

## Communication Disorders

College of Allied Health & Nursing  
 Department of Speech, Hearing and Rehabilitation Services  
 103 Armstrong Hall • 507-389-1414  
 Web site: [www.mnsu.edu/comdis/deph/comdis.html](http://www.mnsu.edu/comdis/deph/comdis.html)

Chair: Bruce J. Poburka

Cynthia Busch, Patricia Hargrove, Jessica Jones, Judith Kuster, Bonnie Lund, Carol Myhre, Bruce Poburka, Renee Shellum

---

The Communication Disorders Program provides a curriculum for a major in communication disorders, pre-professional preparation in speech-language pathology or audiology, and supportive coursework for majors from other departments with interests in human communication or its disorders.

The beginning courses concern the normal aspects of speech, language and hearing—its nature and development, as well as introducing the student to the disorders of speech, language and hearing. Advanced courses are devoted to specific disorders in terms of their nature and treatment. The undergraduate training culminates with supervised practicum experiences in which the student works with people who have communication disorders. The Communication Disorders program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech Language-Hearing Association.

The **Minor** in Communication Disorders (16 credits) is designed to acquaint students with the nature of impaired human communication. One Minor Core course, one Minor Capstone course, and 12 credits of Minor Specialization are required. There is considerable flexibility in the “Specialization” portion of the program. Therefore, students are required to meet with a Communication Disorders Advisor to identify classes that are appropriate to their plan of study.

**Admission to Major** is granted by the department. Students should seek admission to the program during their sophomore year. Permission to enroll in 400 level courses requires a 3.0 average in the following courses: CDIS 312, CDIS 322, CDIS 392, CDIS 394. In addition to the grade point requirement of 3.0, students may earn a final grade of “C” in no more than one course among the four. Any courses with a final grade of “C” or lower must be repeated and a grade of “B” or better must be earned to fulfill requirements for the Communication Disorders major.

Students planning to major in an area of study in the College of Allied Health and Nursing have an advisor from their area of interest assigned to them. Questions and concerns pertaining to advising and the assignment of advisors can be answered by Mark Schuck, student relations coordinator, 162 Highland Center, 507-389-5486.

---

### COMMUNICATION DISORDERS BA, BS

**Required Minor: None**

#### General Education Courses (12 credits):

Students must take at least one course in each of the following areas: Math, Biology, Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences. At least one course from Social and Behavioral Sciences must be designated as a Cultural Diversity core or related course.

#### Required for Major (Core, 47 credits):

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| CDIS 201 | Observation of Human Communication (3)      |
| CDIS 220 | Basic Audiology (3)                         |
| CDIS 290 | Introduction to Communication Disorders (3) |
| CDIS 312 | Speech and Language Development (3)         |
| CDIS 322 | Speech and Hearing Science (3)              |
| CDIS 392 | Phonetics (3)                               |
| CDIS 394 | Applied Anatomy and Physiology (3)          |
| CDIS 402 | Child Language Disorders (2)                |
| CDIS 403 | Child Language Disorders Lab (1)            |
| CDIS 416 | Voice and Resonance Disorders (3)           |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| CDIS 417 | Stuttering (3)                                    |
| CDIS 421 | Aural Rehabilitation (3)                          |
| CDIS 431 | Orientation Lab (1)                               |
| CDIS 434 | Orientation to Clinical Practicum (2)             |
| CDIS 438 | Speech Sound Disorders (3)                        |
| CDIS 444 | Appraisal and Diagnosis (3)                       |
| CDIS 445 | Grand Rounds - Foundation (1)                     |
| CDIS 446 | Grand Rounds - Presentation (2)                   |
| CDIS 495 | Clinical Practicum: Speech/Language Disorders (2) |

#### Required for Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree ONLY:

Language (8 credits)

#### Minor Requirements: (12 credits):

Students must complete both Minor Core and Minor Capstone courses and a minimum of 12 credits from Minor Specialization Courses.

#### Minor Core Course: (Required)

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| CDIS 290 | Introduction to Communication Disorders (3) |
|----------|---|

#### Minor Specialization Courses: (Select 12 credits minimum)

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| CDIS 201 | Observation of Human Communication (3)               |
| CDIS 212 | Speech and Language Development (3)                  |
| CDIS 220 | Basic Audiology (Note: prerequisite is CDIS 322) (3) |
| CDIS 222 | Speech and Hearing Science (3)                       |
| CDIS 292 | Phonetics (3)  |
| CDIS 294 | Applied Anatomy and Physiology (3)                   |
| CDIS 402 | Child Language Disorders (2)                         |
| CDIS 403 | Child Language Disorders Lab (1)                     |
| CDIS 416 | Voice and Resonance Disorders (3)                    |
| CDIS 417 | Stuttering (3)                                       |
| CDIS 421 | Aural Rehabilitation (3)                             |
| CDIS 424 | Overview of Dysphagia (1)                            |
| CDIS 426 | Advanced Diagnosis and Treatment of Dysphagia (1)    |
| CDIS 444 | Appraisal and Diagnosis (3)                          |

#### Minor Capstone Course: (Required)

|          |                               |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| CDIS 445 | Grand Rounds – Foundation (1) |
|----------|-------------------------------|

---

### POLICIES/INFORMATION

Students completing course requirements under previous catalogs are advised to consult the department chairperson for appropriate course substitutions.

The minimum level of professional preparation in communication disorders requires the master’s degree. The department does not recommend bachelor degree graduates for professional employment in the field nor for teacher or health licensure or registration.

The Department of Communication Disorders is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA).

