

Communication Disorders & Sciences**Master of Science Online Cohort Program**

Rationale: There is a critical shortage of certified speech-language pathologists to fill available positions across the state of Illinois and United States. Admission to graduate programs is limited due to the clinical practicum requirements. Well qualified individuals who have completed undergraduate programs often secure provisional certificates to work in the public schools with a bachelor's degree under the supervision of a certified speech-language pathologist. Matriculation into graduate school becomes more difficult once they are employed and settle into a work setting with family and community ties. An online graduate program would allow them to accumulate graduate hours on a part time basis while employed in the public schools and use summers to complete face-to-face academic requirements.

Aspects of the CDS Online Graduate Cohort Program:

- Graduate program is nationally accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation; proposed program would meet the same accreditation requirements.
- Cohort program would meet all outcome and formative assessment requirements of the current graduate program.
- CDS is a First Choice graduate program based on the quality standards in current curricular requirements; online cohort would meet the same academic requirements.
- Academic and clinic preparation would be a hybrid of face-to-face, with 49% of the program online and 51% face-to-face; all clinical practicum will be face-to-face supervision.
- Program is a sponsored tuition recovery model (TRM); sponsor would be regional educational office of education.
- All faculty who are scheduled to teach online courses have completed or will complete the EIU training for online course delivery.
- Supervisors who provide on-site practicum will be required to complete a one-day training session on campus to insure compliance with formative assessment and evaluation procedures used in the CDS graduate program. All supervisors must be ASHA certified, licensed, and meet state school certification guidelines.
- Paperwork will include an affiliation agreement to insure the employment site (i.e., public school) is informed regarding expectations of the site; a supervisor agreement to outline expectations and requirements for on-site supervisors of clinical practicum; and a student agreement that delineates student responsibilities for completion of the program.
- States who have implemented similar programs have experienced a significant demand and successful matriculation of students.
- Several grant opportunities are being pursued to assist with funding student tuition and Department expenses associated with the program.

Program Mission: With an appropriate undergraduate major in communication disorders and sciences, this program meets the requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, the Speech-Language Pathologist license awarded by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, and the Type 73 School Service Personnel Certificate awarded by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Accreditation: Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in the area of speech-language pathology.

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). Applicants must provide a documented score of the General Test of the Graduate Record Exam. In addition, students must have at least a 3.00 grade point average (A=4.0) in the undergraduate communication disorders and sciences major for admission consideration to the graduate program at Eastern Illinois University. Admission is competitive and meeting minimum GPA requirements does not guarantee admission. Admission is determined by a graduate faculty committee. The committee considers all applications, including transfers from other four-year colleges and universities. With department chair consultation and approval, students may enroll for some courses on a non-degree basis. Students who have a baccalaureate degree in a major other than CDS must complete all 2000 level CDS courses and CDS 3100, 3200, 3500 and 3700 or their equivalents prior to being considered for admission to the CDS graduate program. For the online graduate cohort program, students must be employed in the public schools as a speech-language pathology assistant/paraprofessional, or special education aide; and must meet all other admission criteria.

Study Plan Approval: The study plan shall be filed with the departmental graduate coordinator prior to the completion of 12 semester hours of graduate credit which count toward the graduate degree.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master's degree by the Graduate School (see "[Requirements for the Master's Degree](#)").

Curriculum for Master of Science in Communication Disorders & Sciences Non-Thesis Option

Total Credits: 46 to 47

- [CDS 5000 - Research Methods in Communication Disorders and Sciences](#). Credits: 2
- [CDS 5001 - Research Experience in Communication Disorders and Science](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5090 - Advanced Clinical Techniques](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5100 - Motor Speech Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5150 - Stuttering](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5200 - Developmental Syndrome Disorders](#). Credits: 2
- [CDS 5250 - Advanced Study in Language Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5300 - Acquired Language Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5350 - Cognitive-Communication Disorders](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5400 - Special Topics](#). Credits: 2
Must repeat 3 times for a total of 6 hours.
- [CDS 5500 - Dysphagia Management in Children and Adults](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5600 - Professional Regulations and Issues in Speech-Language Pathology](#). Credits: 2
- [CDS 5800 - Grand Rounds in Communication Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5900 - Advanced Clinical Practice](#). Credits: 4 to 5

