



COLLEGE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

Department of Speech and Hearing Science
901 S. Sixth St., MC-482
Champaign, IL 61820

Master of Arts (MA) in Speech and Hearing Science

1. The Degree

The Masters (MA) in Speech and Hearing Science is an advanced clinical degree. It is the standard credential for speech-language pathologists entering the profession. Our MA program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). Speech-language pathologists develop competency in the prevention, diagnosis, and habilitation/rehabilitation of communication and swallowing disabilities, related communication and educational disabilities, and patient-centered practice that spans the lifespan. Through academic and clinical coursework, the objective of the program is to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will make them competent professionals. Meeting competency requirements results in students accumulating academic and clinical experiences that meet or exceed ASHA minimum requirements.

Additional websites of importance:

<http://www.asha.org/> , <http://www.asha.org/careers/>, <http://www.asha.org/certification/>

2. Structure of the Our Program

Duration of the MA SLP Program

Our MA program is a two-year degree program. Generally the second half of the second spring semester is an 8-week full-time external placement in an educational setting, followed in the summer by a 10-week full-time external placement in a medical setting.

Typical Program of Study in Speech-Language Pathology

- Six terms (Fall1, Spring1, Summer1, Fall2, Spring2, Summer2)
- Students enroll in 3 to 4 didactic courses and clinic during the first four terms
- Spring2: Students enroll in 2 to 3 8 week courses in Spring 2, then complete an 8-week school practicum
- Summer2: 10 week hospital practicum

MA in Speech Language Pathology at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign

Sample course sequence for students entering with a BA/BS in the field of Communication Sciences and Disorders:

Fall I **Credit Hours**

SHS 511 Assess/Manage Voice Disorders	4
SHS 431 Preschool Language Disorders	4
SHS 470 Neural Bases (pre-req for Dysphagia)	4
SHS 570 Quantitative Reasoning	2
SHS 477 Beginning Clinical Practicum	1
SHS 592 Proseminar	0
EDPR 203 Clinical Experience Fee	0

Spring I

SHS 410 Stuttering	4
SHS 430 Phonology & Articulation	4
SHS 513 Dysphagia	4
SHS 533 Advanced Language Diagnostics	4
SHS 477 Beginning Clinical Practicum	2
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Summer I

SHS 514 Motor Speech Disorders	4
SHS 579 Ethics & Professional Issues	3
SHS 575 Schools Methods	2
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	1
SHS 593 Special Problems	

Fall II

SHS 532 School-age Language Disorders	4
SHS 534 Aphasia and Related Disorders	4
SHS xxx Elective (Full Time)	2-4
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	2
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Spring II

SHS 571 Clinical Sociolinguistics (1 st 8 wks.)	4
SHS xxx Elective (1 st 8 wks)	2
SHS xxx Elective (1 st 8 wks)	2
SHS 576 Externship (School/Hospital 2 nd 8 weeks)	4
SHS 577 Advanced Clinical Practicum	
SHS 592 Proseminar	0

Summer II

577e Hospital Placement 4

Fall Electives

SHS 477 Stuttering Lab
SHS 572 Counseling in Comm Dis (1st 8 wks.) 2
SHS 593 Auditory Processing Disorders 3
SHS 593 Autism Spectrum Disorders 2
SHS 593 Cognitive Communication Disorders 4

Spring Electives

SHS 427 Language and the Brain (G4) 4
SHS 473 Augmentative/Alternative Comm 2 (1st 8 weeks) or 4 (16 weeks)
SHS 477 Stuttering Lab 1
SHS 586 Advanced Seminar in Developmental Communication Disorders
SHS 587 Advanced Seminar in Acquired Communication Disorders
SHS 588 Advanced Seminar in Neural Bases of Communication Disorders
SHS 593 Infant Feeding and Craniofacial Differences in the Medical Setting

Advanced seminars (SHS 586, 587, & 588) focus on a variety of specific topics that vary each semester based on faculty expertise and availability.

