

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS (BS)

This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2025-Spring 2026 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (<https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/>).

Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Unit: School of Medicine (<https://louisville.edu/medicine/>)

Department: Communicative Disorders (<https://louisville.edu/medicine/degrees/speechpathology/>)

Academic Plan Code(s): CSD_BS_SLP, CSD_BS_DAA

Program Information

The Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders is a four-year program that seeks to attract top students whose interests center on the biological, physical, sociocultural, and linguistic aspects of human communication and its disorders and differences. The program employs an interdisciplinary framework and the degree serves as a prerequisite for admission to graduate school, creating a pathway for students to study either audiology (4-year graduate degree) or speech-language pathology (2-year graduate degree). To better prepare students for graduate school and the workforce, the BS degree can be completed via one of two tracks, both of which also occur in the graduate program:

- The Speech-Language Pathology Track is the default track for all students and is designed for those who have yet to decide whether they want to pursue graduate training in audiology or speech-language pathology.
- The 3+4 Accelerated Audiology Track allows undergraduate students to apply to UofL's Doctor of Audiology (AuD) graduate program during their junior year. Students fulfill their senior year of undergraduate credits and earn the BS degree after successfully completing the first year of AuD coursework.

Degree Summary

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Requirements (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/) ¹	31
	Program/Major Requirements ²	47-55
	Supporting Courses ³	18-24
	General Electives ⁴	16-18
Minimum Total Hours		120

¹ All undergraduate degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Some General Education requirements may be met in the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree. MATH 109 is required to meet the Qualitative Reasoning (QR) requirement for students in this program.

² Students in the traditional Speech-Language Pathology track are required to complete 47 credits in the Program Core; students in the Accelerated Audiology track are required to complete 55 credits in the Program Core.

³ Students in the traditional Speech-Language Pathology track are required to complete 24 credit hours of Supporting Courses; students in the Accelerated Audiology track are required to complete 18 credit hours of Supporting Courses, including ASL 101 and ASL 102.

⁴ Students in the traditional Speech-Language Pathology track are required to complete 18 credit hours of Free Electives; students in the Accelerated Audiology track are required to complete 16 credit hours of Free Electives.

Admission Requirements

Entering first-year students are encouraged to declare their major as "Communication Disorders" for advisement regarding appropriate program-specific coursework and the application process. Students will be assigned an advisor at the university level via the Office Undergraduate Advising. University advisors will work in tandem to provide information to prospective majors. Admission to the upper division of the program will be made when the following requirements are met:

1. Completion of a minimum of 30 credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.0,
2. Completion of CMDS 245 (Survey of Communication Disorders) with a grade of C or higher,
3. Completion of CMDS 270 (Clinical Observation) with a grade of "pass", and
4. Completion of an online program application. The application is available HERE (https://uoflsom.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9YSog94EAlasEHc/) and is due by February 1.

The Change Major Request form can be found under the Academic Progress tile on ULink.

Transfer students with 24 credit hours and a minimum 3.0 expanded GPA may be admitted directly to the upper division if they have equivalencies for CMDS 245 and CMDS 270.

Program/Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
CMDS 245	Survey of Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CMDS 270	Clinical Observation in Speech Pathology and Audiology	1
CMDS 272	Anatomy and Physiology: Speech/Hearing Mechanism	3
CMDS 402	Speech Sound Disorders	3
CMDS 405	Introduction to Audiological Techniques and Rehabilitation	3
CMDS 412	Disorders of Language	3
CMDS 430	Aural Rehabilitation for the Speech-Language Pathologist	3
CMDS 450	Diagnostics	3
CMDS 463	Clinical Phonetics	3
CMDS 464	Normal Speech and Language Development	4
CMDS 471	Functional Neuroanatomy	3
CMDS 474	Global Perspectives in Communicative Disorders	3
CMDS 480	Language and Literacy	3
CMDS 481	Autism and Developmental Disorders	3

CMDS 490: Clinical Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CMDS 495: Clinical Experiences in Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
Minimum Total Hours	47

Supporting Courses

Code	Title	Hours
ASL 101	American Sign Language 1	3
ASL 102	American Sign Language 2	3
EDSP 240	Introduction to Exceptional Children	3
PSYC 306	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
HSS 393	Medical Terminology	3
LING 325	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LING 522	Structure of Modern English	3
PSYC 571	Special Topics in Psychology (Speech Science)	3
Minimum Total Hours		24

Code	Title	Hours
General Electives		18

All students will follow the speech-language pathology track as the default track until they reach the senior year coursework at which point, students pursuing audiology will complete the first year of the AuD program. See the Flight Plan tab for specific courses.

The first-year coursework of the AuD program will be cross-listed with their undergraduate equivalents.

