Master of Science in Communication Disorders (M.S.C.D.) Major in Communication Disorders (Neurogenic, Voice, & Swallowing Concentration)

Program Overview
The Master of Science in Communication Disorders (M.S.C.D.) degree with a major in Communication Disorders is clinically oriented and is designed to prepare clinicians for employment in hospitals, clinics, private practice, and public schools. The program meets the minimum education and clinical requirements for state licensure as a speech-language pathologist and for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The academic program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of ASHA.

Candidates for the communication disorders master’s degree are encouraged to earn a passing score on the Praxis Examinations in Speech-Language Pathology before graduation and substitute a passing score for the required departmental graduate comprehensive examination.

Neurogenic, Voice, & Swallowing Concentration
The Neurogenic, Voice, & Swallowing Concentration provides students with:

- a special concentration in the treatment and assessment of individuals with medical-based communication/swallowing impairments
- hands-on experience with instrumentation related to the assessment of individuals with communication/swallowing impairments

Immunization Requirements
It is the policy of the College of Health Professions that each student must provide a health report completed by a physician or licensed healthcare provider, and must take specific immunizations before the student can be placed in a clinical or internship assignment. Information on these requirements and the required forms may be obtained through the department office.

Background Check and Drug Screening
As a condition for placement in some professional practice sites, some students are required to have a background check and/or drug screening to meet requirements set by individual sites. Information on the background check/drug screening process will be provided by the department. Previous misdemeanor or felony convictions under various titles of the Texas Penal Code may affect eligibility for practitioner license status following graduation.

Facilities
The university operates the Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic on a twelve-month basis and is nationally known as a treatment center for communication disorders. Graduate students utilize the clinic for research in addition to clinical training experiences.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents page (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee
- or
- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree in communication disorders or leveling coursework from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- minimum 3.0 GPA in undergraduate communication disorders courses
- GRE not required
- prerequisite course form
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose addressing the following:
  - which areas of speech pathology practice or research hold the most interest and why
  - the rationale for applying to the Communication Disorders graduate program at Texas State University
  - any distinguishing life experiences, situations, and/or research interests
- three recommendation forms

TOEFL, PTE, or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver:

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official PTE scores required with a 52
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements
The Master of Science in Communication Disorders (M.S.C.D.) degree with a major in Communication Disorders and a concentration in Neurogenic, Voice, & Swallowing requires 36 semester credit hours.

Background
The number of hours of background work required is determined in consultation with the communication disorders graduate advisor and is dependent on the courses taken at the undergraduate level. Please refer to the Leveling Course Sequence located on the Department of Communication Disorders website at https://www.health.txstate.edu/cdis/prospective-students/Admissions/Graduate-Admissions.html. Upon completion of the required background work (leveling), applicants may apply for admission to the regular graduate sequence for a fall term. Completion of the background requirements in the Department of Communication Disorders at Texas State DOES NOT GUARANTEE admission to the TWO-YEAR graduate program.
In the event a student fails the first attempt at one or both sections of the Comprehensive Exam, faculty will provide the student with detailed feedback and directed study from the faculty and given one more opportunity during the next summer semester to re-take the previously failed section(s) of the Comprehensive Exam. Students will need to enroll in GC 5100: Comprehensive Exam Contingency course during the summer term. Failure to pass the second re-take of the Comprehensive Exam will result in dismissal from the graduate program.

When the student completes all comprehensive examination requirements, the Graduate Program Advisor/Coordinator will provide the information to The Graduate College.

**CDIS 5199B. Thesis.**
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

**CDIS 5299B. Thesis.**
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

**CDIS 5301. Advanced Independent Study in Communication Disorders.**
Discussions of various areas of speech language pathology. Attention to individual needs of the student. Emphasis on independent study in habilitation and rehabilitation of communication disorders. This course is repeatable for credit and can be taught by different faculty covering different topics. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

