Communication Sciences and Disorders

Are you someone who has a desire to work with and help people? Do you have common sense and a scientific curiosity? Do you want an exciting helping profession that changes constantly as new discoveries are made? If so, then communication sciences and disorders is for you!

Major
Comprehensive major (no minor required)
- Communication Sciences and Disorders

Certificate
- American Sign Language

Where you'll find our grads
- Graduate School, UW-Eau Claire, UMD, UW-Madison, University of Iowa, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Speech Language Pathology Assistant, (SLPA certified) positions in Texas, California, Florida, New Jersey, and Virginia
- Classroom paraprofessional in school districts in WI and MN
- English teacher at institutions abroad
- Graduate programs in Vocational Rehabilitation, Deaf Education, Child and Family Development, Special Education, Child Life Specialist, and Health Care Administration
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Prepared for Success
The department of Communication Sciences and Disorders educates students planning to become speech-language pathologists or audiologists and who will specialize in diagnosing and treating communication disorders. The job market is growing most rapidly within the elderly and infant age ranges, but many jobs are available with school-age children and younger adults. A Master’s degree is required for most speech pathology jobs, while students entering the job market with an undergraduate degree often find entry-level positions such as a paraprofessional in an academic setting, a family advocate in a medical setting, etc.

Many of our students pursue Master’s degrees at institutions such as UW-Steven’s Point, U of M-Duluth, UW-Madison, St Cloud State University, and UW-Eau Claire. Other students pursue graduate degrees in Audiology in programs such as the University of Iowa.

Why UW-Eau Claire
Experiential Learning
UW-Eau Claire has an excellent clinical facility with state-of-the-art technology on campus (Center for Communication Disorders). Emphasis within the department focuses on preparing undergraduate students for entry into graduate programs. The semester-long clinical practicum is an option within the program. Students may also take part in undergraduate research experiences and can apply for the departmental honors program.

Service-Learning
The department also offers opportunities for students to assist adolescents with high-functioning autism and adults with aphasia and traumatic brain injuries each year. While gaining experience in your field, you’ll have the opportunity to give back to the community.

Contact Info:
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The Power of AND
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
Get Involved / Student Orgs

The local Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association chapter provides professional and social interaction, a connection to a national student organization and service and leadership opportunities. Operation Smile Club is another student organization that helps to increase awareness of and raise money for children with cleft palates and other forms of facial deformities. Many students are also involved with the American Sign Language Student Organization on campus.

First-Year Suggested Curriculum

- Intro to Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Psych 100
- Social Work 100
- University writing requirement—depending on placement exam.

For test-out options, see http://www.uwec.edu/academics/blugold-seminar/

Course Work / Pre-Professional Courses

Students who want to study communication sciences and disorders would benefit from course work in English composition, public speaking, natural sciences (biology and physics or chemistry preferred), psychology and special education.

Special Admission Guidelines

You must be formally admitted to the Communication Sciences and Disorders program. We recommend that students apply for admission at the end of their sophomore year. Please reference the Undergraduate Catalog for admission requirements.

It is important that students consult with their academic and CSD faculty advisors when beginning to plan their programs and periodically throughout. Courses in the major are intended to be taken in a logical order, so students receive background knowledge from previous courses before enrolling in later courses.

To take CSD 370 and 470 a 3.0 overall GPA and a 3.50 GPA in CSD is required.