Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Requirements:

The Ph.D. program in Speech and Hearing Science is intended to be tailored to the interests and background of the individual student. This apparent lack of structure may be daunting to some prospective doctoral students, but the faculty is committed to requirements that permit the student and advisor(s) to design coursework and laboratory experiences that will suit the student’s specific area of interest. Research experience and scholarly activity are key and are required before the student begins a dissertation project. Prospective students desiring clinical certification during the Ph.D. should contact the Ph.D. Program Coordinator for further information.

The graduate school requires that Ph.D. students complete a minimum of 120 graduate (quarter) credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree.

I. If the student holds a master or professional doctorate degree, then 45 credit hours can be counted toward the total of 120. The remaining 75 credit hours are allocated as follows:

a. 40 credit hours in Speech and Hearing Science, including
   i. 6 hours of SHS 900 (Pro Seminar),
   ii. A minimum of 9 hours in research projects (e.g., SHS 893 or 940),
   iii. A maximum of 20 hours of SHS 999 (dissertation), and
   iv. 5 hours of electives in Speech and Hearing Science.

b. 35 credit hours distributed as follows:
   i. 15 to 20 credit hours of research tools (research design, statistics, or similar coursework). [If taken within the department they cannot count for the 40 credits required in a. above.]
   ii. 20 to 15 credit hours of graduate coursework in an outside area that forms a coherent theme or specialization approved by the student’s Advisory Committee.

II. If the student does not hold a graduate degree, then the 120 credit hours will be distributed as follows:

a. 85 graduate credit hours within the department, including
   i. 6 hours of SHS 900,
   ii. A minimum of 9 credit hours of research projects,
   iii. A maximum of 20 credits hours of SHS 999, and
   iv. 50 hours of coursework in Speech and Hearing Science.

b. 35 credit hours distributed as follows:
   i. 15 to 20 credit hours of research tools (research design, statistics, or similar coursework). [If taken within the department they cannot count for the 85 credits required in a. above.]
   ii. 20 to 15 credit hours of graduate coursework in an outside area that forms a coherent theme or specialization approved by the Student’s Advisory Committee.