Program Description

The fields of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology are concerned with disorders of speech, language, swallowing, and hearing.

- A Speech-Language Pathologist is trained to diagnose and treat speech, language, swallowing, and cognitive disorders.
- An Audiologist is trained to identify and treat impairments and dysfunction of auditory, balance, and other related systems.
The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders offers several degrees:

- The Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders provides a background in the theoretical and clinical foundations of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.
- The Second Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders is offered through the College of Continuing Education for individuals who have previously earned Bachelor's degrees in other fields.
- The Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders provides professional training for a career in Speech-Language Pathology.
- Pending final approval, the Department will offer a four-year clinical doctorate in audiology (Au.D.) with a projected inaugural cohort start of fall 2020.

Completion of the masters degree provides the training necessary for students to qualify for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology, the California State License in Speech-Language Pathology, and the California Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential. The Department also prepares students to apply for the Special Class Authorization, an extension of the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential, which is required to teach in a classroom for children with language disorders. Employment as an Audiologist requires a clinical doctorate of Audiology (Au.D.) and appropriate certification.

The broad, yet challenging nature of the Bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders prepares students to apply for graduate study in the fields of speech-language pathology and audiology and for employment requiring a background in human development, communication, health, and education. Employment as a Speech-Language Pathologist in California requires both a masters degree and a credential or license.

Note:
Admission into programs leading to licensure and credentialing does not guarantee that students will obtain a license or credential. Licensure and credentialing requirements are set by agencies that are not controlled by or affiliated with the CSU and requirements can change at any time. For example, licensure or credentialing requirements can include evidence of the right to work in the United States (e.g., social security number or tax payer identification number) or successfully passing a criminal background check. Students are responsible for determining whether they can meet licensure or credentialing requirements. The CSU will not refund tuition, fees, or any associated costs to students who determine subsequent to admission that they cannot meet licensure or credentialing requirements. Information concerning licensure and credentialing requirements is available from the Graduate Coordinator.