Preparing Tomorrow’s Speech-Language Pathologists

The Certificate Program in the Communication Disorders and Sciences Department is designed to prepare students for entrance into a graduate program in the field of Speech-Language Pathology. Students entering the certificate program have earned a Bachelor’s degree in a different field, but do not have the necessary undergraduate coursework to enter a Master’s degree program in Speech-Language Pathology.

A variety of students participate in this program, including:

- individuals who have a number of years experience working in a different field and decide to change fields,
- individuals who recently graduated from college and have developed an interest in speech-language pathology,
- individuals who have been away from academia for a number of years and wish to return to continue their education,
- international students who have limited access to speech-language pathology programs in their own countries.

The 31 credit hour Speech-Language Pathology certificate program will provide you with academic coursework necessary for entering a graduate speech-language pathology program of your choice, including the M.A. program at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Required Fall courses include:

- Language Development
- Phonetics
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Introduction to Audiology
- American Sign Language

Required Spring courses include:

- Intro to Hearing & Speech Science
- Aural Rehabilitation
- Intro. to Articulation & Phonology
- Language Disorders
- Communication Systems & Disorders
- Participatory Observation (1 credit)

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) requires basic science coursework for certification. Your existing Bachelor’s degree should contain a course in biological science, in physical science, in mathematics, and in behavioral and/or social science. A course in linguistics is also desirable.

If your undergraduate degree did not provide you with this background, you will need to meet with a faculty advisor to discuss coursework that you may need in addition to courses provided in the certificate program.
Application to the Certificate Program

An application packet can be obtained from the Graduate Admissions office. Deadline for application is April 1st. Enrollment in the certificate program is limited to 12 students.

Teacher Certification

If you are interested in obtaining teacher certification at the Master’s degree level for Teacher of Students with Speech and Language Disabilities in New York State, please contact Bethanne DelGaudio in the Education Department for further information. Her email address is delgaubg@plattsburgh.edu.

Speech-Language Pathology Transfer Credits

Students may transfer in a maximum of six (6) credits if they already have taken courses included in the certificate program curriculum. Course syllabi must be reviewed by professors before approval of transfer credits.

Out-of-State or International Students

International students who are speakers of a second language are required to have a TOEFL score of 600 before consideration for acceptance. Therapy for accent reduction may be necessary before entrance into the graduate program and can be obtained during the certificate program. International students must submit a financial statement that shows sufficient funds to cover educational and living expenses.

If a student is accepted and financial guidelines are met, then an I-20 form will be processed to use in obtaining a student visa. Housing grants are available for international ($2500 per year) and out-of-state ($2500 per year) students who are accepted into the certificate program. This grant is only provided for on-campus housing.

The Master's Program

The majority of students who complete the certificate program apply to our graduate program. The Master’s Degree in Speech-Language Pathology at SUNY Plattsburgh offers extraordinary curricular and clinical experiences. For information on the graduate program, contact the Graduate Admissions Office or consult the web at www.plattsburgh.edu/cds.

About SUNY Plattsburgh

State University of New York College at Plattsburgh is a residential college of 5,400 undergraduates and 600 graduates. It is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York.

High teaching standards, a significant level of faculty involvement with students, and the best possible scholarship combine in a safe atmosphere for civility and scenic beauty. The College is located in a town that is situated on the banks of Lake Champlain. Plattsburgh also sits at the edge of the Adirondack mountains and is one hour from America’s winter playground, Lake Placid, site of two winter Olympics.

The College’s proximity to Canada, especially to cosmopolitan Montreal, adds a distinct international component with access to a variety of arts and entertainment. These geographic advantages augment Plattsburgh’s welcoming and supportive campus community.