

SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY - B.S.

College of Education Health and Human Services
School of Health Sciences
www.kent.edu/ehhs/hs

About This Program

The Speech Pathology and Audiology B.S. program at Kent State University offers a dynamic and innovative learning experience for students passionate about helping individuals with communication disorders. With state-of-the-art facilities, expert faculty, and a curriculum that emphasizes hands-on clinical experience, this program provides students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in this rewarding field. Read more...

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In-person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Audiologists

- 13.3% much faster than the average
- 13,800 number of jobs
- \$81,030 potential earnings

Health specialties teachers, postsecondary

- 20.5% much faster than the average
- 254,000 number of jobs
- \$99,090 potential earnings

Speech-language pathologists

- 24.9% much faster than the average
- 162,600 number of jobs
- \$80,480 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

Admission to this major is selective. A minimum 3.000 GPA is required to be admitted to the major. Students who do not meet the GPA requirement at the time of admission for this major will be admitted to the EHHS General non-degree program until which time they have established a Kent State GPA of 3.000. They may then submit a change of program to declare this major.

Starting with the spring 2026 admission term, a minimum 3.000 GPA will no longer be required. Admission decisions will be based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

Current Kent State and Transfer Students: Active Kent State students who wish to change their major must have attempted a minimum 12 credit hours at Kent State and meet all admission criteria listed above to be admitted. Students who have not attempted 12 credit hours at Kent State will be evaluated for admission based on their high school GPA for new students or transfer GPA for transfer students. Transfer students who have not attempted 12 credit hours of college-level coursework at Kent State and/or other institutions will be evaluated based on both their high school GPA and college GPA.

Admission to the combined bachelor's/master's degree program: Minimum 3.000 GPA (after 90 earned credit hours) and three letters of recommendation.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
MATH 10041 or PSYC 21621	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS (KMCR) QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY I	3-4
PSYC 41043	BASIC LEARNING PROCESSES	3
SPA 10002	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS AND DIFFERENCES	3
SPA 14500	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLINGUISTICS FOR COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS	3
SPA 33101	HEARING AND SPEECH SCIENCE	3
SPA 34102	APPLIED PHONETICS	3
SPA 34103	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND HEARING	3
SPA 34104	SPEECH AND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION	3
SPA 34106	ARTICULATORY AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS	3
SPA 34107	LANGUAGE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS	3
SPA 43402	AUDIOMETRY	3
SPA 43404	AURAL REHABILITATION	3

SPA 43405	CLINICAL PREPARATION IN AUDIOLOGY (ELR)	2
SPA 44111	NEURAL PROCESSES	3
SPA 44112	AGE-RELATED CHANGES IN COMMUNICATION	3
SPA 44310	CLINICAL PROCEDURES IN SPEECH PATHOLOGY	3
SPA 44311	CLINICAL PREPARATION IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY (ELR) (WIC) ¹	2
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
PSYC 11762	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
PSYC 20651	CHILD PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Biology (BSCI) Course from Kent Core ²		3-4
Chemistry (CHEM) or Physics (PHY) Course from Kent Core (except PHY 11030) ²		3-4
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		3
Kent Core Additional		3
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours) ³		34
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill writing-intensive requirement.

² Students must complete a laboratory from the Kent Core Basic Sciences category.

³ Maximum 9 credit hours may be used toward the major from courses in the M.A. degree for students admitted into the combined bachelor's/master's degree program. Any student interested in the combined program will be required to complete a total of 111 (undergraduate) credit hours prior to entry into the master's degree program.

Progression Requirements

- Minimum 3.000 overall GPA ¹ (after 60 credit hours) is required to be admitted into the professional phase of the major.
- Students will not be able to register for professional phase courses until they meet the required GPA. ¹ Professional phase are all SPA courses required in the major with the exception of SPA 10002, SPA 14500, SPA 34102, SPA 34103, SPA 34104, SPA 34107 and SPA 44111.

