

# EDUCATION - COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

The undergraduate degree in communication disorders provides the fundamental, prerequisite knowledge necessary for pursuing a graduate degree. Entry for practice in the field of communication disorders is a clinical doctorate (Au.D.) for audiology and a master's degree (M.S. or M.A.) in speech-language pathology.

## Other Information

Majors in communication disorders must maintain an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. No courses taken on a Credit/No Credit basis will be accepted for the purpose of fulfilling any of the required content, professional, or major speech-language pathology coursework. A minimum grade of "C" must be earned in all professional courses for the Bachelors in Communication Disorders program. All grades of incomplete and any new grades below "C" in these specific requirements must be removed. Candidates are responsible for contacting their academic advisor.

The undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders is a pre-professional degree which does not lead to a certificate or license. Completion of the UNO undergraduate communication disorders program does not guarantee admission to the UNO Speech-Language Pathology graduate program.

## Communication Disorders

For students pursuing the Communication Disorders major, no application is required. To continue with Communication Disorders (CDIS) courses, students must maintain a 3.0 NU GPA or higher.

### Early Admission to the Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Program via FastTrack

CDIS undergraduates are able to apply for early admission to the UNO Speech-Language Pathology graduate program. Interested candidates must meet the application requirements below:

Apply March of Junior Year

1. Application (minimum of 3.5 undergraduate GPA to apply)
  - Resume
  - Statement of Purpose: Please include the following in your response: Your aptitude and motivation for graduate study in speech-language pathology; your preparation for this field of study; your academic plans or research interests; and why would UNO be a good intellectual fit for you?
  - Transcripts (unofficial)

If selected, then applicants become eligible to enroll in a Fast Track program. To maintain eligibility, they must meet or exceed minimum requirements throughout their senior year. Additionally, they must complete the speech-language pathology (SLP) graduate application to be considered for full acceptance into the Speech-Language Pathology graduate program at UNO.

## Fast Track Program

The Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders has developed a Fast Track program for highly qualified and motivated students providing the opportunity to complete a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in an accelerated time frame. With Fast Track,

students may count up to 6 graduate hours toward the completion of their undergraduate program as well as the graduate program.

## Program Specifics:

- This program is available for undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Education in communication disorders desiring to pursue a MS in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) at UNO.
- Students must submit the departmental application to be considered for the Fast Track program.
  - Complete the department application in March of the junior year (no less than 60 undergraduate hours). Application requirements are:
    - Successfully completed CDIS#2420 CDIS#2550 CDIS#3450 CDIS#3460 CDIS#3370
    - 3.5 undergraduate GPA
    - Resume
    - Statement of Purpose (Please include the following in your response: Your aptitude and motivation for graduate study in speech-language pathology; your preparation for this field of study; your academic plans or research interests; and why would UNO be a good intellectual fit for you?)
- If the departmental application is approved, students must complete the Fast Track Approval form and obtain all signatures and submit to the Office of Graduate Studies prior to first enrollment in a graduate course.
- Students will work with their undergraduate advisor to register for the graduate courses (for a total of six [6] graduate credit hours).
  - During the fall semester of the senior year, students will register for CDIS 8310 Adv Audiology (1 credit hour) and CDIS#8560AAC (2 credit hours)
  - During the spring semester of the senior year, students will register for CDIS 8420- Voice Disorders (3 credit hours)
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required for the graduate course work to remain in good standing.
- Students remain undergraduates until they meet all the requirements for the undergraduate degree and are eligible for all the rights and privileges granted undergraduate status including financial aid.
- Formal application to the graduate program is required by January 15 of the student's senior year. The application fee will be waived and the applicant must contact the Office of Graduate Studies for a fee waiver code.
  - Admission to Fast Track does not guarantee admission to the graduate program.
  - Fast Track students must successfully complete their undergraduate BS degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 and all graduate courses with a minimum of 3.0 or better, be in good standing, and complete formal graduate admission application to be considered for full admission into the speech-language pathology graduate program.
  - The official admit term must be after the completion term of the undergraduate degree

## Fast Track Courses:

Fall of senior year:

- CDIS 8310 (1.0) Adv Audiology
- CDIS 8560 (2.0) Augmentative and Alternative Communication

Spring of senior year:

- CDIS 8420 (3.0) Voice Disorders

## Contact

Office of Academic Advising and Field Experiences, Certification  
204 Roskens Hall

