School of Human Development

The School of Human Development at The University of Texas at Dallas offers majors in Cognitive Science, Neuroscience, Psychology, and Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

In Cognitive Science, students study human information processing - perception, memory, thought, and decision making - from a perspective that emphasizes computer-based neural network models of those processes in the brain and behavior.

The Neuroscience program provides students the opportunity to study the nervous system from a multidisciplinary approach that combines the study of brain structure, biochemistry, and physiology, and their links to behavior.

The Psychology program provides basic training in the study of mind and behavior as preparation for graduate training in psychology and related fields, as well as providing courses which may be relevant to employment in personnel work or research support positions.

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology program offers study in the processes and disorders of speech, language, and hearing. The program provides the foundation for graduate work leading to careers as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist. Students meeting B.S. degree and clinical practicum requirements are eligible for Texas state licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant.

The School of Human Development offers a number of services and programs for students. Contact the College Master's office for more information.

The school provides a number of Advising and Mentoring services for students, including professional Academic and Career Advising along with Faculty and Peer Mentors. The Career Paths Program helps students establish their own career paths. It integrates career exploration, individualized career planning, internships, preparation for graduate school and post-graduation placement. Students should sign up for the program in the College Master's office and watch for scheduled talks, workshops and fairs. The school Internship Placement Program is open to all students who have reached junior or senior standing (more than 53 hours). Students earn course credit for working 8 hours per week at an approved community agency of their choice. The program has over 50 established placement sites. Students keep daily job diaries, attend one class meeting per month, and write brief papers relevant to their experiences.

The School Honors Program provides eligible students with opportunities for in-depth experience in research and writing, while working individually with members of the faculty. These opportunities enhance preparation for graduate school and employment in the student's chosen field. To enter the program, students must have junior class standing, have taken at least 24 hours including two core courses in the major from U.T. Dallas, and have at least a 3.4 grade point average. The Honors Program includes a Fall Honors Seminar and the completion of the Honors Thesis.

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (B.S.)

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology program offers study in the processes and disorders of speech, language, and hearing. The program provides the foundation for graduate study leading to career opportunities and clinical certification as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist. Students completing the B.S. degree and required clock hours of clinical practicum are also eligible for Texas state licensure as a speech-language pathology assistant. The curriculum in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology focuses on the development of communicative abilities; the anatomical and physiological mechanisms underlying speech, language, and hearing; the causes of communication disorders in children and adults; and theories and techniques of assessment and treatment of communication disorders. Supervised clinical
practicum provides students experience in clinical assessment and intervention with persons having communication impairments.

Students majoring in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology are strongly encouraged to select electives in Psychology to complement course work in their major field. PSY 3361 Cognitive Psychology, PSY 4334 Life Span Development, and NSC 4361 Behavioral Neuroscience are especially relevant for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology majors. Suggested electives in the major include SPAU 4325 Special Populations, SPAU 4342 Assessment Procedures in Speech-Language Pathology, and SPAU 4395 Issues in the Management of Hearing-Impaired Persons.

Students who wish to combine Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology with Psychology or Neuroscience should be able to meet requirements in both majors, and, with the approval of the College Master, complete a double major. Students considering a double major should consult with their advisor regarding specific requirements.

**Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Degree Requirements (120 hours)**

**I. Core Curriculum Requirements**: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
   - 3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
   - 3 hours Communication Elective (SPAU 3390)²

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   - 6 hours Government (GOVT 2301 and 2302)
   - 6 hours History (HST 1301 and 2301)
   - 3 hours Social and Behavioral Science Elective (PSY 2301)²

C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   - 3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   - 3 hours Humanities (A&H 1301)

D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   - 3 hours College Math (see College Master for recommended courses)
   - 3 hours Quantitative Methods (see College Master for recommended courses)

E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

¹ Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parentheses are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at U.T. Dallas.