**GPA Policy.** A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required to enroll in practicum (CDIS 495).

Refer to the College regarding required advising for students on academic probation.

**P/N Grading Policy.** All courses must be taken for letter grades by majors except those offered on a P/N only basis.

---

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### CDIS 201 (3) Observation of Human Communication

Procedures for observing, describing, analyzing behaviors associated with human communication. Open to non-majors.

Fall, Spring  
 GE-1B

---

## COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

---

### **CDIS 205 (3) Beginning Signing**

The first in a sequence of courses which aim at the development of skills in the use of American Sign Language as a form of communication with persons who are hearing impaired or deaf.

Variable

GE-11

### **CDIS 206 (3) Intermediate Signing**

The second in a sequence of courses which aim at the development of skills in the use of American Sign Language as a form of communication with persons who are hearing impaired or deaf.

Pre: CDIS 205

Variable

GE-8

### **CDIS 207 (3) Advanced Sign Language**

The third in a sequence of courses which aim at the development of skills in the use of American Sign Language as a form of communication with persons who are hearing impaired or deaf.

Pre: CDIS 206

Variable

GE-8

### **CDIS 220 (3) Basic Audiology**

Functional anatomy of the ear, common pathologies, and measurement of hearing and sound.

Pre: CDIS 322

Spring

### **CDIS 230 (2) Speech/Language Foreign Students**

Modification of oral communication and listening of speakers who are learning English as a foreign language. Individualized, clinical model is employed.

Variable

### **CDIS 290 (3) Introduction to Communication Disorders**

Classification and management of speech, language and hearing disorders.

Fall, Spring

GE-7 CD-Core

### **CDIS 291 (1-3) Individual Study**

Fall, Spring

### **CDIS 301 (3) Hearing Science**

### **CDIS 312 (3) Speech and Language Development**

Acquisition and sequences of phonological, syntactical, morphological and semantic features of language across the lifespan. Theory and research.

Fall

### **CDIS 322 (3) Speech and Hearing Science**

This course is designed to provide the students with a comprehensive knowledge base of the auditory and speech sciences as they relate to communication disorders. The major emphasis is on the characteristics of sound and sound transmission and the relationship to speech perception.

Fall

### **CDIS 392 (3) Phonetics**

Using IPA to analyze and transcribe the sounds of English, emphasizing understanding the process involved to produce phonemes in normal, culturally different and disordered speech.

Fall

### **CDIS 394 (3) Applied Anatomy and Physiology**

Anatomy and Physiology with specific focus on structure and function of speech, language, and hearing mechanisms. Specific systems include respiration, phonation, articulation, hearing, and neurology (peripheral and central).

Fall

### **CDIS 402 (2) Child Language Disorders**

Types and characteristics of language disorders in children.

Fall

### **CDIS 403 (1) Child Language Disorders Lab**

Lab associated with CDIS 402. Practice in applying course content to the language of children.

Fall

### **CDIS 416 (3) Voice and Resonance Disorders**

Description, etiology, assessment and management of voice and resonance disorders.

Spring

### **CDIS 417 (3) Stuttering**

Description, etiology, assessment and management of fluency disorders.

Spring

### **CDIS 421 (3) Aural Rehabilitation**

Habilitative audiology and the instruction of the hearing-impaired, including hearing aids, speech reading and auditory training.

Spring

### **CDIS 422 (2) Clinical Practicum: Audiology**

### **CDIS 423 (2) Educational Audiology**

### **CDIS 424 (1) Overview of Dysphagia**

This course presents the anatomy and physiology of the normal swallow and the normal development of oral motor and feeding skills. It describes signs, assessment, and treatment of feeding and swallowing problems in children and adults.

Variable

### **CDIS 426 (1) Advanced Diagnosis and Treatment of Dysphagia**

This course presents assessment and therapy guidelines for dysphagia management. The team approach, actual case studies and video fluoroscopic studies will be presented.

Variable

### **CDIS 431 (1) Orientation Lab**

Supervised observation of the diagnostic and remedial management of speech and language disorders.

Pre: Concurrent enrollment in CDIS 434

Spring

### **CDIS 434 (2) Orientation to Clinical Practicum**

Procedures and operation of the clinical program in communication disorders.

Pre: Consent, concurrent enrollment in CDIS 431

Spring

### **CDIS 435 (3) Augmentative Communication**

A study of alternative and augmentative communication systems. Tests, measures and procedures for evaluation and management.

Variable

### **CDIS 438 (3) Speech Sound Disorders**

Description, etiology, assessment and management of speech sound problems.

Fall

### **CDIS 444 (3) Appraisal and Diagnosis**

Tests, measures, procedures and processes for the evaluation and diagnosis of speech and language.

Spring

### **CDIS 445 (1) Grand Rounds-Foundation**

Observation of clinical case studies.

Variable

**CDIS 446 (2) Grand Rounds-Presentation**

Presentation of clinical case studies.

Variable

**CDIS 488 (3) Multicultural Issues for Health and Human Service Professionals****CDIS 490 (1-4) Independent Study**

Fall, Spring, Summer

**CDIS 491 (1-6) In-service**

Study of a specific disorder or aspects of communication disorders that are not provided in the current curriculum.

**CDIS 495 (2) Clinical Practicum: Speech/Language Disorders**

A practicum course designed to train the student to provide competent clinical services to persons with communication disorders. The student will develop skills to conduct diagnostic sessions, design and implement intervention plans and write clinical reports.

Pre: 3 of the following: CDIS 402, CDIS 416, CDIS 417, CDIS 438 (completion of or concurrent enrollment in CDIS 444). GPA of 2.8 in major courses.

Fall, Spring