

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (090I 090S)



Program Coordinator

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The Master of Science in Communication Disorders at SUNY New Paltz is registered as licensure-qualifying in New York State and is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

The program prepares students who have strong undergraduate backgrounds in Communication Disorders for a wide range of career opportunities and for doctoral study. There are two concentrations:

- Speech and Language Disabilities (68 credits) 090I
- Speech Language Pathology (62 credits) 090S

Both concentrations lead to eligibility for state licensure and ASHA certification in speech-language pathology. The concentration in Speech and Language Disabilities (090I) leads to a New York State teaching certificate as a Teacher of Students with Speech and Language Disabilities (initial TSSLD).

Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution
- A minimum cumulative undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (4.0 scale)
- A college-level course in statistics with a minimum grade of 2.0 (4.0 scale)
- At least nine courses in communication disorders at the undergraduate level. Courses must be determined to be equivalent to the New Paltz minimum specified courses listed below. These courses must be completed prior to entry into the program.
- Official results of the GRE general test with satisfactory test scores
- One copy of ALL official transcripts (including transfer schools)
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50

- Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with your recent professional/academic activity and qualifications. At least two must be from academic faculty
- A typed, 400-500 word graduate admissions essay
- A completed Prerequisites Form
- An interview and proctored writing sample may be required

SPECIFIED COURSES	MINIMUM CREDIT HOURS
Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing, or Speech and Swallowing, or Speech and Language	3
Audiology	3
Aural Rehabilitation	3
Hearing and/or Speech Science	3
Language Development in Children	3
Diagnostic and/or Clinical Methods, including 25 hours of supervised observation	3
Phonetics	3
Speech and/or Language Disorders (minimum of 2 courses)	6

Additional Courses

In addition, students applying for the Speech Language Disabilities Program (090I) must complete the following three courses, or their equivalents. These courses should be taken in advance but may be completed during graduate study:

- A course in the foundations of Education, e.g., equivalent to EDS340 Sociological and Philosophical Foundations of Education (3 credits)
- A course in child or adolescent development, e.g., equivalent to EDS371 Child Psychology and Development (3 credits)
- A course in special education inclusion, e.g., equivalent to SPES350 Creating Inclusive Elementary School Classrooms or SPE385 Differentiating Instruction in the Secondary School (3 credits). Alternatively, students may take SPE565 Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms (3 credits) after starting the graduate program

Other required courses for ASHA certification that should be taken in advance but may be completed during graduate study are listed below. A minimum grade of C (2.0) is required in each course.

- A college-level human or animal biological science course (3 credits)
- A college-level physics or chemistry course relevant to Communication Disorders (3 credits)

- Two college-level social science courses (total of 6 credits)
- Manual communication proficiency is required for ASHA certification, and although there are a variety of ways to fulfill this requirement, we recommend a course or certificate in manual communication proficiency (such as American Sign Language)

How to Apply

Applications are accepted by the Graduate School starting December 1 and must be completed (all materials received by the Graduate School) by February 1; no exceptions

Applications for Communication Disorders Graduate Programs are considered for fall admission only. In addition to the materials and steps required by the Graduate School, a proctored writing sample and an interview are required for the Communication Disorders graduate program. After you have completed the Graduate School's application steps and requirements, then you may be contacted by the Communication Disorders Department regarding the writing sample and interview. Please refer to our website for details: <http://www.newpaltz.edu/commdis/graduate-program/how-to-apply-to-the-graduate-program/>

If you have questions about the application process, contact the Graduate School at (845) 257-3947 or email gradschool@newpaltz.edu.

Program Requirements

Students must:

- Meet with their advisor during all semesters of study
- Complete the prescribed course work within four years
- Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher, with no more than two grades below B-
- Successfully complete a comprehensive examination with written and oral components
- Demonstrate clinical competence by successfully completing the 400 clinical contact hours required for ASHA certification