**II. Major Requirements**: 33 hours

**Major Preparatory Courses**
- PSY 2301 Introduction to Psychology²

**Major Core Courses (33 hours)**
- SPAU 3301 Communication Disorders
- SPAU 3303 Normal Language Development
- SPAU 3304 Communication Sciences
- SPAU 3340 Speech Pathology: Articulation Disorders
- SPAU 3341 Audiology
- SPAU 3343 Phonetics
- SPAU 3344 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanisms
- SPAU 3345 Neural Basis of Communication
- SPAU 3390 Clinical Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology (6 semester hrs.)
- SPAU 4308 Language Disorders in Children
III. Elective Requirements: 45 hours

- Advanced Electives (6 hours)
  - Breadth Electives: 6 hours of upper-division courses, or lower-division courses that have prerequisites, that are outside of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.
- Free Electives (39 hours)
  - At least 39 hours of lower- or upper-division courses of the student's choice. Students are encouraged to explore areas of concentration in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology as well as explore interests outside the field. At least 51 hours of upper-division credit hours are required for graduation.

Minor in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Students interested in communication sciences and disorders may elect to minor in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. Students complete 18 credit hours including 12 required hours of foundation coursework and 6 elective hours. Foundation coursework in conjunction with elective hours permits students to choose to emphasize hearing science/audiology, language development and disorders, or speech production and perception. Students majoring in Psychology, Neuroscience, or Cognitive Science, or students with interests in the health sciences may find that a minor in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology adds a valuable interdisciplinary dimension to their overall plan of study and may enhance their opportunities for graduate study.

- **Foundation Courses (12 hours required)**
  - SPAU 3301 Introduction to Communication Disorders
  - SPAU 3303 Normal Language Development
  - SPAU 3304 Communication Sciences
  - SPAU 3343 Phonetics

- **Elective Courses (select 6 hours)**
  - SPAU 3340 Articulation Disorders
  - SPAU 3341 Audiology
  - SPAU 3344 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing
  - SPAU 3390 Clinical Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology (clinical observation section)
  - SPAU 4308 Language Disorders in Children
  - SPAU 4393 Language in Culture and Society
  - SPAU 4395 Issues in the Management of Persons with Hearing Impairments

**Fast Track Baccalaureate/Master's Degrees**

U.T. Dallas undergraduate students with strong academic records who intend to pursue a master's degree in communication at the University may consider an accelerated undergraduate-graduate plan of study. When accepted into the program, students may take up to 12 hours of graduate courses that may be used to complete the bachelor's degree and also to satisfy requirements for the master's degree. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average and earn grades of B or better in graduate courses taken. The Fast Track makes it possible for students to complete upper-division undergraduate education and graduate training in three years, including summer study. For admission to the Fast Track
program, students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Communication Disorders. Students should consult with a graduate advisor regarding admissions criteria and plans of study.

Specified Course Descriptions

**A&H 1301 (HUMA 1301) Exploration of the Humanities** (3 semester hours) An introduction to the concept of cultural tradition through the study of selected works of literature, philosophy, music, and visual art. Emphasis on the relations among various forms of cultural expression and developing students' ability to interpret complex artistic works in their historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. General education core course. (3-0) S

**AP 1301 (ARTS 1301) Exploration of the Arts** (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the physical and intellectual demands required of the author, the performer, and the visual artist. This introduction includes, but is not limited to, the student's production of a creative project as well as written assessments of art and performance. (3-0) Y

**GOVT 2301 (GOVT 2305) Constitutional Foundations and Political Behavior in the U.S. and Texas** (3 semester hours) This course examines the evolution and current state of political behavior and public policy making in the U.S. and Texas. Topics discussed will include the constitutions, federalism, intergovernmental relations, voting, elections, political parties, public opinion, and interest groups. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

**GOVT 2302 (GOVT 2306) Political Institutions in the U.S. and Texas** (3 semester hours) This course explores the primary institutions of U.S. and Texas government. It examines the bureaucracy as well as the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the state and federal level. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

**HST 1301 Themes and Ideas in American History** (3 semester hours) An introduction to the methods of historical inquiry through the study of selected main themes in American history. A course designed to offer students an understanding of the historical and cultural context of America in the contemporary world. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) S

