



SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE
STUDIES

Master of Science Degree Communication Disorders



Southern Connecticut State University



More than 42 million Americans are affected by communication disorders, including hearing loss and speech or language disorders. Southern's graduate program in Communication Disorders offers a Master of Science degree with a concentration in either speech-language pathology or audiology and prepares students to serve this unique group of people that needs help to communicate more effectively.

Both program options include a rigorous clinical element that builds on the theoretical study of diagnostic and treatment models. Students gain practical experience in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and Southern's own Center for Communication Disorders, an on-campus clinic that provides evaluation and treatment.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's (ASHA) Council on Academic Accreditation accredits the graduate programs of Southern's Communication Disorders Department. The Center for Communication Disorders holds ASHA Professional Services Accreditation.

Program Description

The master's degree program prepares students in one of two areas of specialization: speech-language pathology or audiology. Both programs emerge from a core understanding of linguistics, psycholinguistics, and normal developmental processes, as well as study of the development of oral communication, speech and hearing science, auditory processes, and developmental psychology.

Students in the Audiology specialization enroll for 30 credits of required audiology core courses; a minimum of six credits of speech-language pathology; 30 credits of practicum; and either a three-credit special project or a six-credit thesis seminar.

Students in the Speech-Language Pathology specialization enroll for 30 credits of required core courses; 30 credits of practicum; three credits of electives; and either a three-credit special project or a six-credit thesis seminar. Additional courses in health, special education, and psychology may be required for teacher certification.

For both programs, a total of 375 hours of supervised clinical experience is required for graduation, with a minimum of 325 hours at the graduate level. Twenty-five hours of observation are also required. Both programs meet all of ASHA's clinical contact hours requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence.

Students begin their clinical training in Southern's Center for Communication Disorders and initially receive high levels of direct supervision. As skills develop, less intense direct supervision is provided and students may work at off-campus sites such as schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and private practice settings under the supervision of departmental and on-site ASHA certified clinicians. In all practicum experiences, students perform hands-on work with clients in a variety of evaluative and treatment modes. All clinical hours are recorded and tracked.

Individual programs are designed for each candidate to meet the requirements for certification in his or her chosen field, and for Connecticut licensure and teacher certification if desired. Students must pass the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association National Examination (PRAXIS II) to graduate.



Admissions Requirements

Application Deadline: March 1.

Students may be admitted to graduate study in Communication Disorders from a variety of undergraduate majors and, in fact, their differing preparations provide a welcome diversity that enriches the program. Registration for all courses requires departmental permission.

The minimum requirements for acceptance into the graduate programs in communication disorders are:

- a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency in the United States. Degrees from outside the U.S. must be evaluated by an accredited evaluating agency.
- a cumulative undergraduate quality point ratio of 3.0 or higher.
- demonstrated professional promise and scholastic ability.



can be mailed upon request. Complete the application and enclose a \$50 check made payable to SCSU. Mail to

Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515-1355



Request two copies of official transcripts from all previously attended undergraduate and graduate colleges to be sent to the Graduate School office.

In addition, candidates for admission to the Communication Disorders program must submit:

- a departmental application.
- scores obtained on the GRE.
- a minimum of three recommendations attesting to his or her professional promise and academic ability.
- a 250–300 word essay on a personal challenge and how it was handled, or on a project initiated and maintained independent of parental or school assistance.

These materials should be sent directly to the chair of the admissions committee. Finally, candidates complete an interview with Communication Disorders faculty and plan a program of study that includes prerequisites and required courses. When this process has been successfully completed, students receive a letter of acceptance to the Graduate School and a copy of their signed planned program.

Pre-Professional Program

Candidates who do not meet the admission requirements may apply for admission into the department's Pre-Professional Program. These students receive provisional acceptance into the department and conditional matriculation into the School of Graduate Studies. They are permitted to enroll in a maximum of 20 credits of prerequisite courses, after which they are evaluated for full acceptance into the graduate program.



How to Apply

Request an application packet from the department. The Graduate School application form can be found at www.gradstudies.SouthernCT.edu or

Faculty

The faculty of the Communication Disorders Department is composed of 10 full-time, doctorate-level professors and five permanent professional staff, including a full-time clinical director and four clinical supervisors. In addition, adjunct professors from the local clinical community assist

in teaching academic courses and providing clinical supervision. All of the faculty and professional staff are licensed by the State of Connecticut and hold American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Clinical Certification.



