

Master of Education with a Major in Communication Disorders

The Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree program in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is designed to allow students to apply knowledge from the pre-professional degree while continuing to gain information regarding effective diagnosis of, and intervention for, clients with a variety of communication disorders and diverse needs. Students also concentrate on self-reflection regarding intervention, effectiveness, course content knowledge, and implementation of research to guide practice. The program includes the study of research methods and findings so that students become knowledgeable consumers of data and are prepared to engage in research activities. The program reflects the mission of the College of Education and Human Services by developing skills in intervention and evidence-based practices.

The combination of academic coursework and practica prepares the successful candidate to meet the challenges of a career in speech-language pathology across a wide variety of medical and school-based settings. The degree in communication disorders is designed to meet current standards required for certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), certification for public school service personnel, and state licensure.

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Program graduates will demonstrate content knowledge concerning speech and hearing anatomy and physiology, normal speech and language development, communication disorders, and learning styles.
2. Program graduates will demonstrate ability to apply content and intervention skills by designing and implementing appropriate diagnostic and intervention techniques to meet client needs and developmental levels.

Examples of Outcome Assessments

1. Successful completion of the ASHA examination and/or written comprehensive exam.
2. Direct and indirect observations and ratings of interventions designed and implemented by students for clients with various disabilities and disorders in a variety of settings.

Prior to admission to any graduate program at Valdosta State University, applicants must first submit a completed application to the Graduate School. A completed application packet includes official transcripts from all institutions previously attended, official test scores (GRE or MAT), completed application, fee, and any additional program requirements submitted by the admission deadline. To be considered for the preferred term, all required materials must be received by the Graduate School no later than the close of business on the deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to allow adequate time for document submission and to ensure receipt of documents.

Admission Deadlines

- Fall Deadline: March 1
- Spring Deadline: July 1
- Summer Deadline: October 1

Go to the Graduate School website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/welcome.php>) and click on Our Programs, then click on CSD Program for information on:

- Specific CSD Program Admission Requirements
- CSD Program Retention, Dismissal, and Readmission Policies
- CSD Program Graduation Requirements

To Apply Online, click here (<https://www.applyweb.com/apply/vsug/menu.html>).

Requirements for the M. Ed. Degree with a Major in Communication Disorders

College of Education and Human Services Core		4
CSD 5110	Science and Research in Communication Disorders	3
or RSCH 7100	Research Methodology in Education	
LEAD 7210	Ethics and Law	1
Major Curriculum		56
CSD 5010	Language Disorders in Young Children	3
CSD 5030	Phonological Disorders	3

CSD 5040	Fluency Disorders	3
CSD 5050	Beginning Practicum	2
CSD 5060	Language Disorders of School Age Children	3
CSD 5080	Dysphagia and Motor Speech Disorders	3
CSD 5090	Aural Habilitation/Rehabilitation	3
CSD 5100	Intermediate Practicum	3
CSD 5120	Aphasia and Other Neurogenic Disorders	3
CSD 5130	Congenital & Multifactorial Syndromes and Disorders	3
CSD 5140	Advanced Practicum	3
CSD 5160	Voice Disorders	3
CSD 5190	Applied Practicum in the Public School	9
CSD 5210	Externship in Communication Disorders	9
CSD 5200 or CSD 5230	Augmentative/Alternative Communication Thesis	3
Total Hours Required for the Degree		60

State certification rules require that all certified personnel in Georgia demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in computer skill. Students majoring in communication disorders who have not met this requirement at the undergraduate level may do so by completing ACED 2400 or ACED 7400.