



GRADUATE PROGRAM IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

*Program Brochure Prepared
for Students Entering Fall 2010*

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

This brochure was prepared in August of 2009 and pertains to individuals applying to begin graduate school in fall, 2010. The university reserves the right to make changes to the program during the 2009-10 academic year. The application deadline will be February 1, 2010.

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire provides equal educational and employment opportunities regardless of sex, marital or parental status, race, color, age, religion, membership in the national guard, state defense force, or any other reserve component of the military forces of the United States or this state, sexual orientation, national origin, arrest or conviction record, or handicap in compliance with regulations under Titles VI, VII, IX, ADA, and Section 504. Refer questions to the Affirmative Action Office, 217 Schofield Hall.

We appreciate your interest in our graduate program in Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD) here at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. Our program prepares students to function as speech-language pathologists in various health care, education, and social service settings. The curriculum allows a student to meet academic and practicum requirements for:

- the CCC-SLP from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- the public school license in speech and language pathology from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
- state licensure in Wisconsin (a Department of Regulation and Licensing license in speech-language pathology)

Accredited in speech-language pathology by the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, our graduate program is intensive, current, and exciting. Employers value our graduates highly and our graduates value their educational experiences here along with the strong ties they build with classmates during their two years with us.

This brochure is designed to give you information on whether our graduate program is right for you. We invite you to visit our campus, see our facilities, meet our faculty, and talk with current graduate students. Further information and application forms can be obtained by visiting our web site at:

<http://www.uwec.edu/csd/>. If you have questions, contact us:

**CSD Graduate Program
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004**

**Telephone: (715)-836-4186
Fax: (715) 836-4846
E-mail: stadlema@uwec.edu**

APPLYING TO OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

❖ Admission Criteria

The criteria for admission in full standing to the Communication Sciences & Disorders graduate program are:

- A bachelor's degree, typically with a major in Communication Sciences & Disorders, from an accredited university or college.

If you do not have a baccalaureate degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders, additional CSD coursework is usually needed prior to admission. But keep in mind that over the years, our graduate students have come from a variety of undergraduate backgrounds such as psychology, biology, and education, not just Communication Sciences & Disorders.

- At least 30 semester credits in Communication Sciences & Disorders courses prior to starting our graduate program.

Students who have not accumulated 30 credits should contact the Admissions Office about admission to UW-Eau Claire as a second degree undergraduate.

- A 2.75 cumulative overall grade point average in all college level coursework (or 2.90 during the last half of coursework) and a 3.0 grade point average in Communication Sciences & Disorders coursework.

The CSD grade point includes any and all coursework taken within a Communication Sciences & Disorders Department, but not other required major courses taken in other departments.

- A grade of B or better in each graded practicum enrollment.

Prior clinical practicum is not required for admission to our graduate program. However, if an applicant has enrolled in clinical practicum at the undergraduate level, evidence of successful completion of that experience is required (a grade of B or better).

Please keep in mind that the above criteria are minimum values for people applying to our graduate program. If you meet **all** of these criteria, we hope you will consider applying to our graduate program after learning more about us and if possible, visiting our campus. The UW-Eau Claire web site (<http://www.uwec.edu/Tour/directions.htm>) links to several maps and directions to our building, Human Sciences and Services, here on Water Street. Do call us at 715-836-4186 to arrange a visit.

❖ Application Procedures

A complete set of application materials must include the items described below, all of which must be received by February 1st:

- **A graduate application to the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire** should be sent to our Admissions Office.

- Have the Registrar at **all** of your previous colleges send an **official transcript** to the Admissions Office. We highly recommend having your transcript sent **after** the fall semester grades have been entered.
- Our **application to the Communication Sciences & Disorders** graduate program is available at our web site. This application should be sent to the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders.
- A minimum of **three recommendation** forms of an educational or professional nature; these forms can be found on our website. If possible, at least one recommendation should come from a person who can evaluate your clinical potential. Other appropriate individuals to ask would include your Communication Sciences & Disorders instructors. Recommendations should be sent to the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders.
- The General Test scores of the **Graduate Record Examination (GRE)**. No minimum score is required for admission. Have your scores sent to the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders. When you take the exam, be sure to code in both UWEC's number as a recipient of the results and your interest in applying to a Speech-Language Pathology program.
- Optional applications: An application for a **University Graduate Assistantship** or any **scholarships** awarded through our Department should be sent to the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders. All deadlines are **February 1st**.
- A student who is **re-applying** to the CSD graduate program should write the CSD Graduate Coordinator a letter informing the Coordinator of the student's intentions. The applicant should also inform the Admission Office of his/her intent so that the previous University application may be re-activated.

