



# Master of Arts Degree in Speech- Language Pathology



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*School of Speech, Language,  
& Hearing Sciences*

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The School of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences at San Diego State University (SDSU), offers a Master of Arts (MA) degree program in speech-language pathology, accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA). The program's focus is on educating the finest SLPs in the United States, broadly trained in all clinical practices, and educated in basic and applied research perspectives of the communication sciences and disorders.

Students have access to outstanding faculty and research programs, specialized clinical faculty, and state-of-the-art speech, language, and hearing clinics. Clinical experiences with clients of all ages, ethnicities, and disorders are provided for all students. Students are able to take advantage of numerous internship facilities including hospitals, private clinics, public schools, and other community agencies that serve the greater San Diego area.

Students proficient in Spanish may opt to complete the Bilingual Certificate Program, which includes additional coursework and 100 clinical hours with Spanish-English bilingual clients. Students proficient in a second language other than Spanish may complete the Bilingual Specialization Program.

## GENERAL PROGRAM OF STUDY

The program of study prepares students for careers in a wide range of environments including public schools, hospitals, and clinics and to work with individuals with various disorders across the lifespan. Strengths of the program include: a) an emphasis in working with clients from culturally and linguistically-diverse backgrounds; b) the SDSU/UCSD joint doctoral programs in Audiology and in Language and Communicative Disorders enhance the educational experiences for students seeking the master's degree; c) opportunities for laboratory rotations with some of the top speech, language, and hearing researchers in the country; and d) the School's longstanding relationship with schools, hospitals, and other community agencies in Southern California.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The graduate program is five semesters of full-time study (two academic years with an intervening summer). Those whose undergraduate degrees are in another discipline must complete the prerequisites prior to beginning the SDSU program.

The mandated curriculum consists of coursework adequate in breadth and scope to prepare students for the Certificate of Clinical Competence (ASHA), California licensure in SLP, and the Speech-Language Pathology Credential from CTC [in Language, Speech, and Hearing (LSH)]. Forty-five units of required academic courses comprise the basis of all programs of study; 9 of these units comprise electives (for example: thesis, laboratory rotations, seminars). An additional 19 units of clinical practicum and internships in both adult and school settings are required. Students may choose between a comprehensive examination or a thesis to complete requirements for graduation.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Detailed information regarding admission requirements can be found on the website (<https://slhs.sdsu.edu/programs/ma/admission-requirements/>). Applicants for admission to the MA program must meet the general requirements for classified graduate standing at San Diego State University. GRE scores and overall undergraduate GPA of 3.2 or greater are required, along with three letters of recommendation from professors, and a student statement of interest.

## FUNDING

MA students may apply for various University funds. If funding is available, students in the program can serve as graduate or teaching assistants for courses, research assistants to individual faculty, and/or work in the clinic.

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM:  
ACADEMIC FACULTY**

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**Alyson Abel-Mills, PhD**

Child Language Acquisition & Disorders, Cognitive Neuroscience

**Jessica Barlow, PhD**

Phonology, Phonological Acquisition & Disorders

**Henrike Blumenfeld, PhD**

Psycholinguistics, Bilingualism, Cognitive Aging

**Karen Emmorey, PhD**

Psycholinguistics, Cognitive Neuroscience, Sign Language,  
Deafness

**Tracy Love, PhD (School Director)**

Adult & Child Language Disorders, Neurolinguistics,  
Neuroimaging

**Ignatius Nip, PhD, CCC-SLP (Graduate Advisor)**

Speech Motor Development and Disorders

**Giang Pham, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Childhood Bilingualism, Language Development and Disorders

**Sonja Pruitt-Lord, PhD, CCC-SLP (Associate School  
Director)**

Child Language Acquisition & Disorders, Cultural Linguistic  
Diversity

**Stephanie Ries-Cornou, PhD**

Adult Language Production and Disorders, Electrophysiology

**JoAnn Silkes, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Adult Language Disorders

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM:  
CLINICAL FACULTY**

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**Carrie Goodwiler, MA, CCC-SLP (Clinic Director)**

**Charlotte Lopes, MA, CCC-SLP (Clinical Education Coordinator)**

**Adult Neurogenic Populations**

Paul McRae, MA, CCC-SLP  
Linda Schmitz, MA, CCC-SLP  
Tanya Buzzanga, MA, CCC-SLP

**Pediatric Populations**

Brianne Hemmingson, MA, CCC-SLP  
Taylor Hye, MA, CCC-SLP  
Robert McKinney, MA, CCC-SLP  
Karyn Searcy, MA, CCC-SLP  
Laura Sendek, MA, CCC-SLP  
Susie Thorpe, MS, CCC-SLP

**ACADEMIC COURSES:  
SAMPLE PROGRAM**

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**Fall 1**

SLHS 525 Clinical Processes  
SLHS 600A Research Methods in CSD 1  
SLHS 607 Phonology & Phonological Disorders  
SLHS 609A Acquired Neurogenic Lang & Cog Dis 1  
SLHS 613 Language Dis Infancy-Preschool  
SLHS 617 Diagnostic Methods in SLP  
SLHS 618 Diagnostic Practicum  
SLHS 626 S-L Intervention

**Spring 2**

SLHS 511 Aural Rehabilitation  
SLHS 525 Clinical Processes  
SLHS 608 Acquired Neuromotor Speech Dis  
SLHS 609B Acquired Neurogenic Lang & Cog Dis 2  
SLHS 614 Lang Dis School Age-Adolescence  
SLHS 618 Diagnostic Practicum  
SLHS 626 S-L Intervention

**Summer 3**

SLHS 570 Dysphagia  
SLHS 618 Diagnostic Practicum  
SLHS 626 S-L Intervention

**Fall 4**

SLHS 600B Adv Research Methods in CSD 2  
SLHS 606 Voice, Resonance, & Fluency Disorders  
SLHS 700 Level Elective  
SLHS 700 Level Elective  
SLHS 629 Orientation to Adv Field Clinical Practice  
SLHS 933 Clinical Practice in Public Schools

**Spring 5**

SLHS 627 Advanced Field Clinical Practice  
SLHS 630 Orientation to Adv Field Clinical Practice  
SLHS 672 Comm Dis in Bilingual Adults  
SLHS 675 Augmentative Communication  
SLHS 700 Level Elective

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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For additional information, visit our website.

<http://slhs.sdsu.edu>