• COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS (LSH, ITT, DST)

The undergraduate program in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) offers three curriculum concentrations that lead to the B.A. degree. 1) The undergraduate concentration in Speech-Language-Hearing Science (LSH) provides pre-professional study that prepares the student for Master's level preparation in Speech-Language Pathology, or Deaf Education, or for entry into the clinical Doctor of Audiology degree (AuD). 2) The undergraduate curriculum in the Deaf Studies (DST) concentration focuses on the study of deaf culture through the development of communicative proficiency in ASL and prepares the individual to work with the deaf in a variety of social service settings. 3) The Interpreter Training (ITT) undergraduate curriculum prepares individuals to work in educational setting with students who require assistance with educational skills due to their hearing impairment or deafness. Students interested in these concentrations should contact the Department of Communications Sciences and Disorders regarding academic advising. The Department also offers the Master's of Science degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Deaf Education. A doctor of Audiology Degree is awarded. The department offers a 5-year M.S. course of study combining undergraduate with graduate courses; however, enrollment into this program is currently not available.

Concentrations in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD)

Recommended Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites)

Students are encouraged to complete the A.A. degree at the community college. Some courses required for the Speech-Language-Hearing (LSH) or Deaf Studies (DST) major may also meet General Education Requirements thereby transferring maximum hours to the university. Students entering the university with fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit must meet the university's entering freshman requirements including ACT and SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements. Students who plan to major in LSH and DST are encouraged to complete the following prerequisites during the program of study at the community college:

I. Required Courses
   - AN 2000 Introduction to Anthropology
   - SYG 2000 Introduction to Sociology
   - PSY 2012 Psychological Science

II. And each of the following:
   - BSC 1085 Human Anatomy & Physiology I
   - BSC 1086 Human Anatomy & Physiology II
   - BSC 1086L Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab
   - BSC 1085L Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab
   - BSC 2093 Human Anatomy & Physiology I
   - BSC 2094 Human Anatomy & Physiology II
   - STA 2122 Social Science Statistics

III. Complete the foreign language requirement
    - NOTE: Students who select ASL as their foreign language and are seeking a bachelor of arts degree in DST are required by the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders to complete satisfactorily at least one upper level course in ASL at the University of South Florida or to demonstrate proficiency in ASL.

IV. Admission to the program of study for Interpreters Training (ITT) requirement: ability to use ASL at the intermediate level of a standardized ASL competency test such as the Sign Communication Proficiency Index (SCPI) or other equivalent evaluation. Completing a community college interpreter training program curriculum is highly recommended.

There are no State Mandated Common Prerequisites for this degree program.

Please be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university. This is a non-limited access program with the above courses recommended.

Students are encouraged to join the USF chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association. This group is affiliated with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and has many membership benefits.

A. General Information and Upper-level Requirements for the Degree

All undergraduates seeking enrollment in this department must be in good academic standing as undergraduate students at the University of South Florida. Prior to beginning coursework in the junior year in the department, students should complete general education requirements, and have achieved 60 semester hours of coursework. Students with advising concerns relative to their first 60 semester hours are encouraged to meet with undergraduate departmental advisors since required and recommended courses for admission into the LSH or DST concentration will also meet other university requirements.

B. Prerequisites for Admission

1. Required Courses
   - BSC 1085 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
   - BSC 1086 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
   - BSC 1085L Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab
   - BSC 1086L Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab
   - BSC 2093 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
   - BSC 2094 Human Anatomy and Physiology II

   Courses in this category must be completed with a minimum grade of "C."

2. Recommended Courses
   - STAT 2122 (3) or equivalent
   - STA 2122 (3) or equivalent

C. Other Requirements for the LSH Degree (min. 9 cr. hrs.)

1. Required Courses
   - SPA 3612C (4) (Recommended)
   - SPA 3002 (3) or equivalent
   - SPA 3011 (3) or equivalent
   - SPA 3011 (3) or equivalent
   - SPA 3612C (4) (Recommended)

   Students interested in teacher certification in deaf education must complete required education courses in addition to all CSD requirements listed under Sections B, C and D. Effective July, 1989, the academic requirement for employment in the public school system for Speech-Language Pathologists is the Master's degree.

D. Speech-Language-Hearing Concentration (LSH) (min. 39 credit hours)

Coursework is sequenced for the LSH concentration in Speech-Language-Hearing Science. All students must complete study in basic knowledge of the communication sciences and in basic knowledge of communication disorders. Upon admission to the concentration, each student will be assigned an advisor to provide guidance in academic planning.

The course of study includes:

- SPA 3002 (3) or equivalent
- SPA 3101 (3) or equivalent
- SPA 3011 (3) or equivalent
- SPA 3030 (3) or equivalent
- SPA 3010 (3) or equivalent
- SPA 3612C (4) or equivalent

Students interested in teacher certification in deaf education must complete required education courses in addition to all CSD requirements listed under Sections B, C and D. Effective July, 1989, the academic requirement for employment in the public school system for Speech-Language Pathologists is the Master's degree.