Year 4 Courses (3+4 Accelerated Audiology Pathway)

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		
AUDI 400: Anatomy and Physiology of Hearing		3
AUDI 404: Essential Techniques in Audiometry		3
AUDI 406: Acoustics		3
AUDI 414: Clinical Techniques 1		1
AUDI 410 Clinical Clerkship 1		1
Spring		
AUDI 426: Assessment and Management of Vestibular Disease		3
AUDI 424: Amplification Technology		3
AUDI 422: Electrophysiologic Techniques in Audiology		3
AUDI 415: Clinical Techniques 2		2
AUDI 410: Clinical Clerkship 1		1

All students will follow the speech-language pathology track as the default track until they reach the senior year coursework at which point, students pursuing audiology will complete the first year of the AuD program.

The first-year coursework of the AuD program will be cross-listed with their undergraduate equivalents.

Track in Speech-Language Pathology

Fall		Hours
ENGL 101	Introduction to College Writing - WC (https://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/)	3

General Education: Cardinal Core Oral Communication - OC	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Science	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Quantitative Reasoning - QR	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Social & Behavioral Sciences US Perspectives - SBP1	3

Hours	15
--------------	-----------

Year 1

Spring

General Education: Cardinal Core Written Communication - WC	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Science - S	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Natural Science Lab - SL	1
General Education: Cardinal Core Social-Behavioral Science	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities Global Perspectives - AHP2	3
General Education: Cardinal Core Arts & Humanities - AH	3

Hours	16
--------------	-----------

Year 2

Fall

CMDS 245: Survey of Communication Sciences & Disorders	3
ASL 101 American Sign Language 1	3
PSYC 306 Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
CMDS 270: Clinical Observation	1
Elective	3

Hours	13
--------------	-----------

Spring

EDSP 240 Introduction to Exceptional Children	3
CMDS 272: Anatomy and Physiology Speech/Hearing Mechanisms	3
ASL 102 American Sign Language 2	3
Elective	3

CMDS 464 Normal Speech and Language Development	4
---	---

Hours	16
--------------	-----------

Year 3

Fall

LING 325 Introduction to Linguistics	3
PSYC 571 Special Topics in Psychology (Speech Science)	3
CMDS 463 Clinical Phonetics	3
CMDS 405 Introduction to Audiological Techniques and Rehabilitation	3
CMDS 471 Functional Neuroanatomy	3

Hours	15
--------------	-----------

Spring

CMDS 450: Diagnostics	3
CMDS 402: Speech Sound Disorders	3
CMDS 430 Aural Rehabilitation for the Speech-Language Pathologist	3
CMDS 412: Disorders of Language	3
Elective	3

Hours	15
--------------	-----------

Year 4

Fall

LING 522 Structure of Modern English	3
CMDS 474 Global Perspectives in Communicative Disorders	3
HSS 393 Medical Terminology	3
Elective	3
CMDS 481: Autism and Developmental Disabilities	4

Hours	16
--------------	-----------

Spring

CMDS 480: Language and Literacy	3
CMDS 490: Clinical Methods in Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CMDS 495: Clinical Experiences in Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
Elective	3

Elective	3
Hours	15
Minimum Total Hours	121

3+4 Accelerated Audiology Pathway

Year 4	
Fall	Hours
AUDI 400: Anatomy and Physiology of Hearing	3
AUDI 404: Essential Techniques in Audiometry	3
AUDI 406: Acoustics	3
AUDI 414: Clinical Techniques 1	1
AUDI 410: Clinical Clerkship 1	1
Hours	11
Spring	
AUDI 426: Assessment and Management of Vestibular Disease	3
AUDI 424: Amplification Technology	3
AUDI 422: Electrophysiologic Techniques in Audiology	3
AUDI 415: Clinical Techniques 2	2
AUDI 410: Clinical Clerkship 1	1
Hours	12
Minimum Total Hours	23

The Flight Plan outlined above is intended to demonstrate one possible path to completing the degree within four years. Course selection and placement within the program may vary depending on course offerings and schedule, elective preferences, and other factors (study abroad, internship availability, etc.). Please consult your advisor for additional information about building a flight plan that works for you.

Degree Audit Report

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan, and which requirements are still outstanding. Degree audits also take transfer credits and test credits into account. "What-if" reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

Flight Planner

The Flight Planner tool is available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan to graduation. Advisors have access to review your Flight Planner and can help you adjust it to ensure you remain on track to graduate in a timely manner.

To create these reports:

1. Log into your ULink account.
2. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
3. Select the appropriate report.
 - a. To run a Degree Audit report, click on "View my Degree Audit."
 - b. To create a What-if report, click on "What-if Advisement Report."
 - c. To run a Flight Planner report, click on "Use My Flight Planner."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, create a What-if report, or run a Flight Planner report. (<https://ulink.louisville.edu>)