

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Speech-Language Pathology are pre-professional programs for students who are passionate about assessing and treating persons with communication and swallowing disorders. Students gain essential knowledge and skills about various speech, language, cognition, and swallowing disorders and master the theoretical and foundational concepts using critical thinking, design thinking, problem-solving, oral communication, and written communication. With the knowledge of evidence-informed practice and foundational clinical knowledge, students engage in clinical practicum experiences to develop skills necessary for successful entry into a graduate program in speech-language pathology or to seek employment in schools and healthcare agencies with a bachelor's degree.

Programs in Speech-Language Pathology

Major:

- B.S. in Speech-Language Pathology (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/college-of-health-sciences/undergraduate-programs/speech-language-pathology/speech-language-pathology-bs/>)

Minor:

- Minor in Speech-Language Pathology (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/college-of-health-sciences/undergraduate-programs/speech-language-pathology/speech-language-pathology-minor/>)

SLP 200 • Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Swallowing Mechanisms 4 Credits

Examination of the nervous, respiratory, phonatory, resonatory, articulatory, and swallowing systems associated with speech production and swallowing using models, lab activities, and a virtual cadaver anatomy lab. Analysis of case reports in applied/clinical anatomy based on structural, physiological, and pathological aspects of communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan.

Prerequisites: BIO 104/BIO 104D or BIO 214/BIO 215. Offered: Fall.

SLP 201 • Introduction to Audiology 4 Credits

Discussion of the anatomy and physiology of hearing focuses on how sound travels through the ear and reaches the auditory cortex for final interpretation. Describe how various hearing disorders impact a person's quality of life. Includes auditory disorders, hearing screening, diagnostic assessment, differential diagnosis, and hearing loss rehabilitation.

Prerequisites: BIO 104/BIO 104D or BIO 214/BIO 215. Offered: Spring.

SLP 202 • Introduction to Phonetics 2 Credits

Exploration of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) system that is used for transcribing the spoken speech sounds of the world's languages using specific symbols; transcribing typical and disordered speech samples based on intentional listening. Transcription and analysis of the speech while recognizing dialectical, cultural, and linguistic variations in verbal communication.

Offered: Fall.

SLP 204 • Introduction to Communication Disorders 4 Credits

Description of various communication differences/disorders affecting the pediatric, adult, and geriatric populations. Identification of communication disorders based on their etiology, signs, and symptoms, demonstration of basic knowledge of assessment, intervention methods, and management options. Includes guided observation of clinical sessions and writing of standardized observation reports.

Offered: Spring.

Speech-Language Pathology 2

SLP 300 • Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology for Communication and Swallowing 4 Credits

Explores neuroanatomical and neurophysiological foundations of speech, language, cognition, and swallowing. Examines central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous system control, nervous system development across the lifespan, and neural mechanisms of aging. Applies neuroscience principles to neuroplasticity and rehabilitation processes.

Prerequisites: SLP 200. Offered: Fall.

SLP 301 • Speech Science 4 Credits

An in-depth study of acoustic theories of speech production and acoustic analysis of typical and atypical speech to identify atypical acoustical speech parameters in unintelligible utterances. Includes the application of speech perception and production theories/models to understand the nature and severity of communication disorders.

Prerequisites: SLP 200 and SLP 202. Offered: Spring.

SLP 400 • Language Development and Disorders in Children 4 Credits

Examines language acquisition, developmental milestones, and characteristics of delays and disorders from birth through early adulthood. Explores evaluation, assessment, and intervention in educational and medical settings. Reviews prevention and treatment strategies with attention to social, ethical, cultural, and socioeconomic factors.

Prerequisites: SLP 204. Offered: Fall.

SLP 401 • Speech Sound Development and Disorders in Children 4 Credits

Typical and atypical phoneme acquisition in children. Application of phonetics and phonology to understand the nature, etiologies, standardized and non-standardized assessments, differential diagnosis, intervention, and evidence-based management of speech sound disorders, while considering cultural and linguistic issues in service delivery in various settings.

Prerequisites: SLP 202 and SLP 204. Offered: Spring.

SLP 402 • Aural Rehabilitation 4 Credits

Exploration of hearing disorders and central auditory processing disorders. Habilitative audiology and the range of communication options, including American Sign Language and cued speech, hearing aids, cochlear implants, speech reading, and auditory training. Aural rehabilitation options and strategies from a person-centered perspective will be included for effective clinical practice.

Prerequisites: SLP 201. Offered: Fall, Spring.

SLP 406 • Acquired Cognitive, Communication, and Swallowing Disorders 4 Credits

Simulated and real-world professional experiences in assessing, treating, and managing neurogenic language, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders. Reflections on clinical knowledge and case-based critical thinking skills within the context of students' experiences, faith, values, and beliefs. Incorporates patient-based learning, speech pathology services in various clinical settings, and interprofessional team care.

Prerequisites: SLP 204 and SLP 300. Offered: Spring.

SLP 408 • Reading, Writing, and Spelling Disorders in School-Age Children 4 Credits

Provides a foundational knowledge of language and literacy skills essential for children's social, functional, and academic progress in educational settings. Describes literacy development/differences/disorders in preschool and school-age children using various standardized and non-standardized tools while preparing clinical reports for literacy assessment and intervention.

Prerequisites: SLP 202 and SLP 204. Offered: Fall.

SLP 410 • Introduction to Clinical Methods 4 Credits

An in-depth experience of guided observation of the diagnostic and therapeutic management of speech and language disorders across the lifespan with a focus on assessment, client-clinician interactions, therapy-specific skills, and case management. Interprofessional practices in allied health, professional interactions, and techniques to implement outcome-based interprofessional activities through simulations/community-based experiences.

Prerequisites: SLP 204; SLP 400; SLP 401. Offered: Fall.

SLP 425 • Clinical Practicum for Speech-Language Pathology 4 Credits

Introduces behavioral assessment tools, instrumental evaluation, appraisal and diagnosis of speech and language disorders, and treatment of clients with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; information about clinical/professional practice involving transition to practical environment and counseling/educational services to clients/families/caregivers regarding communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan.

Prerequisites: SLP 400; SLP 401; SLP 408; SLP 410. Offered: Fall, Spring.