Requirements for Graduation

Sixty (60) graduate hours (52 academic and 8 clinical) are required for graduation, but SLP students typically graduate with 70 credit hours (52 academic and 18 clinical) ensuring minimal competencies across the SLP scope of practice. Students usually take 12-16 hours per semester: 12-14 academic hours and 2 hours of clinic per semester.

There are no comprehensive exams required.

Program Information

Collectively, we are a large faculty (19 academic faculty/instructors and 8 clinical faculty) representing diverse areas of research and clinical expertise. In addition to our departmental teaching faculty, some academic faculty members serve in administrative roles.

Prospective students are encouraged to read about each of the academic and clinical faculty at:

- <http://shs.illinois.edu/Faculty/>

Further program information can be found on this webpage:

<https://ahs.illinois.edu/master-of-arts-in-speech-%26-hearing-science-clinical>

Opportunities for Research Experience

All of our academic faculty members are engaged in research. There are many opportunities for students interested in research to join the ongoing endeavors of our faculty. Students should talk

with faculty members early in their program about their interests in research and opportunities to assist or conduct research projects related to ongoing faculty research programs. Engagement in research may occur in a variety of capacities, including volunteer work, paid research assistant work, independent studies or through master's thesis research projects.

3. Financial Matters

Cost of the Graduate Program

The current Graduate Masters in Speech & Hearing Science tuition rate for the Academic Year 2020-2021 is \$13,176 for residents of Illinois and \$28,464 for out-of-state students. Summer tuition rates for 2020 are \$540 and \$1,165 per credit hour, for residents and non-residents, respectively. Prospective students are urged to check the Office of the Registrar for more information about fees. Campus fees for the academic year are estimated at approximately \$4,538.

<https://registrar.illinois.edu/tuition-fees/tuition-fee-rates/g-tuition-rates-2021/>

Clinical Practicum Fees

Students in the MA program are assessed a one-time clinical experiences fee by enrolling in EDPR 203, to partially cover the cost of clinical instruction. EDPR 203 does not carry course credit or appear on transcripts but is a means by which students are assessed the clinical fee. For graduate students, this non-refundable fee, which is determined by the Board of Trustees, is based on the approved fee for the semester in which you enroll. For students entering in Fall 2018, the fee is \$790.00.

All MA-SLP students will be responsible for a one-time fee of \$100 for their subscription to Calipso Client which is utilized to maintain their record of clinical education and track clinical progress.

4. Admissions and Admissions Process

We typically offer admission to about 100 of our applicants, and approximately 25 accept our offers and enter the MA program annually.

What are the GRE Scores and GPA of Accepted Applicants?

There is no minimum GRE score requirement. The typical admitted student scores 63% (Verbal), 46% (Quantitative) and 73% (Analytical Written). The Graduate College requires a minimum GPA of 3.00. Accepted applicants typically have a GPA over 3.5.

Review <http://shs.illinois.edu/graduate-admissions> for further details

Applying with a Bachelor's Degree from a Different Field

Students with a bachelor's degree from a field other than Communication Sciences and Disorders are welcome to apply directly to the MA program. If accepted, they enter as Graduate students on limited status, and take any prerequisite courses at the Undergraduate level. The following courses, or their equivalent from another accredited program, are required:

SHS 200 Phonetics
SHS 240 Hearing Science
SHS 300 Anatomy
SHS 301 Speech Science
SHS 320 Development of Spoken Language
SHS 450 Audiology

Students without a degree in the field are termed "fast-trackers." The duration of their program varies, depending upon the number of prerequisite courses needed. If all of them need to be taken, the program typically is three years. Fast-trackers begin the program in the fall.

5 Clinical Experience

Most students begin their first semester working with one to three clients. The number of clients increases as the student's skills develop. During the first 2 semesters, students work with a departmental clinical instructor at the clinic or a community site.

