

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE AN AUDIOLOGIST OR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST?

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CAREER WHERE YOU CAN...

Work with people to help them?

Work with different age groups?

Work in different settings like a school, hospital or private practice?

Work in a field with guaranteed job placement?

Then you should consider the undergraduate degree in **COMMUNICATION SCIENCE** in the University of Pittsburgh Department of Communication Science and Disorders

This major will start you on a track for Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology.

Learn more about these fields at:

www.asha.org/Students/Learn-About-the-CSD-Professions

Learn about Pitt's CS major at:

www.shrs.pitt.edu/CSD

See other side for reasons to choose Pitt CSD!

PittSHRS

AUDIOLOGIST

WHAT IS AN AUDIOLOGIST?

- A professional who specializes in evaluating and treating people with hearing loss or balance problems. Audiologists are the primary health-care professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage hearing loss and balance disorders in adults and children including infants.

WHAT DO YOU STUDY?

- Audiologists specialize in the study of normal and impaired hearing, prevention of hearing loss, identification and assessment of hearing and balance problems, and rehabilitation of persons with hearing and balance disorders.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- Audiologists conduct a wide variety of tests to determine the exact nature of an individual's hearing problem and present a variety of treatment options to patients with hearing impairment. For example, audiologists dispense and fit hearing aids and provide hearing rehabilitation training.

WHERE WILL YOU WORK?

- Audiologists work across a variety of settings including hospitals, schools, private practice, rehabilitation and skilled nursing centers, industry/government, and so on.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

WHAT IS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST?

- A speech-language pathologist (SLP) is a specialist who assesses, prevents, diagnoses, treats and helps clients manage disorders related to difficulties with communication or swallowing.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- SLPs evaluate and treat speech, language, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders in children and adults.
- *SLPs working with adult populations* may treat patients with communication or swallowing disorders after a stroke or a traumatic brain injury. It may be common to work with a patient with other medical comorbidities including head and neck cancer, dementia, or progressive diseases.
- *Pediatric SLPs work with children* who may have a variety of disorders such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD), learning disabilities, feeding/swallowing disorders, craniofacial anomalies, language disorders, speech disorders, stuttering, and hearing loss.

WHERE WILL YOU WORK?

- An SLP may work in a skilled nursing facility, hospital, swallowing center, voice center, outpatient facility, rehabilitation facility, palliative care, home health care, early intervention, a private or public school, or a specialized school setting (deaf/blind.) An SLP may work with individuals across the lifespan from birth to death.

Approximately 1 in 6 individuals in the United States **lives with a speech, language or hearing disorder.**

The number of positions in **speech-language pathology** is expected **to climb 19% between 2012 and 2022.**

The number of positions in **audiology** is expected **to grow 34% from 2012-2022.**

(Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012)

WHY CHOOSE COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND DISORDERS (CSD) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH?

3RD

RANKED SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM AND 7TH RANKED AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM IN THE U.S.*



- Pitt has a robust research program. Our highly active and internationally renowned academic and clinical faculties assure teaching, training, and mentoring to prepare our students to launch their careers.
- Pitt was the first program to implement a Clinical Doctorate in speech-language pathology (CScD).
- Pitt's CSD Department uses a premier Professional Network of affiliates to place our students in clinical settings where they gain valuable patient experience throughout their graduate training.
- Studying CSD at Pitt means thoroughly understanding human communication across the life span. The BA degree in Communication Science (CS) emphasizes the normal processes of speech, language and hearing, as well as the nature, cause, and remediation of communication disorders across the lifespan.

**According to the most recent rankings of best graduate schools by U.S. News & World Report*

PITT CSD PROGRAMS

COMMUNICATION SCIENCE (BA)

For students considering a career in speech-language pathology or audiology, the undergraduate major provides the scientific foundation upon which subsequent graduate training is based. If you are not sure of your career pursuits, the BA degree can also be useful for those interested in other health-related or education fields.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY (MA/MS)

The entry-level degree to become an ASHA-certified SLP is a master's degree.

AUDIOLOGY (AuD)

The entry-level degree to become an ASHA-certified Audiologist is a doctoral degree.

To enter an SLP or AuD graduate program, you must complete a program of study as an undergraduate or post-baccalaureate student in either communication science and disorders or a related field that includes prerequisite coursework. During this time you should also acquire a minimum of 25 observation hours by watching an SLP or Audiologist provide clinical management.

MEDICAL SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY (CScD)

The Doctor of Clinical Science (CScD) is an advanced clinical program designed for SLPs working with medically fragile patients (and their families) across the lifespan.

COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND DISORDERS (PhD)

Speech, Language, and Hearing Scientists investigate the biological, physical, and physiological processes of communication, explore the impact of psychological, social, and other factors on communication disorders, and develop evidence-based methods for diagnosing and treating individuals with speech, language, and hearing problems. There is a great need for PhD-prepared people in CSD due to anticipated shortages. Careers as teachers, scholars, and researchers can be pursued at universities, colleges, hospitals, and clinics.

Contact:

Cheryl Messick, PhD
Interim Director of Undergraduate Education, CSD
cmessick@pitt.edu



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School of Health and
Rehabilitation Sciences