¹ Undergraduate students who have not completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours will be evaluated for advanced study and professional phase based on their high school GPA for new freshmen or transfer GPA for transfer students.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.250	2.000

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Biology (BSCI) Course from Kent Core		3-4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Two		
! PSYC 11762	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
SPA 10002	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS AND DIFFERENCES	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Three		
PSYC 20651	CHILD PSYCHOLOGY (DIVD) (KSS)	3
SPA 14500	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLINGUISTICS FOR COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS	3
! SPA 34102	APPLIED PHONETICS	3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		
MATH 10041 or PSYC 21621	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS (KMCR) or QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY I	3-4
PSYC 41043	BASIC LEARNING PROCESSES	3
SPA 34103	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND HEARING	3
SPA 34104	SPEECH AND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION	3
Chemistry (CHEM) or Physics (PHY) Course from Kent Core (except PHY 11030)		3-4
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		
Minimum 3.000 overall GPA to be admitted into the professional phase of the major; apply after 60 credit hours are completed or in progress.		
! SPA 33101	HEARING AND SPEECH SCIENCE	3
SPA 34107	LANGUAGE DISORDERS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS	3
SPA 44111	NEURAL PROCESSES	3
General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		
! SPA 34106	ARTICULATORY AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS	3
! SPA 43402	AUDIOMETRY	3
! SPA 43405	CLINICAL PREPARATION IN AUDIOLOGY (ELR)	2
! SPA 44112	AGE-RELATED CHANGES IN COMMUNICATION	3

General Electives		4
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		
! SPA 43404	AURAL REHABILITATION	3
! SPA 44310	CLINICAL PROCEDURES IN SPEECH PATHOLOGY	3
! SPA 44311	CLINICAL PREPARATION IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY (ELR) (WIC)	2
General Electives		7
Credit Hours		15
Semester Eight		
General Electives		14
Credit Hours		14
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the nature of speech, language and hearing processes and disorders in children and adults.

2. Demonstrate the skills necessary to be successful speech-language pathologists, audiologists or other health and human service professionals.
3. Gain entry into graduate programs in speech pathology, audiology and/or related fields, or obtain positions in health and human services related professions.

Admission GPA for Undergraduate Students

For admissions, the College of Education, Health and Human Services considers a student to have established a Kent State University GPA after the student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours. Undergraduate students who have not completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours will be evaluated for admission into programs, Advanced Study, and the Professional phase based on their high school GPA for new freshmen, or transfer GPA for transfer students. Once a student has successfully completed a minimum of 12 Kent State University credit hours, only the student's Kent State cumulative GPA will be considered for admission into a program, Advanced Study, and Professional Phase.

Students who have completed 12 or more credit hours of previous college-level coursework, either at Kent State University or at another accredited institution, need an overall GPA of 2.00 or higher to declare a College of Education, Health and Human Services majors, minors or certificates unless a higher minimum GPA is specified by the program. See specific programs in this catalog for more information on required minimum GPA to declare. Non-degree EHHS General can be declared without a minimum 2.00 overall GPA.

Transfer applicants who have completed fewer than 12 semester hours of college-level coursework will be evaluated on both collegiate and high school records.

Undergraduate Graduation Requirements

- Students declared in a teacher licensure major or minor must earn a minimum C grade in all major/minor and professional coursework.
- Students declared in the Education minor must earn minimum 2.500 content GPA.
- Students may apply a maximum 4 credit hours of Physical Activity, Wellness and Sport (PWS) courses toward their degree.
- Students may apply a maximum of 4 credit hours of variable-titled workshop (xxx93) toward an undergraduate degree. Identical workshop topics that are repeated for credit will not count towards graduation requirements. All workshops are graded S/U (satisfactory/unsatisfactory). Some program areas may be more restrictive. Students are advised to consult their program regarding application of workshop credit toward degree requirements.

To see graduation requirements for a specific program, please select a major from the undergraduate program listing.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Science degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology is a pre-professional program focusing on the basic sciences of human communication, as well as the evaluation and treatment of communication disorders. This program provides a firm foundation for continuing to the master's degree in speech-language pathology or the doctorate in audiology.

The curriculum integrates a sequence of coursework designed to provide a strong liberal arts background and an understanding of normal and disordered aspects of the human communication process. Specific coursework includes anatomy and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanisms, hearing and speech science, neurology, phonetics, normal speech and language development, speech and language disorders, audiometry and aural rehabilitation.

Speech-language pathologists are required to hold a master's degree, while audiologists hold a doctorate in audiology. Both are employed in a variety of settings, including rehabilitation centers, hospitals, schools, community clinics, private practice, research laboratories and colleges and universities.

Student may apply early to the Master of Arts degree in Speech Language Pathology and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.