

**Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology (MA-SLP)  
Degree Requirements 2020-2022**

Successful completion of this degree 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 must complete either 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. Students must pass the NTE Praxis examination as a requirement for graduation and typically take it Spring of Year 2.

**Thesis option.** The option requires that the student conduct original research under the guidance of a Master's committee (an advisor and, minimally, one other graduate faculty member from the Department). Students choosing this option must complete all required coursework and a total of 3 or more 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.

**Topic specialization option.** This non-thesis option requires that the student complete all required coursework and 8 elective credits that form the specialization. In addition, students pursuing this option must complete and defend a poster presentation related to their topic specialization in their final semester. During their final semester, they will sign up for a 1 credit course (with a number that is still awaiting approval) to represent work with an advisor on the poster presentation. NOTE: Electives are printed in italic type in the schedule below and can be taken to meet the topic specialization requirement, typically in Year 2 of the program. See additional information below

**REQUIRED COURSEWORK – YEAR 1**

**Year 1: Autumn**

Course #	Course title	Credits
5785	Research methods I	3
6150	The SLP's role in autism spectrum disorders	3
6710	Speech sound disorders in children	3
6725	Language acquisition and early intervention in language delay	3
6762	Language disorders in adults	3
6844	Practicum in communication disorders	1
6751	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders I (Session 1)	1
6752	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders II (Session 2)	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18 credits</b>

**Year 1: Spring**

Course #	Course title	Credits
5741	Voice disorders and cleft palate	3
6726	Language disorders of later childhood	3
6740	Seminar in fluency disorders	3
6761	Cognitive communication disorders in adults	3
6763	Motor speech disorders	3
TBD	Normal swallowing	2
6844	Practicum in communication disorders	1
6753	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders III (Session 1)	1
6754	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders IV (Session 2)	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20 credits</b>

**Year 1: Summer**

Course #	Course title	Credits
6764	Dysphagia	3
6150	Augmentative alternative communication	3
6844	Practicum in communication disorders	1
6755	Clinical seminar in speech and language disorders V	2
6170	<i>Clinical and educational methods in the schools (see other Electives below)</i>	(2)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10(12) credits</b>

**REQUIRED COURSEWORK – YEAR 2****Year 2: Autumn** (Note: 8 credits are required for full-time status)

Course #	Course title	Credits
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders <i>*although this course is offered as variable credit, students sign up for 4 credits</i>	4*
7742	Advanced clinical seminar in speech and language disorders	1
7999	<i>Thesis research (in consultation with advisor, request for thesis option)</i> <i>Topic specialization coursework (in consultation with advisor, see electives below)</i>	Variable
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Variable</b>

**Year 2: Spring** (Note: 8 credits are required for full-time status)

Course #	Course title	Credits
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders <i>*although this course is offered as variable credit, students sign up for 4 credits</i>	4*
7742	Advanced clinical seminar in speech and language disorders	1
7999	<i>Thesis research (in consultation with advisor, request for thesis option)</i> <i>Topic specialization coursework (in consultation with advisor, see electives below)</i>	variable
TBD	<i>Nonthesis independent study (required for all non-thesis students)</i>	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Variable</b>

**Year 2: Summer** (Note: 4 credits are required for full-time status)

Course #	Course title	Credits
7844	Advanced practicum in communication disorders <i>*although this course is offered as variable credit, students sign up for 3 or 4 credits depending on other course work.</i>	3 or 4*
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3 or 4 credits</b>

## 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 non-thesis (topic specialization) requirements for the MA-SLP, and (c) meet requirements for school certification by the State of Ohio Department of Education.

**(1) Ohio Department of Education School Certification requires 2 courses: one related to school content (SHS 6170) and the other associated with clinical experience in the schools (SHS 6189).** These electives are taken by most MA-SLP students, regardless of their immediate career goals. This is because Ohio Department of Education school certification is mandatory for SLPs working in Ohio public schools. SHS6189 can only be taken by enrolled MA-SLP students. Therefore, taking these electives and following up on school certification provides valuable career flexibility. The two courses and their associated credits are

SHS 6189 School Placement/Internship (4 credits) and

SHS 6170 Clinical and education methods in schools (2 credits).

*Note: If the student designs a topic specialization related to school methods, only SHS 6170 can be counted toward the topic specialization; SHS 6189 cannot be counted for that purpose.*

**(2) Topic specialization electives (8 credits in an integrated content area).** Students pursuing this option create their own topic specialization in consultation with their academic advisor. For example, recent students have created specializations in areas such as multicultural variations in speech and language, assistive technology in communication disorders and issues in medical speech-language pathology.

### Department and other electives that may meet topic specialization requirements:

SHS 6170 Clinical and educational methods in the schools (2 credits; Mentioned on the previous page)

SHS 6770 Topics in Pediatric Medical Speech-Language Pathology (2 credits)

SHS 6771 Counseling in Communication Disorders (2 credits)

SHS 7718 Interdisciplinary perspective on ASD (3 credits)

SHS 7815 Seminar for Singing Health Specialist (2 credits)

SHS 8950 Seminar in Speech and Hearing Science (2 credits) – Various topics are taught under this course number and can be taken by PhD or MA students.

HTHRHS 5000: Interdisciplinary Case Management for Working with Underserved Populations (2 credits)

Students may also select elective courses to be part of their topic specialization from departments across the university, including from several OSU Graduate Interdisciplinary Specializations:

Aging <https://aging.osu.edu/specialization-in-aging>

Applied Developmental Science in Education <http://ehe.osu.edu/educational-studies/gis-gim/applieddevelopmental-science/>

Disability Studies <https://disabilitystudies.osu.edu/courses/master#gis>

Second Language Studies <https://sls.osu.edu/>

Singing Health <https://music.osu.edu/future/areas/voice/sing-health>