402.554.2717

unocoeadvising@unomaha.edu

Dr. Shari DeVeney, Graduate Program Chair (GPC)  
512 Roskens Hall  
402.554.2993

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Website (<https://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-education-health-and-human-sciences/>)

## Communication Disorders, Bachelor of Science in Education Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS - 34 Hours Required</b>		
Minimum of "C-" required		
<b>Fundamental Skills</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Writing – 6 hrs.</b>		
ENGL 1150	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	
ENGL 1160	COLLEGE RESEARCH AND INFORMATION LITERACY	
<b>Oral Communication – 3 hrs.</b>		
CMST 1110	PUBLIC SPEAKING FUNDS	
or CMST 2120	ARGUMENTATION AND DEBATE	
<b>Quantitative Literacy – 3 hrs.</b>		
MATH 1120	INTRODUCTION TO MATHEMATICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING	
or MATH 1130	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY	
or MATH 1140	QUANTITATIVE REASONING FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS	
or MATH 1300	COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH SUPPORT	
<b>Data Literacy – 3 hrs.</b>		
Select one from the following:		
STAT 1100	DATA LITERACY AND VISUALIZATION	
STAT 1530	ELEMENTARY STATISTICS	
Until Fall 2028, students can satisfy this requirement with an approved data literacy course, or any approved natural or social science general education course.		
<b>Breadth of Knowledge</b>		<b>13</b>
Social Science - 3 hrs		
Humanities - 3 hrs		
Natural & Physical Science (must complete a lab) – 4 hrs.		
Arts - 3 hrs		
<b>Individual and Social Responsibility</b>		<b>6</b>
Cultural Knowledge - 3 hrs		
Civic Knowledge and Engagement - 3 hrs		
<b>MAJOR REQUIREMENTS - 83 Hours Required</b>		
**Course will satisfy UNO's General Education requirement		
^Course requires pre-requisite(s)		
<b>All of the following:</b>		<b>83</b>
BIOL 1020	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY (**)	
or BIOL 1330	ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY	
or BIOL 1450	BIOLOGY I	

CHEM 1140 & CHEM 1144	FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY and FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY LABORATORY (** ^)
or PHYS 1050	INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS
or PHYS 1110	PHYSICS FOR LIFE SCIENCE I
PSYC 1010	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I (**)
PSYC 1020	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY II (^)
PSYC 3130	STATISTICS FOR THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (^)
or STAT 3000	STATISTICAL METHODS I
CDIS 1400	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (**)
CDIS 2380	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE SPEECH MECHANISM (^)
CDIS 2420	EARLY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN (^)
CDIS 2550	CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY (^)
SPED 1500	INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION (** ^)
TED 2100	EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS ( ^)
PSYC 2500	LIFESPAN PSYCHOLOGY (^)
CDIS 3330	AURAL REHABILITATION (^)
CDIS 3200	WRITING FOR THE PROFESSION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
CDIS 3370	BASIC AUDIOLOGY (^)
CDIS 3390	HEARING SCIENCE (^)
CDIS 3430	ARTICULATION AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS (^)
CDIS 3450	PHONETICS (^)
CDIS 3460	SCHOOL AGE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (^)
CDIS 4470	NEUROPHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE (^)
CDIS 4480	RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS (^)
CDIS 4490	INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES (^)
CDIS 4500	PRINCIPLES OF ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION (^)
CDIS 4750	INTRODUCTION TO CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DISORDERS (^)
GERO 2000	INTRODUCTION TO GERONTOLOGY (**)
HEKI 2000	MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
ENGL 3610	INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS
HEKI 3090	APPLIED NUTRITION

### ELECTIVES

Elective hours as required to reach a total of 120 hours

## Communication Disorders, Bachelor of Science in Education Four Year Plan

Freshman		
Fall		Credits
ENGL 1150	ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	3
CMST 1110	PUBLIC SPEAKING FUNDS	3