**CDIS 5312. Neuroanatomy for Communication Disorders.**
This is a lecture course that examines the organization of the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nervous system. Significance of the areas of the nervous system that are primary or secondary for speech, language, and hearing are the main focus of this course. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships
CDIS 5321. Clinical Practicum in Audiology.
Supervised clinical practicum in audiology. Focus is on both diagnostic and rehabilitative audiological management of diverse populations. Must be taken every semester that a student participates in supervised audiology practicum. May be repeated for credit. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisites: CDIS 4420 and CDIS 4370 or equivalents; instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 3 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5325. Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Production System.
Description of structure and function of the speech production system with emphasis on physical problems in speech, language, and hearing. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5330. Speech and Language Development.
Course to acquaint students with acquisition of speech and language in children. Basic information from linguistics, psycholinguistics, psychology, and communication are examined for children in various stages of development. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5331. Stuttering.
This course is designed to describe therapeutic intervention with children and adults who stutter. Techniques of assessment, management, and counseling are emphasized.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5333. Language Disorders in School-Age and Adolescence.
This introductory-level course will review assessment and intervention for language disorders in the school-age and adolescent population. The relationship between language and literacy will be discussed. Students will engage in detailed narrative analyses. Evidence-based practice and collaborative models of intervention will be emphasized.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5334. Assessment and Intervention of Speech Sound Disorders.
This course is designed to study normal, delayed, and disordered child phonology in English and select dialects/languages. Course covers etiologies, characteristics, and anatomic/physiologic bases of delays/disorders, as well as their potential impact on phonological awareness and subsequent development in reading/writing. Prevention, assessment, and treatment of disorders will be discussed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5335. Bilingual Speech Sound Disorders.
Typical development of Spanish-English bilingual/bidialectal children's articulation and phonology will be discussed. Assessment and intervention of articulation and phonology with bilingual/bidialectal children will also be addressed. The information and theoretical foundations serve as a guide for students to critically evaluate and clinically apply research in bilingual populations. (MULT).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5336. Motor Speech Disorders.
The course reviews the neuroanatomic mechanisms underlying speech production and surveys the etiology, symptomatology, epidemiology, course, and prognosis of speech disorders resulting from impairment of the central and/or peripheral nervous system. Emphasis is placed on apraxia and the dysarthrias. Clinical application in assessment and rehabilitation of patients with neurogenically-based motor speech deficits is stressed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5337. Voice Disorders.
This course is designed to describe the assessment of vocal function and disorders and the rehabilitation of the patient with vocal abnormalities due to vocal abuse, psychological, and/or organic etiologies, including laryngectomy.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5339. Dysphagia.
A review of anatomic and physiologic disturbances of swallowing in neurologically impaired and post-surgical head and neck cancer patients will be presented. Instrumentation, techniques of evaluation, and radiograph examination of deglutition will be reviewed. Rehabilitation procedures will be described in detail.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5340. Cognitive Rehabilitation.
This introductory-level course will review neuropathology and neuropsychology of traumatic brain injury and dementia, introduce relevant terms and models in cognitive rehabilitation, provide a framework for assessment and treatment, and discuss the functional impact of cognitive-communicative disorders on the patient and others. Prerequisites: CDIS 5336 and CDIS 5342 both with grades of "C" or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
CDIS 5342. Aphasia and Related Disorders.
The course develops an understanding of the etiology, symptomatology, assessment, remediation, and recovery patterns of acquired communication disorders that result from impairment of the central nervous system, with a focus on the aphasias and traumatic brain injuries. Coexisting problems caused by damage to cortical/sub-cortical structures will also be addressed. Recent advances in relevant clinical research and technology will be surveyed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5344. Advanced Clinical Practicum.
Clinical practicum for graduate students focusing on assessment and remediation of communication disorders in children and adults. Required each semester enrolled. Repeatable. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
3 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 8 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5350. Multicultural Issues in Communication Disorders.
Addresses the social, cultural, and linguistic factors that impact the clinical service delivery provided to culturally and linguistically diverse populations. A primary focus of the course will be to address general principles of assessment and intervention as they relate to the clinical management of individuals with communication disorders from diverse cultural and language backgrounds. (MULT).
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5362. Introduction to Research in Communicative Disorders.
Designed to acquaint the student with research protocol in behavior science, with an emphasis in speech-language pathology. Topics include research design, data analysis, manuscript preparation, and obtaining external funding. Emphasis on critical analysis of professional literature.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This introductory-level course will review assessment and intervention for language disorders in the birth-to-5 population. Use of assessment information to determine language disorders versus language difference will be addressed. Students will engage in detailed language sample analyses. Creating effective intervention plans using assessment data will be discussed.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5370. Aural Rehabilitation.
Principles and procedures in the habilitation and rehabilitation of hearing-impaired children and adults. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisite: CDIS 5420 with a grade of "C" or better.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5379. International Multicultural Experience in Communication Disorders.
This is an Education Abroad opportunity where students compare and contrast speech-language-hearing service delivery models in the United States with those from different countries. Emphasis is on social, linguistic and cultural factors that impact assessment and treatment of communication disorders. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5380. Communication and Aging.
