

Saturday, March 21, 2026



**Master's of Science Speech
Language Pathology Program**

What's next...

- Introduction to MS-SLP program
- Student Panel
- Breakouts/Tours



Welcome!



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



THE UNIVERSITY
of
WISCONSIN
MADISON

Madison, WI

State Capital

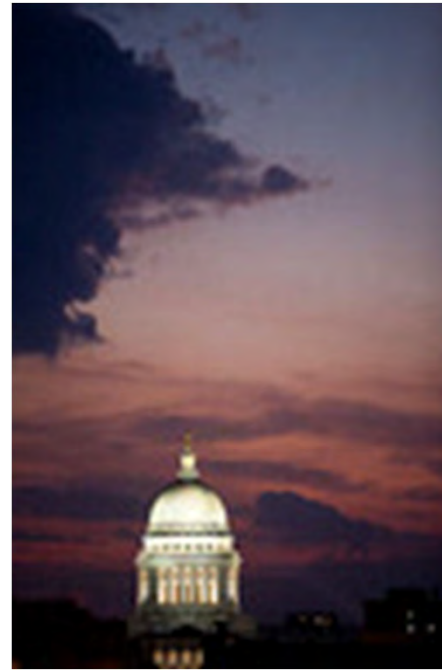


Population: 285,300



Madison is..

- Happiest cities in the US, *WalletHub* (2025)
- Best places to live in US, *US News & World Reports* (2024)
- Top 100 places to live in the US, *Livability* (2024)
- Best cities for 20-somethings, *Greatlist* (2024)



Student Services

- Academic and career advising
- Campus safety resources
- Counseling services
- Disability resource center
- Job Center
- Learning support
- New student services
- Office of financial aid
- Transportation services
- University health services
- University housing services
- Writing center



Housing

Campus Area Housing

- www.campusareahousing.wisc.edu



Tuition

- Bursar's Office

<https://bursar.wisc.edu/tuition-and-fees/tuition-rates>

- Estimated costs

<https://finaid.wisc.edu/graduate-cost.htm>



Financial Aid

- The Office of Student Financial Aid
<http://www.finaid.wisc.edu/>
- SLP Financial Assistance & Scholarships
<https://csd.wisc.edu/scholarships-awards/>



Employment

- Maintaining employment can be challenging while in the MS SLP program
 - Some SLP students maintain part-time jobs on campus
 - Some job opportunities available within the department
- UW Student Job Center
 - <http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/>



Academic Program

- **The M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology is a clinical degree that 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).
- 4 academic semesters and a summer to complete the master's degree program with the prerequisite undergraduate experiences.



Course work

- **M.S. in CS&D with an emphasis in Speech-Language Pathology:**
 - A **minimum of 50 credits** are required.
 - Thesis or non-thesis options available.
 - Thesis option may be a good fit if you are interested in **research** or planning to pursue a **Ph.D.**



Year 1 | Fall Semester (15 credits)

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 503	Neural Mechanisms of Speech, Hearing, and Language	3
CS&D 703	Language and Learning Disorders of Children: Birth to 5	3
CS&D 712	Assessment & Treatment of Speech Sound Disorders in Children	3
CS&D 701	Augmentative and Alternative Communication for Individuals with Complex Communication Needs	3
CS&D 700	Clinical Foundations for Speech-Language Pathology Practice	1
CS&D 790	Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders	

Year 1 | Spring Semester (15 credits)

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 706	Management and Assessment of Voice Disorders	3
CS&D 707	Swallowing Disorders	3
CS&D 704	Acquired Language & Cognitive-Communication Disorders in Adults	3
CS&D 709	Language Development and Disorders in School Age Populations: School Methods & Procedures	3
CS&D 700	Clinical Foundations for Speech-Language Pathology Practice	1
CS&D 790	Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders	2



Year 1 | Summer Semester (4 credits)

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 790	Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders	1
CS&D 708	Clinical Management of Fluency Disorders across the Lifespan	1
CS&D 720	Hearing and Auditory Rehabilitation for Speech-Language Pathology Practice	2

Elective

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 424	Sign Language I (offered fall, summer)	3



Year 2 | Fall Semester (9 credits)

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 705	Assessment and Treatment of Motor Speech Disorders across the Lifespan	2
CS&D 710	Acquired Language and Cognitive-Communication Disorders in Adults II	3
CS&D 700	Clinical Foundations for Speech-Language Pathology Practice	1
CS&D 791 OR CS&D 790	School Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders, Medical Site	3 3
CS&D 790	Advanced Practicum at UWSHC - Optional	Varies