MATH 1300 or MATH 1120	COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH SUPPORT or INTRODUCTION TO MATHEMATICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL THINKING	4
CDIS 1400	INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
Arts		3
Attend welcome events; other campus events		
Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.		
Join student group for major: NSSLHA		
Note: ENGL 1150, ENGL 1160, CMST 1110 or 2120, and approved math (Quantitative Literacy) course should be taken and passed in the first academic year		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ENGL 1160	COLLEGE RESEARCH AND INFORMATION LITERACY	3
PSYC 1010	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY I	3
SPED 1500	INTRODUCTION TO SPECIAL EDUCATION	3
BIOL 1020 or BIOL 1330 or BIOL 1450	PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY or ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY or BIOLOGY I	3-4
Humanities		3
Advising appointment for fall: February – March		
By end of freshman year establish NU GPA of 3.0 or higher. Graduate programs look for a GPA of a 3.7+		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15-16</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
Cultural Knowledge		3
Civic Knowledge and Engagement		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Sophomore</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CDIS 2420	EARLY LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN	3
CHEM 1140 & CHEM 1144 or PHYS 1050 or PHYS 1110	FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY or INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS or PHYSICS FOR LIFE SCIENCE I	4-5
ENGL 3610	INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS	3
PSYC 1020	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY II	3
Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.		
Gain employment or volunteer work with populations that would use SLP services – the elderly, children, youth, individuals with disabilities, etc.		
Must have NU GPA of 3.0 by end of first semester of sophomore year.		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13-14</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
CDIS 2550	CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY	3
CDIS 2380	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF THE SPEECH MECHANISM	3
CDIS 3460	SCHOOL AGE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT	3
PSYC 3130 or STAT 3000	STATISTICS FOR THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES or STATISTICAL METHODS I	3
HEKI 2000	MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY	1

Advising appointment for fall: February – March		
Academic goal: Establish NU GPA of 3.5 or higher.		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
PSYC 2500	LIFESPAN PSYCHOLOGY	3
HEKI 3090	APPLIED NUTRITION	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Junior</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CDIS 3390	HEARING SCIENCE	3
CDIS 3450	PHONETICS	3
CDIS 3370	BASIC AUDIOLOGY	3
TED 2100	EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS	3
Data Literacy		3
Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.		
Visit Academic & Career Development Center for resume/cover letter building and editing Start thinking about graduate school options.		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
CDIS 3200	WRITING FOR THE PROFESSION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY	3
CDIS 3430	ARTICULATION AND PHONOLOGICAL DISORDERS	3
CDIS 3330	AURAL REHABILITATION	3
GERO 2000	INTRODUCTION TO GERONTOLOGY	3
Advising appointment for fall: February – March		
Prepare to apply to graduate schools (apply to 2+ schools to increase chance of acceptance)		
-Take GRE exam (Not required by UNO) – if required by graduate program -Write personal statement		
Update resume -Get application process organized -Letters of recommendation - ASHA EdFind		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Senior</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
CDIS 4470	NEUROPHYSIOLOGY OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE	3
CDIS 4480	RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION DISORDERS	3
CDIS 4490	INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES	3
Elective to reach 120 or other degree required course		3
Advising appointment for spring: Sept. - Oct.		
Prepare to submit graduate school applications by December or prior to university deadline. Ask for letters of recommendation in October.		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
CDIS 4500	PRINCIPLES OF ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION	3
CDIS 4750	INTRODUCTION TO CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DISORDERS	3
Elective to reach 120 or other degree required course		3
Elective		3

Prepare to graduate and start a graduate program in the fall;  
apply for graduation by deadline

<b>Credits</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120-122</b>

This roadmap is a suggested plan of study and does not replace meeting with an advisor. Please note that students may need to adjust the actual sequence of courses based on course availability. Please consult an advisor in your major program for further guidance.

This plan is not a contract and curriculum is subject to change

## Additional Information About this Plan:

### University Degree Requirements:

The minimum number of hours for a UNO undergraduate degree is 120 credit hours. Please review the requirements for your specific program to determine all requirements for the program. In order to graduate on-time (four years for an undergraduate degree), you need to take 30 hours each year. Information based on 2025-2026 University of Nebraska at Omaha undergraduate catalog.

### Placement Exams:

For Math, English, Foreign Language, a placement exam may be required. More information on these exams can be found at <https://www.unomaha.edu/enrollment-management/testing-center/placement-exams/information.php>

**\*\*Transfer credit or placement exam scores may change suggested plan of study**

**GPA Requirements:** Cumulative and major 3.0 NU GPA after program admission, but those admitted to a graduate program consistently earn a GPA of at least a 3.5-3.7 or higher.

Grade of C or better is required in CDIS coursework, required related content in TED, SPED, PSYC, STAT, and required related courses on approved list. Grade of C- or better required in BIOL 1020, BIOL 1330, CHEM 1140 & 1144, PHYS 1050, or PHYS 1110.