A committee of CSD graduate faculty evaluates all completed application folders in mid February, so applications to the University and Department, including letters of recommendation and GRE scores, must be received on campus by **February 1st**. The CSD Alumni Committee reviews all scholarship applications. Be sure to check that all required materials are received by the Department prior to the application deadlines; you may wish to contact us in mid-January to verify that your file is complete. We plan to email you when your folder is complete, but sometimes students fail to supply us with an email address. Try to complete application procedures before the end of Fall Semester or early in January to allow ample time for required materials to reach the Department. As the closing date is so close to the start of Spring Semester, there will not be time to notify you if your file is not complete before the final review process. Late applications are considered only if an opening occurs in our graduate class.

Please keep us informed about any **change of address** or telephone number while you are in the process of applying to the graduate program. Just call us at 715-836-4186 or e-mail, stadlema@uwec.edu, with any changes in contact information.

The CSD graduate faculty will meet in mid-February and decide who will be admitted and who will be placed on a waiting list and in what order. All applicants will be informed by mail of their status in mid-February. The faculty decides on the size of each graduate class each year, but in recent years, each graduate class has been approximately 16 students.

If you are admitted to the CSD graduate program in full standing, you will be expected to register as a full-time graduate student in the Fall Semester (9 credits). All graduate students must maintain full-time enrollment until graduation, unless special permission is granted by our faculty.

If you accept admission to our program but change your mind later, please let us know right away so we can invite another student from our waiting list to join our next graduate class.

❖ Student Expenses

Fees for graduate students change each year. Estimated graduate tuition and fees are \$3861 per semester for Wisconsin residents who are full-time graduate students. Through tuition reciprocity for residents of Minnesota, graduate tuition is approximately the same as for Wisconsin residents. For nonresidents of Wisconsin, tuition and fees are about \$9344 per semester. Applicants are invited to visit the University's web site to get updated fee schedules (<http://www.uwec.edu/admissions/paying.htm>).

There is no graduate student dormitory on campus, so most of our recent graduate students have chosen to live off-campus. Recently, several graduate students have arranged housing in Chancellors Hall and were pleased with the accommodations. The University's Housing Office assists students in locating appropriate and affordable housing (see Contact Directory). Graduate students report that off-campus housing is very reasonable compared to other communities in Wisconsin and Minnesota, but actual cost can vary widely depending on whether one chooses to live alone or not, and on the size/age of the apartment.

❖ Financial Assistance

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire offers financial assistance to graduate students in several ways: assistantships, fellowships, scholarships, grants, loans, and tuition remissions.

Questions about these University-wide forms of financial assistance should be directed to the Admissions Office (see Contact Directory). Eligibility for assistance may vary according to academic status or country of residency. Some assistance is available only to full-time students with full standing in a graduate program. Inquire about Work Study funds for graduate students at the Financial Aid Office (see Contact Directory).

Assistantships and Fellowships

Each year, five or six University half-assistantships are awarded to graduate students in Communication Sciences & Disorders. In addition, the Human Development Center (HDC) offers assistantships, often one has gone to a CSD graduate student. Other areas that have graduate programs such as Special Education, Nursing, Psychology, or HDC, for example, may be marked on the assistantship application. In recent years, nearly half of each graduate class has received a graduate assistantship for part of their program either through CSD or other academic programs.

Applications for University Assistantships can be accepted on an ongoing basis, but for assistantships recommended through CSD, applications should arrive at our department by **February 1st**. The same letters of recommendation used for admission to the program will be used for assistantship applications.

Half-assistantships provide somewhat more than \$5,200 a year without waiver of tuition or fees. It may be possible to arrange a waiver for the difference between resident and non-resident tuition and fees. Recipients of half-assistantships must be full-time graduate students in full standing and are permitted to carry a full academic load. Graduate assistants work ten hours per week with faculty members, providing help with a variety of clinical, research, administrative, and service projects. The award is made by the University upon the recommendation of CSD graduate faculty.

