



### Pre-Requisite Courses for Prospective Speech-Language Pathology Students

The speech-language pathology program requires pre-requisite content in the following areas (the number in parenthesis is the number of the course that we offer here at Ohio State)

- at least one course in college level mathematics (e.g., statistics, college-level algebra, calculus; not a course in how to teach mathematics);
- at least one course in college level physical sciences (e.g., physics, chemistry; not biology or other life science);
- a course in phonetics and phonetic transcription (SHS 3320);
- a course in normal language development (SHS 3330);
- a course in anatomy, physiology and science of speech (SHS 4420);
- an introductory course in audiology focusing on evaluation (SHS 4540);
- an introductory course in language science (SHS 4430 or a course in general linguistics, psycholinguistics or language science)

Most programs have a course for new students to observe in clinic; however the OSU program will provide this experience in the first term of the MA-SLP program. In many places, including Ohio State, the introductory course in audiology has pre-requisites in the areas of acoustics/psychoacoustics and anatomy and physiology of the ear. We allow students to “skip” those pre-requisites and move directly into SHS 4540 **if** they are willing to complete background work on their own in conjunction with the SHS 4540 class. Please be aware that this places a significant burden on the student – especially on those who do not have a strong science and math background.

Some students are more comfortable taking the full range of pre-requisite coursework. Those students should add the following two courses to the courses listed above:

- A course in basic acoustics (SHS 3340);
- A course in anatomy/physiology of the ear and psychoacoustics (SHS 4440)

Students have a number of options for completing these pre-requisite courses.

- 1) Some students choose to enroll as continuing education students for a year before entering graduate school (either at Ohio State or any other school that offers an undergraduate degree in communication disorders). This has the advantage of allowing you to complete the full complement of courses at a more “leisurely” pace, while paying undergraduate fees.

- 2) Some students choose to take the SHS courses via distance education (Ohio State, for example, offers many of the courses listed above on-line). We have designed a sequence of courses offered Summer Session that will allow you to complete some of the pre-requisite courses prior to beginning graduate school in the fall. Information about the Summer Session distance learning courses will be available on the Speech and Hearing home page in March.
  
- 3) If you are still working on your undergraduate degree and you are at a university that has some or all of the courses available, you can take the courses as electives—a degree in Speech and Hearing is not necessary. If all courses are not offered, you can take the remainder on-line.

The courses do not all need to be taken before applying to graduate school. Instead, they are required prior to entry in the graduate program in the Autumn Semester. Consequently, we often have several students completing the on-line Summer Institute the summer before starting the graduate program in the fall.

If your questions are not answered by this information, you may want to contact the department at [shsgradchair@osu.edu](mailto:shsgradchair@osu.edu) to discuss your particular situation.