The influx of senior citizens in our population will require preparation for the increased incidence of communication problems due to normal and pathological aging processes. This course will address how aging affects communication, how communication disorders manifest in the aging population, and implications for professionals working with older adults.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5390. Seminar in Communication Disorders.
Examination of current theoretical and clinical issues in Communication Disorders. Issues may include family management in communication disorders, language and literacy, issues in health care rehabilitation, instrumentation and entrepreneurship. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5391. Evidence-Based Practice in Second Language Acquisition.
This course is designed for the discussion of various areas of bilingual speech language pathology with the primary focus on second language acquisition. The assessment and treatment of bilingual individuals diagnosed with communication disorders will also be addressed. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
CDIS 5392. Evidence-Based Practice in Autism.
The course is designed to help students understand how to promote the social aspects of language in children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders within an evidence-based practice framework. In this course, students will critically examine standardized norm-referenced tests used to diagnose autism. Also addressed will be the broad range of evidence-based language intervention strategies recommended for children with Autism in the early years and once in school. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5393. Evidence-Based Practice in Stuttering.
This course is designed to examine current evidence-based practice and clinical issues in childhood-onset stuttering. Issues addressed may include counseling approaches and strategies, treatment efficacy across the lifespan and family involvement in the therapy process for childhood-onset stuttering. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5394. Evidence-Based Practice in Neurogenic, Voice, and Swallowing.
This course examines the current theoretical and clinical issues in communication disorders related to medically-based communication and swallowing disorders (neurogenic, voice, and swallowing disorders). Attention will be given to individual needs of the student in developing practical application of research to clinical practice. This course places emphasis on independent study in the habilitation and rehabilitation of medical-based communication and swallowing disorders and interprofessional practice. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5395. Evidence-Based Practice in Communication Disorders Across the Lifespan.
This course is designed to examine current theoretical and clinical issues impacting individuals exhibiting communication disorders throughout the lifespan. A variety of topics such as home health, language, literacy, pediatric feeding, entrepreneurship, and professional issues in Communication Disorders will be addressed. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5396. Evidence-Based Practice for Language & Literacy in Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
The course is designed to help students understand how to promote the language and literacy of children who are d/Deaf and hard-of-hearing within an evidence-based practice framework. In this course, students will critically examine the broad range of language and literacy treatment approaches that are used with children who are d/Deaf and hard of hearing in the early years and once in school. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the student has completed the thesis in Communication Disorders 5399B.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CDIS 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CDIS 5420. Diagnostic Audiology.
This course is designed to relate anatomy and physiology of the auditory system and the science of acoustics to the study of normal, pathological auditory function. Laboratory experience in administration and interpretation of audiological tests. Discussion of professional opportunities in the field of Audiology and provision of audiological service to special populations will be held. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisite: CDIS 5469 with a grade of "C" or better.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5459. Phonetics.
The course is designed to analyze normal and abnormal phonological processes in children and adults. Proficiency in transcription using the alphabet of the International Phonetic Association is emphasized. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships
CDIS 5462. Speech Sound Disorders.
The study of principles and procedures for the identification, description, assessment, and treatment of speech sound disorders in children. Students will observe demonstrations of assessment and treatment procedures during lab. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisites: CDIS 5325 and CDIS 5459 both with grades of "C" or better.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5466. Language Disorders.
The study of principles and procedures for the identification, description, assessment, and remediation of language disorders in infants, children, and adolescents. Students will observe demonstrations of assessment procedures and types of language disorders within the context of clinical procedures. Describing observed behaviors and analyzing language samples are emphasized. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisite: CDIS 5330 with a grade of "C" or better.
4 Credit Hours. 4 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5469. Hearing Science.
The study of acoustics, auditory physiology, and perception of sound. Includes discussion of auditory sensitivity, signal detection, psychoacoustic methods, perception of pitch and loudness, binaural hearing, and speech perception. Associated laboratory promotes reinforcement of concepts addressed in lecture through review, problem-solving, and weekly assignments. This course does not earn graduate degree credit.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5475. Speech Science.
Normal processes of speech production will be addressed from anatomic, physiologic, kinematic, aerodynamic, acoustic, and perceptual perspectives. Measurement and analysis techniques, instrumentation, and experimental paradigms used to study speech production and perception will be emphasized. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisites: CDIS 5325 and CDIS 5459 both with grades of "C" or better.
4 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 2 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from Graduate GPA|Lab Required|Leveling
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CDIS 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

CDIS 5680. International Multicultural Experience in Communication Disorders.
This is a Study Abroad opportunity allowing students to compare speech-language-hearing clinical and educational models in the United States with those from other countries. Emphasis is on social, linguistic, economic and cultural factors that impact assessment and treatment. This course combines time on-campus with a multi-week, international learning experience. (MULT).
6 Credit Hours. 6 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Multicultural Content
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

CDIS 5689. Internship in Communication Disorders.
Laboratory and clinical practicum at selected therapeutic sites used to provide additional breadth to therapeutic experiences. Repeated for credit. This course does not earn graduate degree credit. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.
6 Credit Hours. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 30 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing|Exclude from Graduate GPA
Grade Mode: Leveling/Assistantships

CDIS 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding.
9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit