



## Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology (MA-SLP) Degree Requirements

### 2014 - 2016

This degree usually entails two full academic years and two summers. Its successful completion prepares students to meet the requirements for the State of Ohio Licensure in Speech-Language Pathology and the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) from the American Speech-Language, Hearing Association. Students in the MA-SLP program may choose a thesis or topic specialization (non-thesis) option for the Master's program of study, with the choice between these options made by the end of Year 1.

**Thesis option.** The option requires that the student conduct original research under the guidance of a Master's committee (an advisor and one other graduate faculty member). Students choosing this option must complete 72 credits of graduate course work in the program, including at least 3 credits of SHS 7999 Thesis Research. This option requires a prospectus meeting prior to data collection, carrying out of the research itself, preparation of the thesis document, and a thesis defense. Although not required for the thesis, students pursuing this option complete the NTE Praxis examination as a requirement for ASHA certification.

**Topic specialization option.** This non-thesis option requires that the student complete 77 credits, including an integrated sequence of 8 credits that forms the specialization. In addition, students pursuing this option must pass the NTE Praxis examination and successfully complete a poster presentation related to their topic specialization in Spring of Year 2. Electives comprising the topic specialization are typically taken Autumn and Spring of Year 2.

### REQUIRED COURSEWORK – YEAR 1

#### Year 1: Autumn

Course #	Course title	Credits
5785	Research methods I	3
6710	Phonological processes and disorders	3
6725	Language acquisition and early intervention in language delay	4
6761	Cognitive communication disorders in adults	3
6762	Language disorders in adults	3
6742.01	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders I: Fundamentals of treatment designs	3
		TOTAL 19

#### Year 1: Spring

Course #	Course title	Credits
5741	Voice disorders	3
6726	Language disorders of later childhood	3
6740	Seminar in fluency disorders	3
6763	Motor speech disorders	3
6844	Practicum in communication disorders	2
6742.02	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders II: Specialized topics in treatment design	3
		TOTAL 17

#### Year 1: Summer

Course #	Course title	Credits
6764	Dysphagia	3
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders	4
6742.03	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders III: Expanded treatment design for neurogenic populations	1
		TOTAL 8

\* Students also frequently complete 6170 during this term, resulting in a course overload.

## REQUIRED COURSEWORK – YEAR 2

### Year 2: Autumn

Course #	Course title	Credits
6150	The Role of the SLP in ASD and AAC	3
7742	Advanced clinical seminar	1
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders	4
		TOTAL 8

### Year 2: Spring

Course #	Course title	Credits
5732	Aural rehabilitation (if not already taken)	3
7742	Advanced clinical seminar	1
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders	4
		TOTAL 8

### Year 2: Summer

Course #	Course title	Credits
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders	4
		TOTAL 4

## ELECTIVE COURSES

The purpose of elective courses is to allow students to (a) extend their studies in directions suited to their special interests, (b) meet thesis or non-thesis (topic specialization) requirements for the MA, and (c) meet requirements for school certification by the State of Ohio Department of Education.

**Topic specialization electives (8 credits in an integrated content area).** Students pursuing this option typically create their own topic specialization in consultation with their academic advisor. For example, recent students have created self-designed specializations in areas such as multicultural variations in speech and language, assistive technology in communication disorders and issues in medical speech-language pathology. Students can also select courses from several OSU Graduate Interdisciplinary Specializations. Several of these are listed below:

- **Aging** <http://ogg.osu.edu/specialization-in-aging/>
- **Applied Developmental Science in Education** <http://ehe.osu.edu/educational-studies/gis-gim/applied-developmental-science/>
- **Disability Studies** <https://disabilitystudies.osu.edu/AcademicPrograms/GIS>
- **Singing health** [http://sphs.osu.edu/docs/singing\\_health\\_specialist.pdf](http://sphs.osu.edu/docs/singing_health_specialist.pdf)

**Electives designed to meet requirements for the Ohio Department of Education School Certification (6 credits).** These electives are usually taken by MA-SLP students, regardless of their immediate career goals, because Ohio Department of Education school certification is mandatory for SLPs working in Ohio public schools. Therefore, taking these electives and following up on school certification provides valuable career flexibility. The requirement consists of 6 credits: SHS 6170 Clinical and Educational Methods in the Schools (2 credits) and SHS 6189 School Placement/Internship (4 credits). *Only SHS 6170 can also be counted toward a topic specialization.*