Beginning in Summer 1 and continuing through the first half of Spring 2, most students will be placed at an external site in addition to working with clients at the clinic.

For the full time school placement, students are placed in school districts throughout Illinois. Some students choose to stay in the Champaign-Urbana area and others choose to complete the school placement near their hometown.

Many students are placed in hospitals in the Chicago or Champaign-Urbana area for the final 10 week medical placement. Placements in hospitals throughout the United States may be possible, based on availability.

6. University of Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Clinic

The University of Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Clinic is located in the University of Illinois Research Park. <https://ahs.illinois.edu/slp-clinic>



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Clinical Faculty in Speech-Language Pathology

Jennifer Dahman, MS, CCC-SLP/L has been a practicing Speech-Language Pathologist since 1996 and is certified through the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). She is also licensed through the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Mrs. Dahman received her Master's Degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Southwest Missouri State University. Throughout her professional career, she has served clients in a variety of settings including schools, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and outpatient clinics. In her role as clinical instructor, Mrs. Dahman supervises graduate students at one of the SHS department's outreach sites, as well as the University Speech-Language Clinic. Mrs. Dahman enjoys working with clients of all ages who struggle with language deficits and swallowing impairments. Additionally, Mrs. Dahman is the school-placement coordinator for our MA-SLP students. She contributes to the teaching mission of SHS through the instruction of the school methods graduate course and assists with the course Advanced Language Diagnostics.

Abby Franz, MS, CCC-SLP/L has been a Speech Language Pathologist since 2004 and is certified through the American Speech-Language Pathology Association (ASHA). Mrs. Franz received her Master's degree from Illinois State University. She has worked in a variety of settings including a preschool, hospital, nursing home, and home health agency. For the past 8 years, she has worked at Presence Covenant Medical Center in Urbana, IL, where she evaluates and treats clients in the hospitals inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation settings. She has served as a Clinical Instructor at the University of Illinois Speech Clinic since 2013. She has a particular interest in the areas of dysphagia, voice disorders and aphasia. She is a member of the ASHA special interest groups for Voice and Voice Disorders. In addition to ASHA certification, she is licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation.

Noa Hannah, PhD, CCC-SLP/L, BCBA-D has been a speech language pathologist for over twenty years in a variety of settings including hospital, schools, and outpatient clinics. She received her doctorate from the University of Washington, in early childhood special education and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA-D). Her Master's degree is in speech and hearing sciences, communication disorders from the University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign. Noa bridges her passion for atypical language development and young children with autism through her research and practice. Noa specializes in young children with autism spectrum disorders who are non-verbal and/or engage in disruptive behaviors. Her current area of research interest includes using mobile technology with children who are highly impacted by their autism to create functional communication systems.

Gina Hieser, MS, CCC-SLP/L CBIS has more than 25 years of experience in the field of speech-language pathology and is certified through the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). She is also licensed through the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. Gina received her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. She has worked in a variety of settings including inpatient physical rehab, outpatient therapy, and skilled nursing facilities. She has a passion for the adult and geriatric population and has a particular interest in the areas of brain injury, cognitive-linguistic

deficits and acquired apraxia of speech. She received her Certified Brain Injury Specialist certification in 2012, Gina has presented at the Carle Foundation Hospital Neuroscience Symposium, Carle Home Services Symposium and at the ASHA convention. She is excited to be a clinical educator at UIUC and supervises graduate students at SHS department's outreach sites.

Clarion Mendes, MA CCC-SLP/L is the Director of Clinical Education for Speech and Hearing Science and a Clinical Assistant Professor. Ms. Mendes received her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009. Ms. Mendes has worked in multiple medical settings, and she routinely mentors and instructs graduate students from the department in external placements emphasizing gerontology. At the University of Illinois Speech-Language Pathology clinic, Ms. Mendes supervises and instructs graduate clinicians in the fields of voice, language, and dysphagia. Her professional interests include gerontology, dysphagia, communication disorders associated with neurological conditions, and transgender/gender affirming communication training. She is a member of the ASHA special interest groups for Gerontology, Dysphagia, and Supervision and is an approved member of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH). In addition to ASHA certification, she is licensed by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. Ms. Mendes is also a certified practitioner of Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT). She contributes to the teaching mission of SHS through instruction of the Motor Speech Disorders, assists with Assessment and Management of Voice Disorders, and Medical Methods in Speech-Language pathology courses.

