies and Research will send official notification of acceptance into the Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program.

UNK Non-Discrimination Policy Statement

http://www.unk.edu/about/compliance/discrimination-and-harassment/index.php

The University of Nebraska at Kearney declares and affirms a policy of equal educational and employment opportunities, affirmative action in employment, and nondiscrimination in providing its services to the public. Therefore, the University of Nebraska at Kearney shall not discriminate against anyone based on race, age, color, disability, religion, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, marital status, or veteran status.

Advising

Students are advised upon initial enrollment and once every semester throughout their program. Students are informed of these procedures at new graduate student orientation that is held every August. In consultation with an advisor, the graduate student will develop a program of study/degree audit after acceptance into the degree program. This program will be approved by the department and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. The program of study requires a minimum of 47 semester credit hours of course work to be selected with the advisor's approval. In some cases, the graduate committee may require additional credit hours in Communication Disorders or in related areas if a student has a significant weakness in a specific area. A student may elect to take more than a minimum 47 credit hours. In special cases, alternate courses may be substituted for required courses, with the approval of the Communication Disorders faculty.

Candidacy for the Masters of Science in Education Degree

After completing between 12 and 24 credit hours of graduate level coursework, students must file an Application for Candidacy (https://www.unk.edu/academics/gradstudies/admissions/grad-files/Grad%20Files/Candidacy_1-13.pdf) with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. Students must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 and indicate their expected date of graduation.

Comprehensive Exams or Thesis Options

In addition to successful completion of all required course work, students must pass a comprehensive exam. Students who complete a thesis do not write comprehensive exams. Students can register for up to six credit hours of thesis for completion of the degree. Thesis credit hours can be counted toward the requirement of 47 credit hours of course work as elective credit hours.
Professional Certification

Enrollment in **CDIS 893P** for 5 credit hours, and **CDIS 894P** for 4 credit hours, enables students to meet the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) certification requirements, Nebraska licensure requirements, and Nebraska teacher certification requirements. Such certification applications include both academic and clinical requirements. Additional course work may be added to a program of study to meet teacher certification requirements.

Program Description

The Communication Disorders program is designed to prepare Speech-Language Pathologists for Nebraska teacher certification, state licensure, and certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The program prepares graduates to work in early intervention programs, public schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, federal and state institutions. It also prepares students to apply for advanced degree programs in Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, Speech and Hearing Sciences, and related areas. Additional professional opportunities include private practice, research, university teaching, and clinic supervision and administration.

Tracking Competencies

All student’s complete coursework and practicum that adheres to the ASHA Certification Requirements in Speech-Language Pathology. As students matriculate through the program, their progress will be documented using an online tracking system created by Calipso. At the initiation of their program, students will be given a username, password, and instructions for accessing their individual accounts. Individual students are responsible for adding clock hours to document clinical experiences. Coursework is entered at the conclusion of each semester so students have a cumulative record of competencies met. The Department of Communication Disorders uses Calipso for program tracking.

Change of Program of Study

At times, a student may need to modify their program of study as set during their initial advising. In consultation with the student’s academic advisor, a Change in Program of Study form must be filed (https://www.unk.edu/academics/gradstudies/admissions/grad-files/Grad%20Files/Change%20in%20Program%2013.pdf) with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. Students and the academic advisor discuss these changes, fill out the form, and acquire the necessary signatures. The student then takes the form to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

Accreditation

The Master of Science in Education degree in the Speech-Language Pathology Program at the University of Nebraska Kearney is accredited by the **Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)** of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (800) 498-2071 or (301) 296-5700. Refer to page 4 for full accreditation statement.
Graduate Faculty

Professor: Miechelle McKelvey, Jan Moore, Philip Lia, Ladan Ghazi Sadia, Kenya Taylor

Graduate Program Committee

J. Moore (Chair), M. McKelvey, W. Schneider-Cline, P. Lai, L. Ghazi Saidi

List of Courses

Communication Disorders (CDIS)

CDIS 815 – Neurological Foundations of Speech and Language  2 credit hours

The course familiarizes the student with the nervous system in terms of the organization of the brain, descending motor and ascending sensory pathways, and cranial nerves and muscles. Knowledge of these anatomic systems makes possible the understanding and classification of the effects of specific, localized disease processes on human speech and language.

CDIS 817 – Speech Science Instrumentation  2 credit hours

This course is intended to provide a practical guide to instrumentation for graduate students in speech-language pathology. Clinical use and application will be reviewed.

CDIS 818P – Diagnostic Methods  3 credit hours

Diagnostic principles, procedures, and materials used in assessment of individuals with communication disorders.

CDIS 820 – Research in Communication Disorders  3 credit hours

This course is designed to help students of communication disorders become critical readers of research in the field and to demonstrate the relevance of basic and applied research for evaluation and therapy in speech-language pathology and audiology. The course will include research strategies and research design in communication disorders in addition to measurement issues and organization and analysis of data.

CDIS 828P – Advanced Audiology  3 credit hours

Review of the hearing mechanism and basic audiometric procedures. Training and experience in advanced audiometric techniques, including speech and immittance audiometry; masking; equipment care and calibration; referral procedures; report writing; and case history writing.

CDIS 832 – Independent Study in Audiology  1-3 credit hours

Independent research or special assignments in the area of audiology.

Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

CDIS 833 – Practicum in Audiology  1-3 credit hours
Observation and participation in hearing testing, rehabilitation and patient counseling, and report writing.
Total Credits Allowed: 3.00

CDIS 840P – Augmentative Alternative Communication  3 credit hours

This course is designed to orient students to the process of AAC: the supplementation or replacement of natural speech and/or writing using aided and/or unaided symbols. Topics covered include: AAC as a process and assistive technology as tools; terminology in AAC; funding based on legal issues of AAC, due process and expert testimony; ethics; multicultural issues; literacy; seating and other positioning, and motor control. Assessment and intervention strategies will be discussed.

CDIS 851 – Phonological Disorders  3 credit hours

Nature, etiology, assessment and treatment of phonological disorders; comparison to articulation assessment and treatment; remediation approaches.

CDIS 852 – Read & Writ Strat for SLP: Serving Students w/Lang Based Literacy Disorders  2 credit hours

This course explores theory and research concerning language and literacy development and disorders in children and adolescents. Topics will include home and school influences on literacy acquisition, roles and responsibilities of the speech-language pathologist in reading and writing assessment and intervention, and predictors of reading and writing acquisition and improvement.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing

CDIS 856P – Adolescent Communication and Language Disorders  2 credit hours

Study of normal and disordered communication skills of adolescents. Identification and assessment procedures will be covered. Classroom and clinical management of this population will be discussed.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing

CDIS 857 – Dysphagia  2 credit hours

Rehabilitation of individuals with eating and swallowing disorders. Basic science, evaluation, and treatment issues of dysphagia are explored with emphasis on management of adults in the context of the rehabilitation team in a medical setting. Adaptations and special needs of pediatric dysphagia are overviewed. It is recommended that students complete CDIS 252 or approved equivalent and CDIS 815 prior to enrolling in CDIS 857.

CDIS 860 – Practicum in Speech/Language Pathology  1-3 credit hours

Observation and participation in speech-language and hearing diagnostic evaluations, therapy procedures, counseling clients, advising families, preparing lesson plans, writing reports, and maintaining files.
Total Credits Allowed: 3.00
Prerequisite: Graduate status
Additional Course Fee Required
CDIS 861 – Practicum in Speech/Language Pathology  1-3 credit hours

Observation and participation in speech-language and hearing diagnostic evaluations, therapy procedures, counseling clients, advising families, preparing lesson plans, writing reports, and maintaining files.
Total Credits Allowed: 3.00
Prerequisite: Graduate standing
Additional Course Fee Required

CDIS 862 – Practicum in Speech/Language Pathology  1-3 credit hours

Observation and participation in speech-language and hearing diagnostic evaluations, therapy procedures, client counseling, family advising, lesson plan preparation, report writing, and clinical file maintenance.
Total Credits Allowed: 3.00
Prerequisite: Graduate standing
Additional Course Fee Required

CDIS 863 – Practicum in Speech/Language Pathology  1-3 credit hours

Observation and participation in speech-language and hearing diagnostic evaluations, therapy procedures, client counseling, family advising, lesson plan preparation, report writing, and clinical file maintenance.
Total Credits Allowed: 3.00
Prerequisite: Graduate standing
Additional Course Fee Required

CDIS 865 – Voice and Resonance Disorders  3 credit hours

Symptomatology, etiology, assessment and remediation of functional and organic voice disorders; prevention issues. Classification of cleft lip and palate and related anomalies; medical approaches to cleft lip and palate; and assessment and intervention of communication disorders related to cleft lip and palate.

