The mission of the FIU Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD) Department is to educate speech-language pathologists who are prepared to address the communication disorders needs of culturally and linguistically diverse communities, particularly in South Florida.

Specific missions of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are:

- To prepare highly qualified professionals in speech-language pathology who exceed the guidelines of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) for clinical and academic preparation;
- To prepare speech-language pathology professionals of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds to assess, diagnose and treat clients of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds; and
- To act as a resource for the University and community by serving as consultants, facilitators and authorities in the various areas of communication disorders.

The overall vision of the CSD department is to be globally recognized for the achievements of its faculty and alumni in education, research, rehabilitation of communicative disorders and leadership, with a focus on the needs of multilingual as well as underserved populations.

**Facts At a Glance**

- The Florida Board of Governors approved the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) degree for implementation in the Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD) at Florida International University in 2000. The program is a six-semester, 61-credit course of study. There are 4 designated semesters of clinical rotation.
- The Master of Science program in SLP is accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation (CAA) in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).
- Employment of graduates from the Master of Science SLP program is 100%.
- The CSD Department admits 45 MS-SLP students annually.
- The CSD Department currently has 90 enrolled MS students. The demographics of these students is:
  - Asian 4%
  - Black 4%
  - Hispanic 68%
  - White 24%
- There are currently 150 students in the certificate pre-requisite program.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

For program information:
http://cnhs.fiu.edu/csd/index.html
305-348-2710

For advising appointment:
Natalie Rollan
nrollan@fiu.edu
305-348-7703

For graduate school information:
http://gradschool.fiu.edu/
305-348-2455

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The NWCNHS is proud to support diversity among students, faculty and staff.
Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) is one of seven departments in the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The focus of the CSD department is one of Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD). The goal of the department is to educate CLD professionals to meet the needs of multicultural populations with communication disorders.

**Academics**

The master’s (M.S.) education program in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) at Florida International University is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

**Program Information**

The MSSLP program is a 6-semester, 61-credit course of study. There are four (4) designated semesters of clinical rotation. 45 students are admitted each fall.

**Application Deadline**

**There are 2 Applications Required**

Both an Application to the University and an Application to the Department

1. Complete online FIU application: [http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.shtml](http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.shtml)
2. Send Official Transcripts & TOEFL scores to the Admissions Office
3. Complete letter of intent summarizing your interests in the program
4. Submit two letters of recommendation from persons with knowledge of your academic performance
5. The Department has a separate application form which must be printed out and completed and then returned to the Department.
6. Applications missing the departmental applications will not be reviewed.

**Admission Requirements**

To be eligible for consideration for admission to this graduate program, all applicants need to meet the minimum admission standards set by the University Graduate School at FIU. These standard requirements are:

- A bachelor's degree
- Students must have completed an undergraduate program of study in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Speech and Hearing Sciences, Speech-Language Pathology, OR have taken the required prerequisite coursework.
- A 3.0 GPA for the last 60 hours of undergraduate study.
- Completion of 25 clinical hours of observation/assessment/treatment for speech-language clients with clear and appropriate documentation. (included in SPA 5051 or equivalent course)
- Students must have completed at least three (3) prerequisite courses for their application to be eligible for review for admission into the MS-SLP graduate program at FIU.
- For applicants whose primary language is not English the TOEFL is required. The passing requirements for the TOEFL are 550 on the paper test or 80 on the Internet based examination. If taking IELTS, scores of 6.5 are required. In addition, international students must have their transcripts translated to English prior to applying to the master’s program.

In addition, students must complete the following general education courses as part of their Bachelor’s degree or prior to beginning graduate study in the Masters’ program at FIU:

- College level Mathematics course (3 cr.)
- Biological Science course (biology, evolution, human anatomy, zoology, genetics, plant or marine biology) (3 cr.)
- Physical Science course (physics, chemistry, earth science, environmental science) (3 cr.)
- Social Sciences courses (psychology, sociology, anthropology, social work) (6 cr.)
- Statistics course (3 cr.)

**Graduate Certificate in Communication Sciences and Disorders**

Individuals who have completed a bachelor’s degree in a discipline different from Communication Sciences & Disorders or Speech-Language Pathology must complete additional admission requirements before applying to the master’s program.

**Admission Requirements**

To be eligible for consideration for admission to the certificate program, all applicants need to meet the following requirements:

- Hold a BS or BA degree
- A minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA in undergraduate study
- Completed Graduate certificate in CSD application
- Transcript of undergraduate coursework completed for degree

Applicants need to successfully complete ten (10) prerequisite courses or their equivalents within four continuous semesters, which includes summer semesters. Students must successfully complete the prerequisite courses with a GPA of 3.0 and a minimum grade of “C” in each class.

- SPA 5113C Advanced Applied Phonetics (or LIN5206 Phonetics, or LIN5211 Applied Phonetics, offered through the Linguistics program)
- SPA 5012C Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders
- SPA 5102C Advanced Human Anatomy & Physiology of Mechanisms of Communication
- SPA 5102L Laboratory in Advanced Human Anatomy & Physiology of Mechanisms of Communication
- SPA 5009C Normal Communication Development & Disorders
- SPA 5150C Acoustics of the Sciences of Speech and Hearing
- SPA 5051C Clinical Observation, Management, and Procedures in Communication Disorders
- SPA 5035C Disorders of Hearing and Audiological Sciences
- SPA 6322 Aural Habilitation and Rehabilitation
- LIN 5018 Graduate Introduction to Linguistics

**Additional Requirements**

To be awarded the Graduate Certificate in CSD, the student must complete all of the courses in the Certificate at FIU.

Students in the Graduate Certificate in CSD are required to be continuously enrolled in at least two courses per semester (except when taking the last course in the certificate program). All students are required to complete the certificate within four continuous semesters, which includes summer semesters.

All courses are typically offered every semester, including summers. These courses meet the requirements to apply for the Master of Science program in Speech-Language Pathology (MS-SLP). However, please note that successful completion of the certificate does not guarantee acceptance into the MS-SLP program.

Yearly application deadlines for the Certificate are:

- May 1st for Fall semester
- October 1st for Spring semester
- February 1st for Summer semester

Please note that there are TWO applications that must be completed:

1. Graduate Certification Application ([http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.shtml](http://gradschool.fiu.edu/admissions.shtml))

Be sure to include:

- A copy of your transcript (unofficial is acceptable)
- Required residency documentation (not necessary for current FIU students)
- If you received your degree from a non-English speaking country, you must also submit a passing TOEFL score

It is not necessary to include the $30 application fee. This fee will be assessed when you complete the Graduate Certificate program application. You should send the DEPARTMENT INFORMATION FORM to 305-348-2740 (fax) or email scanned documents to csd@fiu.edu.