E. Deaf Studies Concentration (DST) (min. 30 credit hours)

New students are not being admitted to the DST Major for the 2003/2004 year while the curriculum is being restructured.

The DST concentration seeks to educate students to communicate with the deaf and to apply this knowledge in
work settings where knowledge of the deaf culture is essential for the provision of social services. This DST concentration is not intended to prepare interpreters for the deaf although exceptionally proficient students may qualify as interpreters. This concentration also does not qualify students for admission into the M.S. programs in Speech-Language Pathology or Deaf Education, nor the Doctor of Audiology Program. Those students choosing to become teachers of the deaf must pursue the LSH concentration in Speech-Language-Hearing Science and obtain the M.S. degree in Aural Rehabilitation/Deaf Education.

General admission requirements and recommendations for DST are identical to the LSH concentration in Speech-Language-Hearing Science. The specific course of study for the DST concentration also assumes that the student has completed an A.A. degree or its equivalency. Upon admission to the concentration, each student will be assigned an advisor for the purpose of academic planning. The following courses are included in the major:

SPA 3002 (3) SPA 3310 (3) SPA 4614 (4)  
SPA 3004 (3) SPA 3612 (4) SPA 4617 (3)  
SPA 3030 (3) SPA 4613 (4) SPA 4632 (3)  
SPA 4632 Nature and Needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
SPA 4617 Structure of Sign Language  
SPA 4632 Nature and Needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Other electives (6).

F. Interpreter Training Concentration (ITT)

The ITT concentration seeks to educate students to become interpreters for deaf individuals. A program of 56-59 credit hours is planned for the student majoring in the Interpreter Training concentration. Course content is distributed across five categories of information and skills necessary for a career in Interpreting:

1. Role of the Interpreter in various settings
2. Cognitive, Psychosocial, and Language Development of Hearing and Deaf Children in Public Schools
3. Techniques and Applications of Interpreting
4. Professional Practices of the Interpreter
5. Internship

General education requirements as well as liberal arts exit requirements for ITT are identical to those for DST and LSH concentrations. The specific course of study for the ITT concentration assumes that the student has completed an A.A. degree in Interpreter Training or its equivalent. Additionally, prerequisites include proficiency in ASL signing and interpreting skills. Upon admission to the concentration, each student will be assigned an advisor for the purpose of academic planning. Interested students should contact the coordinator of the Interpreter Training Program in the Department.

Prerequisites for Admission

Required Courses

SPA 3612C Basic American Sign Language  
SPA 4613C Intermediate American Sign Language  
SPA 4614C Advanced American Sign Language  
SPA 4626 Fundamentals of Fingerspelling  
SPA 4617 Structure of Sign Language  
SPA 4632 Nature and Needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Other electives (6).

Minimum Grade for Majors

A student must receive a “C” grade or better in all courses within the major and those that are required prerequisites. Any student who receives a grade of “D” or lower in more than two USF Communication Sciences and Disorders courses will be automatically barred from continuing as an under-graduate major in LSH, DST, or ITT. Grade forgiveness may be used for two courses only and may be used only for course work taken in the first year of study. Courses that comprise the second year of the major may not be repeated.

Honors Program

The Honors Program in Communication Sciences and Disorders (LSH, ITT) provides outstanding undergraduates with advanced, individualized training in their areas of interest as well as additional research training. Admission to the Honors Program requires the student to submit evidence of (1) having completed 70 hours of college level course work with a 3.25 average or better, (2) 9 credit hours within the Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) curriculum with at least a 3.5 average in these courses, and (3) a letter of recommendation from a CSD faculty member. After acceptance to the Honors Program, the student will complete the requirements for the major with a GPA above 3.5 for courses taken within the department and an overall GPA above 3.25. The Honors Student will complete 6 credit hours in advanced level courses that pertain to the major, complete 2 credits in Honors Colloquia and write an Honors Thesis.

Requirements for the Minor in American Sign Language

Students seeking a minor in American Sign Language must complete a minimum of 17-18 credits:

1. A minor must include these four courses:
   SPA 3612C Basic ASL  
   SPA 4613C Intermediate ASL  
   SPA 4614C Advanced ASL  
   SPA 4632 Nature and Needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

OR

2. In addition, a minor must include one of the following:
   SPA 4331 - Fundamentals of Finger Spelling  
   SPA 4617 - Structure of Sign Language

3. Students transferring credit hours toward a minor must complete 12 credit hours within the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders regardless of the number of credit hours transferred.

4. A GPA of 2.0 or better must be achieved in minor course work in order for a student to be certified for graduation with a minor in American Sign Language.