Communication Disorders - MCD, MS

Degree Programs:

- Communication Disorders - MS (http://bulletin.auburn.edu/thegraduateschool/graduatedegreesoffered/communicationdisordersmcdms_major/communicationdisorders_ms)
- Communication Disorders - MCD (http://bulletin.auburn.edu/thegraduateschool/graduatedegreesoffered/communicationdisordersmcdms_major/communicationdisorders_mcd)

The Department of Communication Disorders offers master’s programs in speech-language pathology accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Two degree options are available: Master of Science in Communication Disorders (MS) and Master of Communication Disorders (MCD). The MS requires a thesis, while the MCD has no thesis requirement. Neither degree requires expertise in a foreign language. Information about these degrees is available at http://www.cla.auburn.edu/communicationdisorders/.

The plan of study for either degree may be designed according to the student’s career interests; however, the curriculum planned must conform to academic and practicum requirements for ASHA certification and Alabama licensure. Students then are prepared for careers in school systems, clinics, hospital/rehabilitation centers, physicians’ offices, and private practice and for pursuing the doctoral degree.

Admission Requirements

The admission requirements are the same for both degrees because the choice of degree program is not made formally until the first semester of graduate study.

A baccalaureate degree from an accredited university is necessary. Those with a degree in communication sciences and disorders, or equivalent, complete the Master of Communication Disorders (MCD) degree with 55 semester credit hours; additional thesis hours are optional for the Master of Science (MS) degree. Highly qualified students from any undergraduate discipline are considered for admission; however, certain foundation courses are necessary and may bring the MCD degree total to 95 semester hours. General education courses on the undergraduate transcript should include at least one course in each of the following areas: math, statistics, life science, physical science, and behavioral science. As this background is expected by the program’s accreditation agency, any deficiency must be fulfilled before conferral of the master’s degree in this program. Students who do not have an undergraduate course in neuroanatomy will be required to take that course as part of their graduate program.

Some application materials are sent directly to the Graduate School and other materials are sent CSDCAS.

Application to Auburn University’s Communication Disorders Dept. requires that you complete both the electronic application through the Communication Sciences and Disorders Centralized Application Service (CSDCAS) AND the online application to the Auburn University Graduate School. Here are specific steps:

1. Apply online to AU’s Graduate School and submit payment.
2. GRE scores must also be submitted to the Graduate School at Auburn University (ETS Institution code 1005)
3. Apply online through CSDCAS (http://www.capcsd.org/csdcas-student-page/ ) and submit all required information, documentation and payment.
   - Official transcripts from every college or university attended must be sent to CSDCAS.
   - Official GRE scores must be sent to CSDCAS (ETS code 7807)
   - Three professional letters of recommendation must be submitted to CSDCAS
   - 1-minute video describing the value and importance of Speech Language Pathologists must be linked in CSDCAS
   - For international students whose native language is not English, the TOEFL must be taken and submitted to both CSDCAS and AU Graduate School

January 15th is the annual deadline for applications to the graduate program. To be considered for admission, all materials need to be submitted to AU and CSDCAS no later than January 15th.

Graduation Requirements

The MS in Communication Disorders requires a minimum of 54 hours of graduate course work, including at least four hours of CMDS 7990 Research and Thesis, and an appropriate internship experience, CMDS 7920 Internship in Speech-Language Pathology.
The Master of Communication Disorders requires a minimum 55 hours of graduate course work and appropriate internship experience, CMDS 7920 Internship in Speech-Language Pathology.

Required Courses
This is the course schedule for both degrees, with the exception of CMDS 7990 Research and Thesis (4 hours), which is required only for the MS students. Although they are required to write a thesis, MS students do not take comprehensive exams. CMDS 7990 Research and Thesis is not required for MCD students, who take comprehensive exams rather than write a thesis.

First Year

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<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Summer</th>
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<td>CMDS 7570 Evaluation of Research in Speech Pathology and Audiology</td>
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<td>CMDS 7550 Adult Aphasia</td>
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<td>CMDS 7540 Advanced Voice Disorders</td>
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<td>CMDS 7860 Speech Science</td>
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<td>CMDS 7720 Clinical Problem Solving II</td>
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<td>CMDS 7590 Language Disorders: School-Age</td>
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Second Year

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<td>CMDS 7560 Craniofacial Anomalies</td>
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<td>CMDS 7510 Advanced Articulation/Phonological Disorders</td>
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<td>CMDS 7970 Special Topics Seminar</td>
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<td>CMDS 7500 Clinical Problems in Speech</td>
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Clinical Experience Requirements
In addition to academic course work requirements, both the MCD and MS degree programs require a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology.

Financial Aid
The department has a limited number of graduate assistantships available. These assistantships must be applied for using the Application for Assistantship form downloaded from the departmental website. Assistantships are awarded based on academic performance and research experience.