

Are you interested in pursuing a career in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology?

Information for Post-Baccalaureate Students

Did you earn a BA or BS in something outside of Speech and Hearing Science, but you're interested in pursuing the graduate programs for Speech-Language-Pathology (SLP) or Audiology (AUD)?

You'll likely need to complete the necessary prerequisites to apply to these graduate programs.

1. **Begin familiarizing yourself with any/all programs you'll target to apply to**
 - a. Admissions to SLP and AUD programs is competitive
 - i. Most students will apply to more than one program, but you'll want to determine how many programs is best for you
 1. [OSU MA-SLP](#)
 2. [OSU AUD](#)
 3. Non-OSU programs: [ASHA's EdFind](#)
 - a. You can search by SLP, AUD, PhD
 - b. You can also search by state and/or region
2. **Once you pinpoint which courses you'll need, determine where you'll work on these courses.**
 - a. Non-Speech and Hearing Science courses can be completed anywhere, including OSU
 - i. Biology, Statistics, Chemistry or Physics, etc.
 - ii. [Transferology.com](#) can be useful in how courses transfer from school to school.
 - b. Speech and Hearing Science courses are usually found at 4-year institutes, including OSU
 - i. All courses offered Autumn and Spring
 1. <https://sphs.osu.edu/undergrad/courses>
 - a. Only some are offered online (DL)
 - ii. *Some* courses offered during summer semester
 1. Summer prerequisite bridge program
 - a. <https://sphs.osu.edu/summer-prerequisite-bridge-program-registration-now-closed/about-summer-prerequisite-bridge-program>
 - i. This bridge program is not a degree-granting program, rather a way to complete courses while preparing to apply to graduate programs in SLP or AUD
3. **How to take these courses?**
 - a. Through the Office of Extended Education: <https://extended.osu.edu/>
 - i. You'll have an advisor through OEE to assist with enrollment and logistics.
4. **When to apply:**
 - a. Typically, you'll apply to graduate school a year before you would begin the program. Refer to non-OSU programs for their respective deadlines.
 - i. Consider deadline dates and the timeline to which you'll be completing the prerequisite courses for admission as you'll want to have the majority of these courses completed when you apply.
 - ii. Au24 applicants will begin Au25
 1. Deadlines are typically December-January

FAQ:

1. Will it look better if I earn my BA in Speech and Hearing Science before applying to graduate school?

- a. Not necessarily. While the major will provide you with a comprehensive foundation of course work to prepare for pursuing a career in both SLP or AUD, returning to pursue a 2nd bachelor's often includes additional requirements beyond the SPHHRNG major, but that aren't needed to apply to graduate school. You should consider your time and financial situation.

2. How do I know which order to complete the prerequisites?

- a. We'd suggest beginning with SPHHRNG 3000-level courses and working your way up to 4000 & 5000 level. Please refer to the [program website](#) for most up-to-date list of courses
- b. Example:

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
SPHHRNG 3320	SPHHRNG 4420*	SPHHRNG 5732*
SPHHRNG 3330	SPHHRNG 4540*	SPHHRNG 5785*

*Prerequisite(s) required; if not planning to take prereq, instructor permission is needed. You would need to contact the instructor of the course, and if granted permission, your advisor can add you to the course.

3. How can I obtain Observation/Shadowing hours?

- a. OSU offers SPHHRNG 3360, *Clinical Observation in SLP and AUD*, every semester. This is an online course which results in 25 guided clinical hours.
- b. If you can observe or shadow a clinician on your own, you can log your own hours and don't need the SPHHRNG 3360 course.
 - i. When logging/tracking your hours, be sure to include:
 1. observation date
 2. site name and location of observation
 3. amount of time observed in minutes
 4. type of service observed (i.e., treatment or evaluation)
 5. type of client observed (adult/adolescent/child)
 6. type of disorders observed (i.e., speech, language, swallowing, etc.)
 7. printed name and signature of the supervising SLP/AUD
 8. SLP or AUD's ASHA number
- c. Note: Many SLP programs require clinical observation before entry into their programs; however, the OSU program *does not* and instead provides this experience in the first term of the MA-SLP program

Additional Resources:

- OSU MA-SLP: <https://sphs.osu.edu/grad/ma>
- OSU AUD: <https://sphs.osu.edu/grad/aud>
- ASHA: <https://www.asha.org/students/planning-your-education-in-csd/>
- Preparing for graduate school: <https://sphs.osu.edu/undergrad/preparing-graduate-school>