**HST 2301 Issues in American History** (3 semester hours) Readings, commentary, and discussion aimed at varying aspects of history and culture. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) Y

**PSY 2301 (PSYC 2301) Introduction to Psychology** (3 semester hours) Overviews the major theories and scientific research examining the human mind and behavior. The topics range from studies of perception, cognition, memory, language, and thought to studies of development, personality, relationships, motivation, abnormal patterns of thought and behavior, and cultural differences. Satisfies the Core Curriculum Social and Behavioral Science requirement. (3-0) S

**RHET 1302 (ENGL 1302) Rhetoric** (3 semester hours) The course presents an integrated approach to writing, reading, and critical thinking by developing the grammatical, logical, and rhetorical skills necessary for university writing. All classes work in a computerized learning environment. Students are taught basic computer literacy and submit all work electronically and on paper. (3-0) S

**SPAU 3301 Communication Disorders** (3 semester hours) Overview of the field of communication disorders with emphasis on speech-language pathology and audiology as a profession; state and national certification requirements; professional ethics; and definition, identification, and classification of disorders of hearing and disorders of oral communication, including phonology, language, fluency, and voice. (3-0) Y

**SPAU 3303 Normal Language Development** (3 semester hours) The development of communication, including phonology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics, with emphasis on theories of language acquisition. (3-0) Y

**SPAU 3304 Communication Sciences** (3 semester hours) Fundamentals of acoustics for speech and hearing, basic auditory phenomena, and the acoustic properties of speech. (3-0) Y

**SPAU 3340 Articulation Disorders** (3 semester hours) Etiology, symptomatology, evaluation, and treatment of articulation disorders. Pre- or corequisites: SPAU 3301 or the consent of the instructor. (3-0) Y

**SPAU 3341 Audiology** (3 semester hours) Clinical application and interpretation in audiology. Emphasis on instrumentation and calibration considerations for air and bone conduction test, speech audiometry, cerumen management, infection control and basic masking principles. Prerequisites: SPAU 3304 and 3344, or consent of instructor. (3-0) Y

**SPAU 3343 Phonetics** (3 semester hours) The study of speech sounds. Phonetic transcription and description of articulatory, acoustic, and linguistic properties of speech. (3-0) Y
SPAU 3344 Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing (3 semester hours) Study of anatomic and physiologic mechanisms underlying speech respiration; phonation; articulation. Overview of the peripheral auditory system. (3-0) Y

SPAU 3345 Neural Basis of Communication (3 semester hours) Cortical and subcortical mechanisms underlying sensory, motor, and cognitive aspects of communication. (3-0) Y

SPAU 3390 Clinical Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology (3 semester hours) Guided observation and supervised participation in evaluation and therapeutic management of individuals with communication disorders. Weekly clinical conference required. Must be taken on a Credit/No Credit basis. Pre- or corequisites: consent of instructor, SPAU 3303, 3340 or 4308, and 3343. (May be repeated for credit.) (3-0) S

SPAU 4308 Language Disorders in Children (3 semester hours) Language impairment in children, including etiology, characteristics, and treatment procedures with special emphasis on factors that interfere with normal development of language skills. Prerequisite: SPAU 3303 or consent of instructor. (3-0) Y

SPAU 4393 Language in Culture and Society (3 semester hours) An investigation of the influence of languages on nonlinguistic aspects of culture and society. Topics will include patterns of communication, speech community, communication and social structure, varieties of language, and the analysis of communicative competence and communicative performance. (3-0) Y

SPAU 4394 Multicultural Aspects of Communication Disorders (3 semester hours) Therapeutic management of foreign dialect, language differences, and the effects of cultural diversity upon learning. Needs of multicultural populations within the public schools will also be addressed. (3-0) Y

SPAU 4395 Issues in the Management of Persons with Hearing-Impairment (3 semester hours) Assessment of hearing disorders, individual and group amplification, assistive listening devices, auditory and visual speech recognition, communication strategies, and service delivery to adults and children with hearing loss. (3-0) T