Jaime Olson, MA, CCC-SLP/L serves as the external placement coordinator for our MA-SLP students. She received her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Mrs. Olson has more than 9 years in the field of speech-language pathology and is certified through the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). She has worked in a private school for children with severe emotional and behavior disorders and within our department as a research coordinator for a professor emerita's various grants. Ms. Olson has interest in building partnerships between the University of Illinois and medical facilities throughout the US in order to collaborate on student practicum experiences. She also enjoys collaborating with other professionals and clients' family members in order to best serve the whole individual. In addition to ASHA certification, she is licensed by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation. Additionally, Mrs. Olson facilitates the undergraduate course, Communication Partners and Disability.



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External Placement Sites 2011-2019
MA Program in Speech Language Pathology

East-Central Illinois Affiliations

Medical Settings

Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, Normal, IL	OSF St. Francis, Peoria, IL
OSF St. Joseph, Bloomington, IL	Palm Terrace SNF, Mattoon, IL
Carle Foundation Hospital and clinics, Urbana, IL	Paris Community Hospital, Paris, IL
Champaign-Urbana Nursing and Rehab Savoy, IL	Paris Skilled Nursing Facility, Paris, IL
Clark-Lindsey Retirement Village, Urbana, IL	Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee, IL
Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur, IL	Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital, Mattoon, IL
Heartland Healthcare, Champaign and Danville, IL	OSF St. Mary, Decatur, IL
Helia Healthcare, Champaign, IL	University Rehab, Champaign, IL
North Logan Health Care Center, Danville, IL	Unity Point Health, Peoria, IL
	VA Illiana Health Care System, Danville, IL

Specialized Populations

Extended School Year - Champaign & Urbana School Districts
Carle Auditory Oral School
Early Intervention Providers
Private Practice
Head Start

Public Schools

Champaign Early Childhood Center
Urbana Pre-Kindergarten Program
ESL Center- Champaign, IL
Life Skills Program- Urbana Middle School
Life Skills Program – Springfield Elementary School

2011-19 State & National Affiliations

Chicago & other In-State Facilities

Advocate Hospitals in Illinois:

Normal, Oak Lawn, Libertyville, Downers Grove,
Barrington, Chicago, Park Ridge, Elgin, Hazel Crest

Alexian Brothers, Elk Grove Village, IL/St. Alexius
Medical Center, Hoffman Estates, IL

Blessing Hospital, Quincy, IL

Captain James A Lovell Federal HC Center, N. Chicago,
IL

Carle Foundation Hospital and clinics, Urbana, IL

Central DuPage Hospital, Winfield, IL

Centegra Health System, Elgin, IL

Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF St. Francis Medical
Center, Peoria, IL

Edward Hospital, Naperville, IL

Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital, Hines, IL

Ingalls Memorial Hospital, Harvey, IL

Kindred Hospitals – all campuses

La Rabida Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL

Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago, IL

Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, Wheaton, IL

Northshore University Health System, Evanston, IL

OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Bloomington, IL

Presence Hospitals in Illinois:

Urbana, Danville, Des Plaines, Aurora, Chicago,
Evanston, Elgin, Joliet, Kankakee

