



DEPARTMENT OF
**Communication Sciences
and Disorders**
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

M.S./Ph.D. Student Handbook

2017-2018

The master's/doctoral education programs in audiology and speech-language pathology at the University of Wisconsin – Madison are accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, MD 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

The CAA can be reached at:

*Council on Academic Accreditation
2200 Research Boulevard, Mail Stop 310
Rockville, MD 20850-3289
Members: 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700
Non-Member: 800-638-8255*

Welcome

Welcome to the M.S./Ph.D. Students Handbook for the UW-Madison Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. We are delighted that you are completing graduate work in our department.

The M.S./Ph.D. program is designed for students who wish to pursue both the Ph.D. degree and professional training/clinical certification in Speech-Language Pathology (obtained via the M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology).

The clinical component of the program meets the requirements for:

- The ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence;
- A license to practice as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the state of Wisconsin; and
- Teacher certification in the state of Wisconsin from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

Our clinical master's degree program in Speech-Language Pathology is accredited by Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. M.S./Ph.D. students typically take a modified sequence of the same courses as students in the M.S. program, which allows time for involvement in research from the beginning. After you have completed your master's degree, you will transition into the doctoral program.

If you have any questions about our program that are not answered here, please contact:

Amanda Talbert, Graduate Studies Coordinator
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
1975 Willow Drive, Room 318
Madison, WI 53706
(608) 262-6464

Advising

When you are admitted, you will be assigned an academic advisor in your area of research interest. You may change advisors at any time in the course of your program, provided you and your advisor agree on this, but there is no guarantee that the new advisor will provide funding.

You also will be assigned a clinical advisor at the time of admission (with advisor consent).

Study Plan

In your first semester, you will meet with your advisors to create an individualized [plan for academic and clinical activities](#) during the 2.5 years of the M.S. portion of the M.S./Ph.D. program.

This plan will include course work as well as clinical and research experiences. The aim is to give you an early introduction to research, while allowing time to complete the requisite course work and clinical hours to meet the M.S. degree requirements by the end of the fall semester of the third year of full-time study.

You and your clinical and academic advisors will sign the plan, and a copy will be kept in your file. You may modify your plan with the agreement of both advisors.

Course Work

Your academic study plan will be individualized; however, please view:

- M.S. program [course requirements](#) and [course offerings](#). Please refer to the MS handbook for details regarding this component of the program
- Ph.D. program [course requirements](#) and [course offerings](#). Please refer to the PhD handbook for details regarding this component of the program.

You are encouraged to take courses outside of the department that will support your research interests and skills. This may include courses in research methods and statistical analysis. You also are encouraged to attend the departmental Professional Seminar (prosem) lecture series, which is required for doctoral students.

First-Year Project

You must complete a first-year project in collaboration with your program advisor. You must present the project at the department's prosem prior to completing the MS degree.

Master's Thesis

The Master's thesis, which can be used to meet the requirement of the first-year doctoral project, must be completed by the end of the third year of graduate study.

M.S. Progress

Progress Evaluations

Your academic and clinical advisors will review your progress at the end of the second semester of full-time [M.S./Ph.D. Student Progress Report](#) to determine whether you should continue in the M.S./Ph.D. program.

If you have not made satisfactory progress or choose not to continue in the M.S./Ph.D. program, you will be counseled into the M.S.-only program and will graduate in December of your third year of study.

It is not possible to accommodate an earlier graduation for students who transfer into the M.S.-only program in their second semester of study or later.

1. Students in the MS/Ph.D. program are strongly encouraged to complete a master's thesis in lieu of a first year doctoral project.

Transition into the Ph.D. Program

The [M.S./Ph.D. Student Progress Report](#) will be completed again at the end of your second year of the M.S. program. Your advisor and the departmental doctoral student review committee will review your progress.

If you, your advisor, and the review committee agree that you should continue into the doctoral program, you will follow established departmental and university guidelines for doctoral study from that point forward.

You do not need to re-apply to the graduate school for the doctoral program. However, you must notify the [graduate studies coordinator](#) so that it can be indicated on the warrant for graduation that you are returning for a Ph.D.