Our Departmental Honors Program in Communication Sciences and Disorders was approved by the University Honors Council in May, 2011. The mission of our honors program is to recognize our stellar undergraduate students and to provide an enriched, challenging environment for these students to develop academically and professionally. We encourage highly motivated, high-achieving comprehensive majors in Communication Sciences and Disorders to apply. Two to four students each year will be invited to join our CSD Honors program and will work with faculty mentors to enhance their critical thinking, research, and leadership skills.

Admission Criteria:

1. Overall GPA ≥ 3.5
2. CSD GPA ≥ 3.5
3. Successful completion at time of application (not in-progress) of CSD 256, CSD 257, and CSD 353, with a grade of B or above.
4. Students invited to join the Honors Program in CSD will typically not have taken any pass/fail courses.

The University Honors Program and our CSD Honors Program collaborate to help students integrate the requirements for both programs. For example, students in CSD Honors can count up to 9 credits (2 courses) of departmental honors contract work toward your University Honors requirements. If you have questions about how to integrate the requirements for both programs, please meet with Dr. Vahlbusch and/or Dr. Samelson (in CSD) to discuss your options.

Honors Program Requirements/Components:

A. A total of 2 CSD upper-division courses offering an Honors Contract for honors credit (See list of potential courses and an explanation of Honors Contracts, below) (4-7 credits possible)

B. Scholarship Project (4 options):
   1. Leadership Role in an undergraduate research project (CSD 495: Directed Studies—up to 6 credits)
   2. Independent Research Project (CSD 499: Independent Study—up to 6 credits)
   3. Clinical Case Study / Single-Subject Design research project (CSD 499: Independent Study—up to 6 credits). Students selecting this option will need to be on Plan 1, so they can collect data during CSD 470, fall senior year.
   4. Leadership Role in a CSD or Campus Project (e.g. Aphasia Camp, Camp Campus, i-Lead, CSD Writing Fellow; Lead the CSD Ambassadors team)

C. Presentation of project or research results at a CSD prosem (spring senior year), and/or UWEC's CERCA (Student Research Day), and/or the Provost's Honor's Symposium, and/or WSHA, ASHA, SRCLD, UW System Symposium for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity, the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Posters in the Rotunda, etc.

D. Student must have earned a GPA of 3.5 in all work attempted (cumulative GPA) and a GPA of 3.5 in CSD at the time of graduation in order to have your degree conferred with Honors in CSD.
Participation in a Departmental Honors Program will be documented on your transcript and you will be recognized at graduation.

CSD Honors students may also propose a program of study that crosses departmental and college lines for your scholarship project and/or Honors Contract upper division courses.

(Total of 9-15 possible ‘Honors’ credits)

**Timeline: Research Project Option**

**Spring, Junior Year:**
- 2 credit Survey of Research Seminar (available for Honors Contract credit)
- Meet with CSD Honors research faculty mentor
- Lit Review
- Basic study design
- Submit proposal (background, aims, hypotheses, basic design, etc.)

**Summer between Junior and Senior Years:**
- Complete IRB training and prepare IRB

**Fall, Senior Year:**
- Finalize study design
- Submit IRB
- Recruit participants
- Collect data
- Begin data analysis

**Spring, Senior Year:**
- Complete the data analysis
- Conceptualize the results
- Complete poster
- Prosem and Student Research Day

**Timeline: Leadership Project:**
The timeline for a student who selects the Leadership Role option will be determined by that student and his/her Honors faculty mentor.

**Potential CSD upper division courses with Honors Contract credit:**
Students will sign an Honors Contract for each Honors section course. This contract will be drafted by the student and his/her faculty mentor (based on the University Honors Council guidelines), must reflect “outstanding work when compared with their peers”, and can include a leadership role in some aspect of the course. Enrolling in an upper division course for Grad credit is *not* equivalent to completing an Honors Contract for Honors credit.

CSD 326: Voice & Resonance **
CSD 358: Phonological Disorders **
CSD 321: Aural Rehabilitation **
CSD 331: Developmental Language Disorders **
CSD 352: Fluency Disorders **
CSD 440: Neuro Aspects
CSD 485: Diverse Populations
CSD 410: Communication Disorders of the Aged
CSD 411: Facilitating Communication in Preschool Children
CSD 415: Instructional Internship
CSD 419: Alternative and Augmentative Communication
CSD 448: Aphasia
CSD 725: Counseling
Other CSD graduate-level courses, with permission of instructor

** Available for Honors Credit if students enroll during their senior year (e.g., students who study abroad).

** Application Process:  **Deadline for application: October 14, 2016**

During the early fall semester of their junior year, interested eligible students should submit a formal application packet containing:

1. A cover letter, indicating what you hope to gain from the honors program; what you can contribute to the honors program, to our department, and to the profession; and your area(s) of interest (e.g., research interests, leadership interests, specific clinical populations, etc.)
2. A current UWEC Degree Audit
3. Your preferred Scholarship Project option (Section B, above)
4. A tentative plan for enrolling in CSD courses for Honors Contract credit

Submit all materials to Dr. Elledge by 5:00pm on the above due date.

As part of the application review process, your ACT scores and GPAs will be verified. Your cover letter will also be evaluated on content and depth.

Students accepted into the CSD Departmental Honors Program will be notified by the end of October and will be assigned a faculty Honors mentor.

If accepted, you will be asked to submit a signed commitment to the CSD Departmental Honors Program.

Occasionally a student may be invited to apply by a faculty member. If invited to apply, you should address this invitation in your cover letter.

If you apply to the CSD Departmental Honors program during the fall semester of your junior year and are not accepted, you may reapply the following fall.