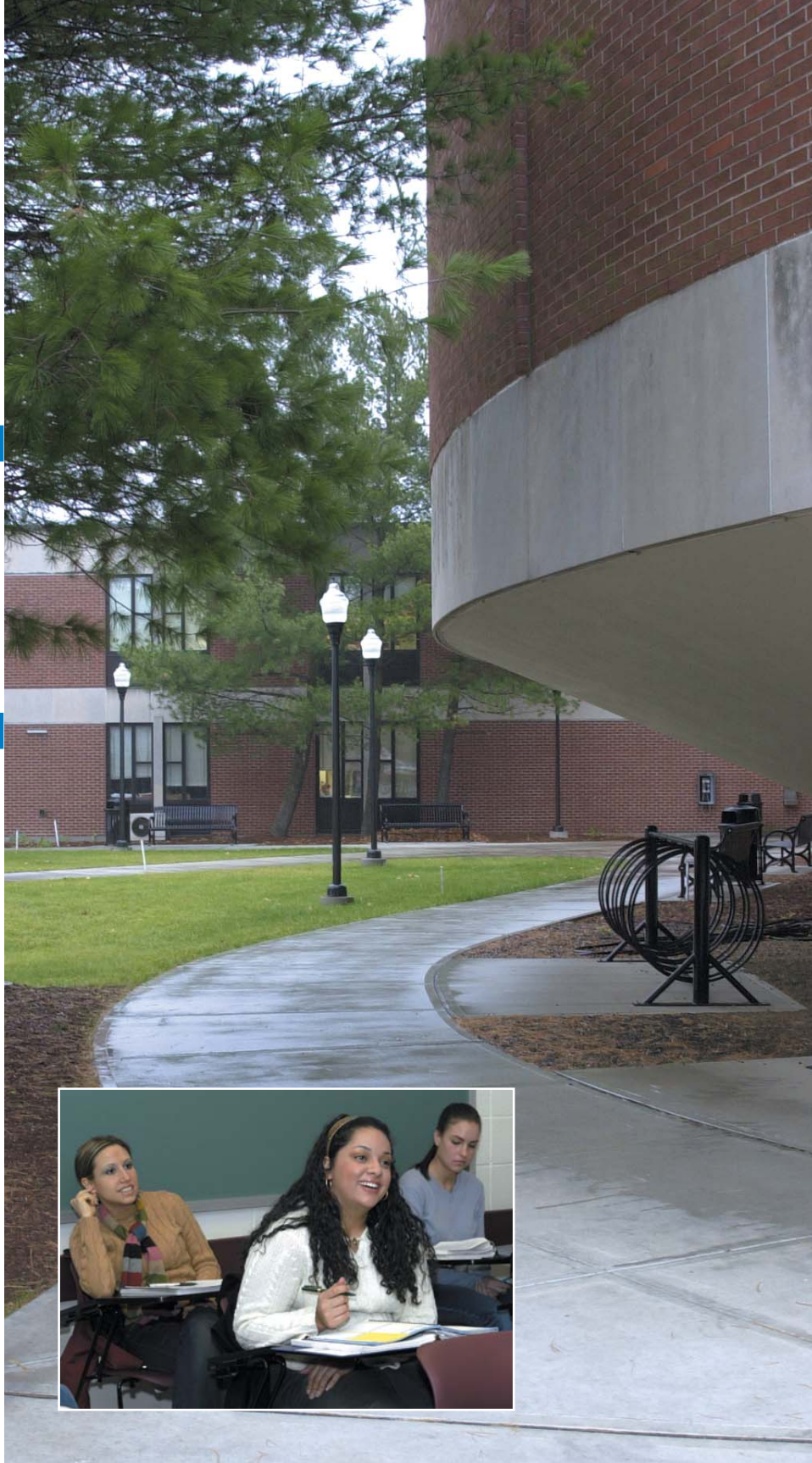
Careers

The degree programs are designed to prepare students to practice as skilled speech-language pathologists or audiologists in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, clinics, public and private schools, and in private practice. As professionals, they will evaluate, treat, and conduct research into human communication and its disorders, and they may collaborate with medical specialists, educators, engineers, scientists, and other allied health professionals and technicians.

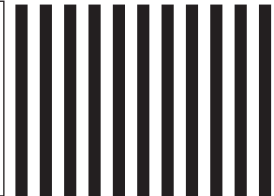
Contact Information

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Departmental: www.SouthernCT.edu/departments/comdis

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Engleman Hall, Room 103C
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New Haven, CT 06515
(203) 392-5240 or 1-800-448-0661
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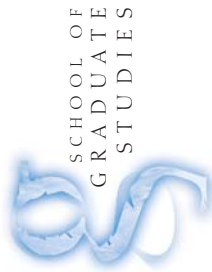




Graduate Admissions Information

For more information about the Master of Science Degree in Communication Disorders, please complete this card and return it to us.

Name	
Address	
City	State
Telephone (home)	Telephone (work)
E-mail	
Bachelor's Degree (College, Year Awarded)	
Undergraduate Major	
Check as many as apply. Please send:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Application materials for the Master of Science Degree in Communication Disorders	
<input type="checkbox"/> The SCSU Graduate Catalog	
<input type="checkbox"/> The schedule of courses for the up-coming semester	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	



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