- [CDS 5910 - Diagnostics in Speech-Language Pathology.](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5920 - Audiology Clinical Practice.](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5970 - Educational Internship.](#) Credits: 12
(See footnote **)
- [CDS 5980 - Medical Internship.](#) Credits: 12
(See footnote **)

Curriculum for Master of Science in Communication Disorders & Sciences Thesis Option

Total Credits: 46 to 47

- [CDS 5000 - Research Methods in Communication Disorders and Sciences.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5001 - Research Experience in Communication Disorders and Science](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5090 - Advanced Clinical Techniques](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5100 - Motor Speech Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5150 - Stuttering.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5200 - Developmental Syndrome Disorders.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5250 - Advanced Study in Language Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5300 - Acquired Language Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5350 - Cognitive-Communication Disorders](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5400 - Special Topics.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5500 - Dysphagia Management in Children and Adults.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5600 - Professional Regulations and Issues in Speech-Language Pathology.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5800 - Grand Rounds in Communication Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5850 - Independent Study.](#) Credits: 1 to 6
- [CDS 5890 - Thesis.](#) Credits: 1 to 6
(See footnote *)
- [CDS 5900 - Advanced Clinical Practice.](#) Credits: 4 to 5
- [CDS 5910 - Diagnostics in Speech-Language Pathology.](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5920 - Audiology Clinical Practice.](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5970 - Educational Internship.](#) Credits: 12
(See footnote **)
- [CDS 5980 - Medical Internship.](#) Credits: 12
(See footnote **)

Curriculum for Master of Science in Communication Disorders & Sciences Online Graduate Cohort Option

Total Credits: 51

- [CDS 4760 – Voice Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 4800 – Communication Modalities.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 4820 – Language and Literacy.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5000 - Research Methods in Communication Disorders and Sciences.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5001 - Research Experience in Communication Disorders and Science](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5090 - Advanced Clinical Techniques](#) Credits: 1
- [CDS 5100 - Motor Speech Disorders.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5150 - Stuttering.](#) Credits: 3
- [CDS 5200 - Developmental Syndrome Disorders.](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5250 - Advanced Study in Language Disorders.](#) Credits: 3

- [CDS 5300 - Acquired Language Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5350 - Cognitive-Communication Disorders](#) Credits: 2
- [CDS 5400 - Special Topics in SLP: Neuroscience for the Healthcare Practitioner](#). Credits: 2
- [CDS 5500 - Dysphagia Management in Children and Adults](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5600 - Professional Regulations and Issues in Speech-Language Pathology](#). Credits: 2
- [CDS 5800 - Grand Rounds in Communication Disorders](#). Credits: 3
- [CDS 5900 - Advanced Clinical Practice](#). Credits: 4 to 5
- [CDS 5910 - Diagnostics in Speech-Language Pathology](#). Credits: 1
- [CDS 5920 - Audiology Clinical Practice](#). Credits: 1
- [CDS 5970 - Educational Internship](#). Credits: 12
(See footnote **)
- [CDS 5980 - Medical Internship](#). Credits: 12
(See footnote **)
- (See footnote***)
- (See footnote****)

Footnotes

* Students must register for a minimum of 2 s.h. in CDS 5400. Four semester hours of CDS 5400 are replaced by four semester hours of credit for thesis (5890).

** Students register for 12 semester hours; a maximum of three semester hours may be applied to the degree.

***The online graduate cohort program requires students to take courses on campus during three summer terms.

****Go to www.eiu.edu/~commdis to view curriculum sequence.

Graduate Assistantships

Information on graduate assistantships may be obtained by contacting the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or Chair, Communication Disorders and Sciences Department, second floor of the Human Services Building, EIU

APPROVALS

Date approved by the department or school: December 8, 2010

Date approved by the college curriculum committee: January 14, 2011

Date approved by CGS: