

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology Program, an American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology accredited program, is designed to provide training for individuals who wish to become certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association; provide clinical services in hospitals, clinics or schools; and become knowledgeable in theoretical aspects of communication disorders. Emphasis is placed on communication behavior in relation to problems in urban and multicultural populations.

Admission Requirements:

Applicants must have a B.S. or B.A. degree from an accredited institution and a minimum grade point average of 3.0. A degree in speech-language pathology is preferred, but not required. Students must submit three letters of recommendation, a letter of intent, and GRE general test scores with their applications for admission. Prospective applicants are also required to participate in an interview with an admission committee representative.

Graduate Writing Proficiency Examination: Demonstrated proficiency in writing is required of all graduate students. Students must take the GRE Analytical Writing Subtest as a requirement for admission. The criterion score is four. Students failing to meet the criterion must enroll in and pass English Composition 111 during their first semester of admission.

Comprehensive Examination:

Students must successfully complete a thesis or the comprehensive examination administered by the Department. Students electing to take the comprehensive examination, sit for the exam in their final semester of graduate study. They have two opportunities to take the exam. Two failures result in dismissal from the program.

Curriculum Requirements:

The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology requires 54 (57 for students without a background, not including credit hours for prerequisite course work) credit hours; a minimum of 375 hours of supervised clinical practicum, 250 hours of which must be completed at the graduate level; a minimum of 12 credit hours of SPLP 560 for students with an SLP background; a minimum of 15 credit hours of SPLP 560 for students without an undergraduate background in SLP; and a minimum of two external practical experiences in speech.

Prerequisite Courses: The following courses are required for students without an undergraduate degree in speech-language pathology.

AUDL	225	Anatomy and Physiology of Hearing	3
SPLP	224	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech	3
SPLP	312	Language Acquisition.....	3
SPLP	434	Diagnostics (required of all students).....	3
SPLP	507	Speech/Hearing Disorders and Related Disciplines	3

Required courses for the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology

Contact the Department for the recommended course of study.

SPLP	510	Survey of Linguistic Theory.....	3
SPLP	513	Sociolinguistics: Survey of Social Dialects	3
SPLP	520	Neuroanatomy of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism	3
SPLP	534	Stuttering.....	3
SPLP	535	Language Disorders	3

SPLP	536	Phonological Disorders	3
SPLP	560	Practicum in Speech (Minimum of 4 semesters required)..	12
SPLP	634	Aphasia	3
SPLP	635	Structural Abnormalities of the Speech Mechanism.....	3
SPLP	636	Neurophysiological Disorders of Speech and Swallowing	3
AUDL	520	Diagnostic Audiology	3
AUDL	552	Aural Rehabilitation.....	3
SLP	611	Physiologic and Acoustic Phonetics.....	3
SPLP	674	Research I.....	3
SPLP	695	Independent Study.	1 -3
SPLP	698	Elective	3
SPLP	699	Thesis	VC

GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AUDL 520 Diagnostic Audiology (3)

Focuses on techniques and interpretation of diagnostic test batteries. Introduces pure tone, speech, immittance audiometry and the role they play in differential diagnosis of hearing impairment; overview of special diagnostic testings. Includes calibration of test equipment and environment. Prereq.: AUDL 225.

AUDL 552 Aural Rehabilitation (3)

Provides an overview of acoustical and perceptual phonetics and the impact of hearing loss. Addresses assessment of hearing-impairment and its implications for habilitation/rehabilitation. Reviews techniques for speech-reading, auditory training and counseling, including an overview of cued speech, manual communication systems and amplification systems (auditory training units, hearing aids and assistive listening devices). Prereq.: AUDL 520.

AUDL 617 Manual Communications Systems (3)

Examines the linguistic bases for AMESLAN, SEE, Signed English, and other manual systems used by the severely hearing-impaired and the deaf. Considers sociolinguistic issues.

SPLP 507 Speech and Hearing Disorders and Related Disciplines (3)

Provides an overview of the practice of speech-language pathology including requirements for certification as an SLP, the discipline's code of ethics, and disorders and client populations served by the SLP. This course is required for new graduate students without an SLP background. Prereq.: Graduate standing.

SPLP 510 Survey of Linguistic Theory (3)

Surveys descriptive and theoretical models for analyzing the grammar of a language. Gives particular attention to traditional and current models of grammatical analysis. Includes exercises in rule-writing for particular aspects of English syntax. Prereq.: Graduate standing.

SPLP 513 Sociolinguistics: Survey of Social Dialects (3)

Surveys the linguistic rules characterizing various social dialects of American English, including historical and social issues which have led to diversity in American English. Includes as assignments the extraction of socially diagnostic linguistic variables from samples of English dialects.

SPLP 520 Neuroanatomy of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism (3)

Examines the anatomy and physiology of the central and peripheral nervous systems as they relate to the speech and

hearing mechanisms. Prereq.: Graduate standing.

SPLP 534 Stuttering (3)

Highlights and contrasts the differences between normal and abnormal non-fluency. Acquaints the student with various theories pertaining to the causes and onset of stuttering; introduces the student to a variety of approaches to the diagnosis, treatment, and counseling techniques involved in stuttering therapy. Prereq.: Graduate standing.

SPLP 535 Language Disorders (3)

Examines the pragmatic, semantic, and syntactic features of children exhibiting disorders of oral and written language. Provides practical experience in the use of common language assessment protocols and the application of various language intervention strategies. Requires a basic knowledge of normal language acquisition. Prereq.: SPLP 510.

SPLP 536 Phonological Disorders (3)

Focuses on systems of speakers exhibiting phonological disorders, with emphases on diagnosis, analysis of phonological data, and remediation strategies. Discusses normal phonological acquisition as a baseline for examining disordered systems. Prereq.: SPLP 510.

SPLP 560 Practicum in Speech (3)

Provides supervised clinical practicum in the identification, diagnosis, and treatment of communication disorders, including techniques of interviewing and counseling. Includes discussion of requirements for the profession and professionalism. Prereq.: Permission of the clinical coordinator.

**SPLP 611 Physiological and Acoustic
Phonetics**

Examines anatomical and physiological factors that relate to the acoustic analysis of features found in connected speech. Laboratory exercises in speech acoustics will also be included.

SPLP 634 Aphasia (3)

Focuses on language disorders in adults and children caused by lesions of the central and peripheral nervous systems. Discusses specific disorders such as aphasia due to left hemisphere lesions, congenital aphasia, language disturbances caused by right hemisphere lesions, traumatic brain injury and dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. Prereq.: SPLP 520

**SPLP 635 Structural Abnormalities/
Voice Disorders (3)**

Examines the perceptual and physical characteristics of disorders of voice. Discusses the etiology of these disorders and various assessment and treatment procedures. Prereq.: SPLP 520.

**SPLP 636 Neurophysiological Disorders
of Speech and Swallowing (3)**

Focuses on speech and swallowing disorders related to central and peripheral nervous system disturbances. concern to motor speech disorders and dysphagia; the etiology and specific sites of lesion and resultant effects upon communication. Also discusses clinical management of these disorders. Prereq.: SPLP 520 or permission of instructor.

**SPLP 674 Research Methods in
Communication Sciences (3)**

Introduces students to basic research and statistical procedures in the communication sciences. Demonstrates how research can be used to answer important questions in both speech/language and hearing disorders. Prereq.: Graduate standing.

SPLP 695 Independent Study (3)

Allows graduate students the opportunity to explore areas of academic interest in which no formal course is available. Gives the graduate student the opportunity to explore an area which may lead to a thesis problem or which will further understanding in a particular area. Prereq.: Permission of Department chairperson.

SPLP 698 Elective (3)

Subject varies.

SPLP 699 Thesis (VC)

Gives the student an opportunity to apply research theories and methodologies to the study of a topic of importance in the selected discipline. Enrolls students in the course according to their areas of concentration and faculty availability and willingness to direct the thesis project. Prereq.: Permission of Department chairperson.

FACULTY

ANGELA BRADFORD, B.A., *University of Maryland*; M.S., *University of the District of Columbia*; Ph.D., *University of Memphis*; Assistant Professor.

APRIL MASSEY, B.A., *Ohio State University*; M.A., *University of Cincinnati*; Ph.D., *Howard University*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology; Associate Professor, Department Chair.

BERTHA D. MINUS, B.A., *The George Washington University*; M.A., *University of the Pacific*; Ph.D., *Howard University*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology; Associate Professor.

EMMA MUNOZ, B.A., *University of Michigan*; M.S., Ph.D., *Georgetown University*; Associate Professor.

NATALIE OTTEY, B.A.A., *Ryerson University*; M.S., *University of the District of Columbia*; Ph.D. – *in progress*, *Howard University*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology; Assistant Professor.

PATRICIA RANDOLPH, B.A., *Duquesne University*; M.A., *Temple University*; Ph.D., *University of Maryland*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Audiology; Associate Professor.

TONI WALTERS, B.A., *University of Massachusetts – Boston*; M.S., *Boston University*; Ph.D. – *in progress*, *Howard University*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology; Assistant Professor.

Clinical Staff

DARLA GLEARS, B.S., *Youngstown State*; M.S., *University of the District of Columbia*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology.

RACHELLE NELSON, B.A., M.A., *Howard University*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology.

M. EUGENE WIGGINS, B.A., *Hampton Institute*; M.S., *University of Michigan*; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Speech-Language Pathology; Clinic Director.

Adjunct Faculty and Clinical Staff

RUTH MARIN, M.S.; Certificate of Clinical Competence, Audiology; Clinical Supervisor.