Year 2 | Spring Semester (7 credits)

Course No.	Course Name	Credits
CS&D 752	Capstone in Communication Sciences & Disorders: Integration of Clinical and Research Methods	3
CS&D 700	Clinical Foundations for Speech-Language Pathology Practice	1
CS&D 791 OR CS&D 790	School Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders Practicum in Communication Sciences & Disorders, Medical Site	3 3
CS&D 790	Advanced Practicum at UWSHC - Optional	Varies



Academic Program

Three-year averages

- Applications: 274
- Cohort size: 27
- Praxis Pass Rate: 100%



Clinical Program

- **1st year (fall, spring, summer):** CS&D 790 - Clinical Practicum
 - **Prerequisite:** requires **25 documented clinical observation hours** before being placed at the UWSHC or other clinical site
 - Accrue 50 supervised clinical hours of experience per semester
- **2nd year (fall, spring):**
 - **Prerequisite:** **a minimum of 100 hours** of supervised clinical hours in 1st year
 - An education/school placement (Curric 720)
 - A medical setting practicum (CS&D 790-07)



UW Speech and Hearing Clinic

- 7 on-site clinic supervisors with diverse clinical experiences
- Available experiences: Individual therapy, group therapy, specialized evaluations, collaborative work



Reach Dane

Head Start

Screenings for
1,000 children of
the Dane County
Head Start
program each year



UW Speech and Hearing Clinic

Dewane Neurorehabilitative Pro Bono Clinic

- Fall and spring semesters

- Interdisciplinary work with Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy campus departments to treat adults with neurological injuries



Waisman Center

- Comprehensive services and supports to people with disabilities and their families
 - **Multidisciplinary evaluation, treatment, and research center**
- Clinical Services including evaluation and treatment
- Team functioning
- Opportunities to participate in research



UWHealth Waisman Center Specialty Clinics

- Autism and Developmental Disabilities Clinic*
- Biochemical Genetics Clinic
- Skeletal Dysplasia Clinic
- Cerebral Palsy Clinic*
- Communication Aids & Systems (CASC)*
- Down Syndrome Clinic*
- Medical Genetics Clinic
- Neuromotor Development*
- Newborn Follow-Up*
- Pediatric Brain Care
- Undiagnosed Genetic Disease Clinic
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Clinic*



Waisman Center Research Labs (CS&D faculty)

- Brain, Language, and Acoustic Behavior Lab – Dr. Caroline Niziolek
- Language Acquisition and Bilingualism Lab – Dr. Margarita Kaushanskaya
- Language, Literacy and Learning Lab- Dr. Rebecca Alper
- Neuroscience of Language and Neurological Disorders Lab- Dr. Haley Dresang
- Research in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Language Lab – Dr. Audra Sterling
- Speech Motor Action + Control – Dr. Ben Parrell
- Wisconsin Intelligibility, Speech, and Communication Laboratory – Dr. Katie Hustad



Wisconsin Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Program

- Goal of the Wisconsin LEND Program:
 - o provide interdisciplinary and disciplinary leadership training to improve systems of care that promote the prevention of disabilities and assure access to family-centered, community-based services for children with neurodevelopmental and related disabilities and their families.
- Curriculum focus:
 - o Leadership Development
 - o Core Knowledge of Neurodevelopmental Disabilities
 - o Interdisciplinary and Family-Centered Practice
 - o Research, Evaluation and

LEND trainees take part in:

- an academic year program (minimum of 300 hours)
- Seminars, discussions, and panels
- Life course story
- Leadership development workshops
- Short weekly prep-modules
- Research project
- Family mentor experience
- Family transition experience
- Mentorship program
- Clinical practicum

Stipends are awarded to Trainees who are eligible (based on federal regulations and University policy) to receive a federally funded traineeship to support participation in the training program.