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee, IL

Rush Copley Medical Center, Aurora, IL

Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon, IL

Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital, Chicago, IL

Silver Cross Hospital, New Lenox, IL

St. Alexius Medical Center, Hoffman Estates, IL

St. John's Children's Hospital, Springfield, IL

Unity Point Health, Peoria, IL

University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL

Vibra Hospital of Springfield, Springfield, IL

Out-of-State Facilities

Barnes Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO

Capital Region Medical Center, Jefferson City, MO

Children's Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, OH

Cincinnati VA Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

Columbus Regional Health, Columbus, IN

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals – all campuses

Kindred Hospitals – all campuses

Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, Ft. Wayne, IN

Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle, WA

Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, MI

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN

St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis, MO

TIRR Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston, TX

Unity Point Health, Bettendorf, IA

University of Wisconsin-Madison Voice and
Swallowing Clinic, Madison, WI

University of TX - MD Anderson Cancer Center,
Houston, TX

VA Medical Center, Iowa City, IA

William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital,
Madison, WI



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Bilingual Endorsement

ASHA does not require you to hold any license or certificate to be a bilingual service provider.

1. ASHA states that Audiologists or SLPs who present themselves as bilingual for the purposes of providing clinical services must be able to speak their primary language and to speak (or sign) at least one other language with native or near-native proficiency in lexicon (vocabulary), semantics (meaning), phonology (pronunciation), morphology/syntax (grammar), and pragmatics (uses) during clinical management. In addition to linguistic proficiency, the audiologist or SLP must have the specific knowledge and skill sets necessary for the services to be delivered.
2. Bilingual SLPs must be able to independently provide comprehensive diagnostic and treatment services for speech, language, cognitive, voice, and swallowing disorders using the client's/patient's language and preferred mode of communication. They must also have the linguistic proficiency to:
 - a. Describe the process of normal speech and language acquisition – for both bilingual and monolingual speakers of that language, including how those processes are manifested in oral and written language (or manually coded languages when applicable)
 - b. Select, administer, and interpret formal and informal assessment procedures to distinguish between communication differences and communication disorders
 - c. Apply intervention strategies for treatment of communication disorders in the language or mode of communication most appropriate for the needs of the individual
3. The State of Illinois offers a bilingual special education approval for working in the public schools (which is not necessarily a must to serve as a bilingual therapist). This endorsement is acquired through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). To acquire bilingual special education approval through ISBE you must:
 - a. Hold a Professional Educator's License (PEL) through the state of Illinois
 - b. Pass the "Target Language Proficiency – Spanish (056)" available through Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS). Other languages can be found at https://www.il.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html under Language Proficiency Tests for an Educator License with Stipulations Endorsed as Transitional Bilingual.
 - c. Complete a class covering the assessment of bilingual and multicultural children (offered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as CI 517).

Additional Information

1. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign partners with practicing bilingual SLPs to provide practicum experience for students interested in pursuing bilingual service delivery.
2. In order to apply for the endorsement, you must have an ELIS account through ISBE. Within your account, there is a place that you can apply for the endorsement.

<http://www.asha.org/practice/multicultural/Resources-Recruitment-Bilingual-Service-Providers/>



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Tuition and Fees

Graduate Masters in Speech & Hearing Science Tuition Rate for Academic Year 2020-2021

Table with 3 columns: Tuition, Residents, Nonresidents/International. Rows include Grad Masters in Speech & Hearing Science Tuition Rate and Campus Fees Total.

Estimated Tuition and fees per semester (MA Program)

Table with 5 columns: Term, Residents (Tuition, Fees), Nonresidents/International (Tuition, Fees). Rows include Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, and Total Estimated Tuition & Fees.

*These are estimated tuitions and fee amounts. Each individual student may vary some depending on their registration and the number of credit hours they are taking. Summer tuition is based on rates of \$504 and \$1,165 per credit hour for residents and non-residents, respectively.

Additional Information

Prospective students are urged to check the Office of the Registrar for more information about tuition and fees. http://registrar.illinois.edu/tuition-fee-rates Please be sure to choose the Graduate and Professionals link. Clinical Experience Fee is a onetime fee. More information can be found at the following link: http://www.cote.illinois.edu/clinical/edpr_203.html

Updated 3/26/20