The application form is on our web site. To apply for an HDC assistantship or one in any other Department or unit at the University, you should indicate your interest on the assistantship application. Deadlines may vary by departments. Only one application need be submitted. Indicate all Departments that you want to be considered by, including us.

Substantial support for eligible minority students is available to individuals who are African American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Southeast Asian refugees, or economically disadvantaged non-minorities. Through Advanced Opportunity Program Fellowships, students receive awards dependent on demonstrated need and available resources. For nonresident students, the nonresident portion of tuition may be waived. Information about these fellowships may be obtained from the Financial Aids Office.

Scholarships

Scholarship applications and at least two letters of recommendation must be received in the CSD Department by **February 1st**. A scholarship application form and instructions are available on our web site. If you fill out one scholarship application, you will be considered for all of the scholarships for CSD graduate students offered in a given year. Scholarships range from \$300 to \$800.

Grants

Graduate students also may be eligible for various grants administered through the University. You should contact the Financial Aid Office about specific grant programs.

Loans

Graduate students may be eligible for a variety of loans. You are encouraged to contact the Financial Aids Office with inquiries.

Tuition Remission

A limited number of Foreign Student Tuition Remissions are available through the University. These remissions reduce tuition from non-resident to resident levels. During two semesters, the tuition remission amounts to almost \$11,000.

Foreign students, including students from Canada, will receive the appropriate forms after they submit their applications for admission to the University. Alternatively, students may request a financial aid application for foreign students from the Financial Aid Office. It is essential that foreign student applicants have all financial statements on file with the University before **February 1st** if they wish to maximize the possibility of obtaining a Foreign Student Tuition Remission.

You may apply for financial assistance to both the University and to the Department. If one potential source of support does not offer an award, another may. You can receive only one assistantship award at a time. However, you can apply for an assistantship and a scholarship, and you may be awarded both. Loans and grants may be awarded independently of assistantships and scholarships, depending upon the loan or grant program. Notification of recommendations for financial assistance from the CSD program will be accomplished as soon as possible after the application deadline.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

❖ Degree Requirements

Our graduate program in Communication Sciences & Disorders at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire offers the Master of Science degree with an emphasis in speech-language pathology. Each student works with a faculty advisor to plan an individualized program of study. The program permits students to meet various licensure/certification requirements as well as their own career goals. Our graduate program is designed to produce generalists in our field who have had the opportunity to study topics of interest in depth during their graduate program.

The two-year graduate curriculum requires students to earn a minimum of 54 CSD semester graduate credits, including 31 required academic credits, 18 required clinical credits, and at least 5 elective credits from a list of selected CSD courses.

Academic Required Courses (31 credits in required courses)

CSD 648	Aphasia and Related Disorders	2 credits
CSD 706	Language Assessment	3 credits
CSD 715	Research Procedures in CSD	2 credits
CSD 716	Instrumentation in CSD	1 credit
CSD 725	Counseling in Communication Disorders	2 credits
CSD 726	Organic Voice & Speech Disorders	2 credits
CSD 729	Augmentative and Alternative Communication	3 credits
CSD 730	Seminar: Language Theories	2 credits
CSD 737	Dysphagia	2 credits
CSD 748	Motor Speech Disorders	3 credits
CSD 754	Acquired Cognitive Communication Disorders	3 credits
CSD 774	Pediatric Dysphagia	1 credit
CSD 749	School Methods [required before school externship]	3 credits
CSD 750	Rehab Methods [required before non-school externship]	2 credits

Clinical Requirements (18 credits required)

CSD 769	Graduate Clinical Practicum	2 total credits
CSD 770	Clinical Practicum in CSD	4 total credits
CSD 780 and/or 781	Externship(s) in CSD	12 total credits

On-campus clinical practicum experiences are distributed over the first three semesters and intervening summer session. During the final semester of the graduate program, each student participates in two half-semester externships, providing full-time clinical services under the supervision of a qualified professional. Students may participate in two public school externships, two rehabilitation/habilitation externships, or one externship in each setting. Each type of externship has a prerequisite methods course. Externships are arranged by the Department on an individual basis. Students are placed in a variety of locations in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Selected CSD Elective Courses (minimum of 4 credits to be selected)

CSD 673	Applications in Audiology	2 credits
CSD 731	Seminar: Child/Adolescent Lang Intervention	2 credits
CSD 746	Seminar: Language Disorders [even years]	2 credits
CSD 747	Seminar: Speech Disorders [odd years]	2 credits
CSD 799	Thesis	6 credits

Other CSD Graduate Electives

CSD 521	Aural Rehabilitation	3 credits
CSD 526	Voice and Resonance Disorders	3 credits
CSD 552	Fluency Disorders	3 credits
CSD 558	Phonological Disorders	3 credits
CSD 578	Introduction to Sign Language	3 credits

CSD 610	Communication Changes of the Older Adults	3 credits
CSD 611	Facilitating Communication in Preschool	2 credits
CSD 640	Neurological Aspects	2 credits
CSD 685	Serving Diverse Populations	2 credits
CSD 695	Directed Studies in CSD	1 to 3 credits
CSD 745	Topics in Speech-Language-Hearing	1-2 credits
CSD 793	Seminar: Selected Topics	1 to 3 credits
CSD 797	Independent Study in CSD	1 to 3 credits

Students may also earn elective credits through other departments that contribute knowledge of direct relevance to a speech-language pathologist. Non-CSD courses would be taken in addition to the 54 required CSD graduate-level credits.

Students elect one of two plans toward completion of the degree. The **Thesis Plan** requires students to complete six credits of CSD 799 (Thesis) plus 48 other CSD credits, and an oral examination at the completion of the thesis. The **Non-Thesis Plan** requires 54 CSD graduate credits and successful completion of the written comprehensive examination. The written examination typically is taken during the second year in the Fall Semester.

Our graduate program has a strong history of collaborative research efforts among graduate students and faculty. Some students who elect not to complete a thesis still participate in a research project. Often such projects have led to presentations at our state convention or at the ASHA convention.

Students who earn graduate credits prior to admission to our program may apply a maximum of 9 credits toward requirements for the degree. A student's academic advisor must approve all courses applied toward the degree.

The typical graduate program for a CSD student encompasses four semesters and the intervening summer session. A student with deficiencies in undergraduate education may be required to complete more than the minimum 54 graduate credits, which might extend the student's graduate program. Deficiencies usually are related to fulfillment of requirements for licensure or certification. Undergraduate deficiencies are identified in consultation with the graduate student's advisor and then the graduate program is designed to rectify those deficiencies.

❖ Practicum & Externships

All graduate students are supervised by fully-qualified personnel in all of their practicum experiences. A special feature of the clinical experiences we can offer on campus is the strong integration of the classroom with the clinic. All graduate faculty members in the department also directly supervise graduate practicum experiences.

Our graduate students enroll in practicum every term. Thus each student has four terms of clinic on campus, progressing from an emphasis on treatment to an emphasis on diagnostics just before the final semester's off-campus externships. Initial clinical experiences are scheduled for graduate students at the Center for Communication Disorders (CCD), which is part of the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders. A wide variety of clinical experiences is offered through the CCD.

Therapy practicum with children and adults with hearing, language, articulation/phonology, voice, or fluency disorders.

Diagnostic teams with fixed schedules during the regular semester:

- Audiology Diagnostic/Screening Team
- General Diagnostic Clinics
- Diagnostic Screening Clinic
- Fluency Diagnostic Clinic

Voice Diagnostic Clinic
Adult DD Diagnostic Team

Also on campus, students may be assigned to diagnostic teams in the Human Development Center where they work with students and professionals from School Psychology, Reading Education, Nursing, Social Work, and Special Education.

Special off-campus treatment and diagnostic experiences are offered during the first four terms of our program, before the externship semester. During the Spring Semester of the second year, graduate students complete two half-semester externships. A wide choice of settings is available among externship types and locations in Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota.

During the two years in our program, each student accrues a substantial amount of clinical experience. The Clinic Director makes clinical assignments to students, taking into account their interests in particular age groups or disorder types. However, clinical assignments must be made so that all clinical requirements are met for the CCC-SLP and for other credentials the student is seeking. By the end of the program, the student has met all clinical hour requirements specified in the requirements for the CCC-SLP.