CDIS 868 – Motor Speech Disorders  2 credit hours

Nature, etiology, assessment, and treatment of motor speech disorders including dysarthria; acquired brain injury; verbal apraxia; and augmentative/alternative communication systems.

CDIS 870P – Professional Issues  3 credit hours

This course is designed to prepare students for employment as speech language pathologists. It provides information relative to professional, federal and state guidelines by which the practice of speech-language pathology is governed. Rights and responsibilities of speech-language pathologists are addressed. Information is given about various work settings including public schools, hospitals and other clinical facilities.

CDIS 876 – TBI and Related Disorders  3 credit hours

Rehabilitation of individuals recovering from traumatic brain injury or closely related disorders. Evaluation and treatment issues are explored with emphasis on management of adults in a medical setting. Pediatric TBI, school reentry integration models and rehabilitation needs are also addressed. Special needs of right hemisphere damaged patients and those with dementia will be discussed.
Prerequisite: CDIS 815
CDIS 881 – Seminar in Speech-Language Pathology  3 credit hours

Advanced study and research in topics of current concern and interest in Speech/Language Pathology.
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

CDIS 885P – Fluency Disorders  2 credit hours

Causes and treatment of fluency disorders; major theories of the nature of stuttering; the various treatment approaches; roles as clinicians.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing

CDIS 886 – Infant-Preschool Assessment and Intervention  3 credit hours

This course will provide students with the opportunity to develop a knowledge base and applied skills in a model of collaborative team assessment to be used with children and families in the birth to five age range.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing

CDIS 887 – Aphasia Rehabilitation  3 credit hours

Historical, theoretical and basic neuroscience foundations of the aphasias and related disorders such as the apraxias and the agnosias are studied. Clinical aphasiology, the theoretical bases, and alternative procedures employed in the assessment, diagnosis, prognosis, and rehabilitation of individuals with aphasia and related disorders is comprehensively addressed.

CDIS 888 – Clinical Supervision  1 credit hour

Information is presented covering the tasks, tools, and strategies of clinical supervision. Supervision during clinical training will be contrasted with that of varied workplace settings for speech-language pathologists and assistants.

CDIS 892P – Internship (Pediatric)  5-10 credit hours

Supervised clinical practicum in identification, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders in children in an educational setting or clinical facility.

CDIS 893P – Internship (Schools)  5-10 credit hours

Supervised clinical practicum in identification, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders in a public school setting.
Total Credits Allowed: 10.00

CDIS 894P – Internship (Clinical)  4-10 credit hours

Supervised clinical practicum in identification, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders in a clinical facility.
Total Credits Allowed: 10.00

CDIS 895 – Independent Study in Speech-Language Pathology  1-3 credit hours
Independent research or special assignment in the field of Speech/ Language Pathology.
Total Credits Allowed: 9.00

CDIS 896 – Thesis 3-6 credit hours

Student investigates a research topic in the area of Speech/Language Pathology, following APA style of reporting the research.
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00

CDIS 899P – Special Topics in Speech-Language Pathology 1-6 credit hours

A course designed to enable the administrators and teachers of Communication Disorders to become knowledgeable about recent trends and issues in Communication Disorders or other concerns affecting Communication Disorders.
Total Credits Allowed: 6.00
PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING CCC IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

1. Complete acceptable master’s degree program in Speech-Language Pathology.
2. Take the Praxis Subject Assessment in the area of Speech-Language Pathology.
3. Complete Clinical Fellowship under an individual holding CCC in Speech-Language Pathology or equivalency in paid or volunteer employment setting.

INFORMATION ON NEBRASKA’S AUDIOLOGY-SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY LICENSURE ACT

The Audiology-Speech-Language Pathology Licensing Act

On July 22, 1978, the Audiology-Speech-Language Pathology Licensing Act became effective. This law requires that any person who practices audiology or speech pathology in Nebraska must have the appropriate certification. Certification may be in the form of a valid teaching certificate or Nebraska state license. LB 247 passed on May 30, 2007 updated the scopes of practice for SLPs and audiologists in Nebraska.

Who is exempt from this licensure (does not have to be licensed)?

1. A person who holds a valid and current credential as a speech or hearing specialist issued by the State Department of Education if that person provides audiology or speech-language pathology.