Possible Medical Practicum Sites

- Hospitals
 - UW Voice and Swallow Clinics
 - American Family Children's Hospital
 - UW Rehab Hospital
 - Encompass Rehab
 - Unity Point Meriter Hospital
 - William S. Middleton VA Hospital
 - Divine Savior/Aspirus
 - Beloit Health Systems
- Pediatric Clinics
 - Aspire Therapy
 - Communication Innovations
 - Children's Therapy Network
 - WEAP
 - Gigi's Playhouse
 - Early Intervention
 - United Cerebral Palsy- Dane and Rock
- Outpatient Clinics
 - Waisman Center
 - SSM Dean Clinics
 - UW Health Clinics
- Residential/Specialty
 - Clearview Brain Injury Center
 - Mendota Mental Health Center
 - Central WI Center
- Private Practice
 - Madison Speech Therapy
 - Launch Speech and Reading, LLC
- Home Health
 - UW Health Home Care Direct
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
 - Oak Park Place- Madison
 - Continuum Therapy Partners
 - Fox Rehab



Possible School Practicum Sites

- Environments
 - Early Childhood
 - Elementary
 - Middle School
 - High School
 - 18-21 Transition
 - English-Spanish Bilingual Placements
- Example School Districts
 - DeForest
 - Lodi
 - Madison-Metropolitan
 - McFarland
 - Middleton-Cross Plains
 - Stoughton
 - Sun Prairie
 - Verona



Specialized Clinical Experiences

Specialized Clinical Experiences are practicum assignments that may be assigned in the 2nd year alongside medical and school placements. These placements focus on specific disorder areas and populations, as well as offering opportunities for leadership.

- Dewane Neurorehabilitative Pro Bono Clinic Student Coordinator and Mentor
- UWSHC Central Auditory Processing Disorder Diagnostic Clinic (CAPD)
- UWSHC Concussion Services
- GiGi's Playhouse



MADISON

Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders Climate & Belonging (C&B) Initiatives

- A CSD committee that meets monthly, formed of faculty, staff, and students
- Includes multiple task forces:
 - **Communications**
 - **Peer Mentoring**
 - **Outreach & Access in CSD**
 - **Student Discussion Groups**
 - **Faculty Discussion Groups**
 - **Student Advocacy**



Communications

Shares DEIAB updates via website, email, social media, and newsletters to promote transparency and engagement.

Peer Mentoring

Improves student experiences through peer connection, resource-sharing and ongoing support that reflects DEIAB values.

Outreach & Access in CSD

Raises awareness and access to CSD careers through school, UW, and community outreach to underrepresented groups.

Student Discussion Groups

Organizes student-led DEIAB dialogues in safe, respectful spaces with follow-up resources.

Faculty Discussion Groups

DEIAB-focused discussions for faculty and staff, often aligning topics with student sessions or recent seminars.

Student Advocacy

Supports identity-based peer communities, encourages self-advocacy, and connects students to resources and networks in and beyond CSD.

Research Opportunities

- Thesis
- Lab Assistants



CS&D Research Labs

- Speech
 - Brain, Language, and Acoustic Behavior Lab – Dr. Caroline Niziolek
 - Speech Motor Action + Control – Dr. Ben Parrell
 - Wisconsin Intelligibility, Speech, and Communication Laboratory – Dr. Katie Hustad
- Language
 - Cognitive-Communication in Aging and Neurogenic Disorders Laboratory – Dr. Kimberly Mueller
 - Language Acquisition and Bilingualism Lab – Dr. Margarita Kaushanskaya
 - Language, Literacy and Learning Lab- Dr. Rebecca Alper
 - Neuroscience of Language and Neurological Disorders Lab- Dr. Haley Dresang
 - Research in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Language Lab – Dr. Audra Sterling
- Voice & Swallow
 - Ciucci Lab – Dr. Michelle Ciucci
 - Connor Lab – Dr. Nadine Connor
 - Swallowing and Salivary Bioscience Lab – Dr. Nicole Rogus-Pulia
 - Thibeault Research Group – Dr. Susan Thibeault

What makes UW stand out?



The Wisconsin Idea



Education should influence people's lives beyond the boundaries of the classroom.



Student Connection and Comaraderie



- SLPals- 2nd year mentors for 1st year students
- Graduate Student NSSHLA Leadership Team



Faculty Supports



Student Panel

- Molly Dougherty- 1st year MS student
- Fiona Freeman- 1st year MS student
- Pajnra Xiong- 2nd year MS student
- Naihua Wang- 1st year MS student



Breakouts/Tours

- Group A
 - o Go to the table that matches the color listed next to your name in the handout received when entering.
- Group B
 - o Meet with the tour guides, who will escort you through the departmental building.
- At 11:07 AM, we will switch:
 - o Group A
 - Begin tours
 - o Group B
 - Begin breakout sessions at your designated table



Tour Guides

- MS students
 - Emma Fagerstrom
 - Evelyn Anton
 - Emily Esser
 - Kira Fallert
 - Hana Dussan
 - Meg van den Beemt



QUESTIONS?????



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of
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