❖ Space & Facilities

The Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders is located on the main floor of the Human Sciences and Services Building at 239 Water Street. The building was constructed in 1982 to provide a location for our Department, including our clinic, the Center for Communication Disorders (CCD), and for a number of related health and education programs. We are very proud of the size, number and set-up of our custom designed clinical facilities. There are 16 treatment rooms, all with direct observation facilities and many with remote control video recording capabilities. In addition, there is an audiology suite, an assistive technology lab, a speech & hearing science / voice lab, an intervention technology laboratory, a clinical computer lab, an adult waiting room and a child waiting room, a reception area, and a therapy preparation area. In the therapy preparation/reception area is an excellent array of clinical materials and equipment available for use in the CCD. Of course, all faculty members have offices and the graduate students are provided with their own workroom. Within our building are a conference room, multiple classrooms, and a general access computer lab linked to campus and Internet networks and e-mail service.

❖ University Faculty

There are currently 9 continuing members of the faculty in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders:

Shannon Collins, M.A., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: language and phonology disorders of young children

Kay Hagedorn, M.S., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: voice disorders, adult developmentally disabled individuals and the CMI population

Judy Haley, M.S., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: adult neurogenic disorders

Jerry Hoepner, ABD, CCC-SLP

Special Interests: social cognition in TBI, partner based intervention, rehabilitation service delivery models

Lisa LaSalle, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: fluency disorders, counseling, phonetics, voice

Kristine Retherford, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: normal communication development, language disorders of young children, adult literacy

Vicki Samelson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Special interests: language comprehension, academic outcomes in children with speech, language, and hearing impairments, multidisciplinary assessment and intervention

Marie Stadler, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: child language development & disorders, family-centered practice, emergent literacy

Angie Sterling-Orth, M.S., CCC-SLP

Special Interests: preschool speech and language; adolescent language and learning needs

Dr. Kristine Retherford is the Chair of the CSD Department; Dr. Marie Stadler is the CSD Graduate Program Coordinator and Ms. Angie Sterling-Orth is the CSD Clinic Director.

❖ Adjunct Faculty

Each year the CSD faculty recommend to the Provost that a number of individuals be appointed to adjunct faculty status because they have contributed substantially to the educational experiences of our students. Some adjunct faculty members are practicing speech-language pathologists. Others are members of related professions such as nursing, social work, and medicine. Adjunct faculty serve as supervisors for off-campus practicum placements, provide guest presentations in graduate courses, and consult with faculty and students in their areas of expertise. A list of current adjunct faculty members is available on our web site. We deeply appreciate the support our adjunct faculty have given us over the years.

❖ Contact Directory

The Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

personnel:

Dr. Marie Stadler, CSD Graduate Program Coordinator

Ms. Corinne Charlson, Academic Department Associate

mailing address: Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

telephone: (715) 836-4186

e-mail: stadlema@uwec.edu

web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/CSD/>

fax number: (715) 836-4846

University Graduate Coordinator

personnel: Ms. Nancy Amdahl

mailing address: Graduate Studies Office, S 210
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

telephone: (715) 836-2721

e-mail: amdahlmj@uwec.edu

web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/Graduate/>

fax number: (715) 836-4892

Graduate Admissions

personnel: Ms. Kris Schick
mailing address: Graduate Admission Office, S 112
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
P.O. Box 4004
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
telephone: (715) 836-4733
e-mail: schickka@uwec.edu
web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/GradAdmiss/>
fax number: (715) 836-2409

Undergraduate Admissions

personnel: Ms. Heather Pearson
mailing address: Admission Office, S 112
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
P.O. Box 4004
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
telephone: (715) 836-5415
e-mail: pearsonh@uwec.edu
web site: <http://apply.wisconsin.edu/eau/undergrad>
fax number: (715) 836-2409

The Financial Aid Office

e-mail: finaid@uwec.edu
web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/Finaid/>
telephone (715) 836-3373

The Housing Office

telephone: (715) 836-3674
e-mail: housingoffice@uwec.edu
web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/Housing/>

The University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

e-mail: ask-uwec@uwec.edu
web site: <http://www.uwec.edu/>