



THE PROFESSION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Speech-Language Pathology is a unique profession with roots in both education and health. Speech-Language Pathologists work in hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, clinics, and private practice, evaluating and treating persons with speech, language, cognitive, voice, swallowing, fluency, and related disorders/differences of communication.

"It is for us to pray not for tasks equal to our powers, but for powers equal to our tasks, to go forward with a great desire forever beating at the door of our hearts as we travel toward our distant goal." –Helen Keller

The Profession of Speech-Language Pathology

Increased survival rates for premature infants, medical advances improving the outcome for stroke and head trauma victims, and the aging population, contribute to an employment outlook for Speech-Language Pathologists that demonstrates faster growth than average.

Department of Speech-Language Pathology

The Department of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP), in the College of Health Sciences, offers both a B.S. and an M.S. degree. The undergraduate program prepares students for a graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology. The graduate program prepares students for direct clinical service provision in hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, and private practice. A master's degree is required to practice in the profession.

The master's education program in speech-language pathology is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850-3289, 800-498-2071 or 301-897-5700.

B.S. Program in Speech-Language Pathology

The B.S. curriculum has two levels: Pre-professional SLP classes are taken during the freshman and sophomore years:

- 113: Introduction to S/L/H Disorders
- 152: Speech/Language Acquisition
- 201: Anatomy, Physiology and Neurology
- 202: Speech and Language Science

Application for entry into the professional program occurs in the junior year. Progression to professional student status is competitive, selective, and requires faculty approval. Professional program courses are taken during the junior and senior years:

- 401: Phonetics
- 402: Diagnostics and Treatment Procedures
- 403: Audiology Rehab
- 404: Multicultural Issues in Clinical Service Delivery
- 428: Articulation Disorders
- 433: Language Pathology

M.S. Program in Speech-Language Pathology

The Graduate Program provides students with advanced study and specialization in Speech-Language Pathology. Knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom and clinic help students develop the professional competencies necessary to practice independently in the profession. Knowledge and skills necessary to conduct independent research that is often presented at the local, state, regional, and/or national levels are also acquired. Graduate courses include:

- 505: Research
- 520: Articulation
- 525: Stuttering
- 528: Language Disorders in Children
- 530: Language Disorders: Diagnostics
- 542: Voice Disorders
- 550: Neurological Disorders I
- 552: Neurological Disorders II
- 560: Augmentative/Alternative Communication
- 561: Oropharyngeal Involvement
- 570: Seminar in the Profession
- 576: Practicum (on campus)
- 577: Audiology Issues
- 581: Internship (School site)
- 586: Internship (Medical site)
- 591: Directed Study in Research

Following graduation, a paid nine month long employment period known as the Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellowship is required prior to being certified by ASHA. After successful completion of this experience, application can be made for national certification by ASHA. Speech-Language Pathologists are also licensed by State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Council on Academic Accreditation Accredited in Speech-Language Pathology



KITTY DEGREE SPEECH & HEARING CENTER

ULM Kitty DeGree Speech and Hearing Center (newly renamed in 2009) provides diagnostic evaluation and therapy services to persons of all ages who experience communication problems. Located in Sugar Hall on University Avenue, composed of separate Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Clinics, the Center is an integral part of SLP and provides students a variety of opportunities for training and research.

Speech-language diagnostic and therapy services in the Center are generally provided by graduate student clinicians, with SLP faculty providing clinical teaching and supervision. All faculty are licensed by the Louisiana Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence from ASHA.

The Center follows the ULM academic calendar, with timeslots for therapy during all terms. Adults and children from throughout the region attend bi-weekly individual hourly sessions. Clients are seen throughout the day and after school/work hours.

Clients are charged a nominal fee for services. A sliding fee scale is available for those needing financial assistance. At this time, the Center is not a Medicare/Medicaid provider and has no provision for filing insurance. Although not all insurance policies cover speech, language, or audiology services, information is available to assist clients who are filing their own claims.

Clinical services are also provided by SLP at the Adm. E.A. Barham Speech and Hearing Clinic on University Avenue. These after-school sessions are made available to children through the Louisiana Scottish Rite Foundation and Monroe Scottish Rite Bodies.

CLINICAL SERVICES

Diagnostic Evaluations for speech, language, and hearing are available. Referral from a physician is generally not required for an appointment.

Speech-Language Therapy Services are provided to foster development of skills or remediate difficulties in the following areas:

- Articulation
- Voice
- Fluency (also called stuttering)
- Language comprehension and use, including problems associated with neurological conditions, developmental delays/disorders, or literacy (reading and writing)
- Swallowing
- Hearing/Aural Rehabilitation
- Accent Modification

Audiology Services are provided by SLP's Audiologist and include:

- Hearing Evaluation (all ages)
- Middle Ear Testing
- Otoacoustic Emissions Testing
- Central Auditory Processing Disorder Assessment
- Custom Earmold Design (for swimming/hearing protection)

For more information about SLP clinical services call:

Johanna Boulton, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Department Head

**Graduate Program Coordinator/Assistant Professor
Speech-Language Pathologist**

University of Louisiana Monroe

700 University Avenue • Monroe, LA 71209-0321

Phone: (318) 342-3190 • Fax: (318) 342-3199

E-mail: boulton@ulm.edu



The University of Louisiana at Monroe is a member of the University of Louisiana System and is an Affirmative Action/EOE.

ULM

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA MONROE
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH- LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