2. A person who is in clinical practice as a student enrolled in an accredited college or university pursuing a major in audiology or speech pathology and practicing under the supervision of a person licensed in the area of practice, audiology or speech pathology.

3. A person completing the required year of professional experience (Clinical Fellowship) under the supervision of a person who is licensed in the area of practice, audiology or speech-language pathology.

4. A person who is directly employed as an audiologist or speech-language pathologist by the federal government, e.g., V.A. Hospital.

Who needs to be licensed?

Every person who is providing speech-language pathology or audiology services in the state of Nebraska except those who are exempt as listed above.

Can a person who is exempt apply for a license?

Yes. Further, it is advantageous to have the license, as it will protect job mobility. For example, a person working in the schools need not be licensed, but later may want to do some private practice and would not be able to do so unless licensed. Also, the law requires that any person who supervises a student doing clinical practice or supervises a person obtaining the supervised year of clinical experience be licensed. So, a person who plans to do supervision will need to be licensed.
Where can applications for license or assistance in completing an application be obtained?

Nebraska Health and Human Services  
Regulations and Licensure  
Credentialing Division  
P.O. Box 94986  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4986  
(402) 471-2299

What is the annual fee for a license?

The fee is $140; however, this is subject to change. This same amount will also be assessed as a bi-annual renewal fee due on reapplication that must be made on or before December 1st of the renewal year.

Can a license obtained in Nebraska be obtained on the basis of reciprocity (license in another state)?

It appears likely that a person may have difficulty obtaining license on the basis of reciprocity with another state if the license from another state has been granted through grandfathering. It is necessary to evaluate the standards under which licensure was granted and demonstrate that these were, at the time license was obtained, at least equal to Nebraska standards.

What credentials will I need to send to the Board when I apply for a license?

You will need to send in the application and a check for the licensing fee.

One of the following additional items will need to be included with the application:

1. Transcripts with data of degree and type of degree awarded sent to the Board by the colleges or universities you have attended. (However, those who hold CCC or Equivalent Status or License in another state will not need to have the transcripts sent.)

2. A letter of verification of CCC or Equivalent Status sent by ASHA to the Board.

3. A letter of verification of License in another state sent by the Board from that state to the Nebraska Board.

What are the requirements for license?

1. A master's degree or its equivalent
2. Both amount and distribution of academic credit as required for the Certificate of Clinical Competence
3. Three hundred seventy-five clock hours of clinical experience with these hours distributed as required for the Certificate of Clinical Competence
4. A passing score on the National Examination in Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology administered by the Educational Testing Service
5. At least nine months of clinical experience supervised in the area in which licensure is sought (audiology or speech pathology)

Can a person obtain a dual license - a license in both speech pathology and audiology?

No, but a person can obtain two licenses, one to practice speech pathology and one to practice audiology. To do this, a person must:
1. qualify for license in each area, independently,
2. complete a separate application form for each area,
3. pay the fee required for each license.
Does a person who is completing their professional experience year (CF) need a license?

No, but the person who is obtaining the professional experience year must file a plan with the Board and have the plan approved prior to initiating any services. The forms for filing the plan may be obtained from the same address as given for obtaining forms for applying for a license.

What are the ethical practices requirements for a person who is licensed?

"Unprofessional conduct" shall include any of the following acts:

1. solicitation of professional patronage by agents or persons, popularly known as "cappers" or "steerers," or profiting by the acts of those representing themselves to be agents of the licensee;
2. receipt of fees on the assurance that a manifestly incurable disease can be permanently cured;
3. division of fees, or agreeing to split or divide the fees received for professional services with any person for bringing or referring a patient;
4. assisting in the case or treatment of a patient without the consent of such patient or their legal representative;
5. the use of any letters, words, term or terms, either as a prefix, affix, or suffix, on stationery, in advertisements, or otherwise indicating that such person is entitled to practice a system or mode of healing for which they are not licensed;
6. performing, procuring, or aiding and abetting in the performance or procurement of a criminal abortion;
7. willful betrayal of a professional secret;
8. making use of any advertising statements of a character tending to deceive or mislead the public;
9. advertising professional superiority in the performance of professional services.

All who intend to become licensed must register with the licensing board before beginning the CF (or the "licensing year").
I have read the University of Nebraska Kearney Communications Disorders Academic Handbook presented to me and agree to abide by the rules and regulations presented therein.

Date: _________________________

Student: (please print): ________________________________

Signed: ________________________________