

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, M.S.

Mission

The mission of the MS-SLP program is to fulfill the mission of Biola University through rigorous academic and clinical training of those desiring to become licensed, certified speech-language pathologists. Hallmarks of this program include:

1. Strong theoretical framework: Students will receive rigorous instruction in current, relevant theoretical knowledge in order to develop curious, life-long learners.
2. Excellence in clinical practice: Students will be prepared for impactful clinical work with a variety of diverse populations through clinical experiences and the model of the work and witness of faculty and instructors.
3. Biblical perspective: Students will be taught from a Christian worldview in order to promote the fullest understanding of humankind and the world.
4. Impactful: Students will connect their studies to contexts of life that they might love well those in their sphere of influence locally and globally and effectively engage in issues of our profession through research, publication, and service.

Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of prevention, identification, evaluation, treatment, and patient interaction with individuals of a variety of ages that have speech-sound, fluency, voice, language, social communication, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders (ULO 1).
2. Demonstrate the character of Christ including compassion, love, and kindness in their interactions with clients, families of clients, and colleagues (ULO 2).
3. Develop and implement evidence-based diagnostic and intervention plans in a variety of settings and for individuals with a variety of communication and swallowing disorders at a level appropriate for entry into professional practice (ULO 3).
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to complete scholarly research in writing in the field of communication sciences and disorders (ULO 1).

Requirements

Admission Requirements

- Hold a baccalaureate degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from an accredited institution or hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution AND complete the prerequisite courses for this program.

- Submit GRE scores with overall scores of 290 or higher; verbal score, 145+; quantitative, 145+; and writing, 3.0+.
- Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants for whom English is not a primary language must verify a score of 100 iBT on the TOEFL exam.
- Complete Biola University's Graduate Education application.
- Interview with a member of the MS-SLP Program.

Upon Admission to the Program

- Applicants admitted to the program will take the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) or have satisfied the Basic Skills Requirement (BSR) (<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>).
- Candidates will not participate within a public school-based field activity until the candidate obtains a Certificate of Clearance from the Commission

Graduation Requirements

- MS-SLP core courses must be passed with a grade of "B-" or higher.
- Minimum GPA for the graduate program would be 3.0. Students who drop below a 3.0 in any one semester will agree to remediation help as specified by the student handbook for one semester. If their GPA does not improve to at or above 3.0 for the next semester, students may be dismissed from the program.
- Candidates must successfully complete 375 supervised clinical hours during on-campus and off-campus clinical practicum courses.
- A minimum of 63 credits is required for the Master of Sciences in Speech-Language Pathology.
- Document clinical and academic experience in all KASA Standard Areas.
- Candidates must meet with a department advisor and Graduate Graduation Counselor in the Office of the Registrar one year prior to graduation to declare intent to graduate. (See Graduate Graduation Check description in the Admission, Enrollment and Graduation Requirements (<http://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/admission-enrollment-graduation-requirements>) section).

Degree Requirements

Each courses must be completed with a "B-" or above.

Core Requirements

MSLP 500	Professional Issues in Speech-Language Pathology	3
MSLP 501	Childhood Language and Literacy Disorders	3
MSLP 502	Advanced Articulation and Phonological Disorders	3
MSLP 503	Childhood Autism Spectrum Disorders and AAC	3
MSLP 504	Research in Speech-Language Pathology	3
MSLP 505	Motor Speech Disorders	3
MSLP 506	Neurogenic Language Disorders	3
MSLP 507	Advanced Dysphagia	3
MSLP 508	Cognitive-Communicative Disorders	3
MSLP 509	School and Hospital Based Issues	3
MSLP 510	Advanced Fluency Disorders	3
MSLP 511	Advanced Audiology and Aural Rehabilitation	3

MSLP 512	Advanced Voice and Craniofacial Disorders	3
MSLP 513	Counseling and Christian Care in Speech-Language Pathology	3
MSLP 514	Advanced Capstone Experience	3
MSLP 515	Theology of Disability	3
MSLP 601	Diagnostic Team	3
MSLP 602	Clinical Practicum I	3
MSLP 603	Clinical Practicum II	3
MSLP 604	Hospital Externship	3
MSLP 605	School Externship	3
Total Credits		63

Courses

MSLP 500 - Professional Issues in Speech-Language Pathology Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding scope of practice, credentialing, professional ethics, legal issues, documentation, paraprofessionals, and the patient-clinician relationship. **Grade Mode:** A.
Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 501 - Childhood Language and Literacy Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding theories and characteristics of language and literacy disorders in children. Current literature will be reviewed in order to teach advanced assessment and treatment procedures of high and low incidence language and literacy disorders and with a special emphasis on assessment techniques, intervention methods, educational management, and multi-cultural issues. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 502 - Advanced Articulation and Phonological Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding advanced assessment and treatment procedures for pediatric clients with articulation and phonological disorders. Special emphasis on the use of current literature to make clinical decisions and develop evidenced based assessment and treatment plans for diverse pediatric populations. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 503 - Childhood Autism Spectrum Disorders and AAC Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding diagnosis, etiologies, and characteristics of autism spectrum disorders across the lifespan. Advance assessment and treatment methods will be taught. In addition, learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding types of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices and related assistive technologies that can be utilized by individuals with severe physical, sensory, or communication disorders. Assessment procedures, device implementation, and training procedures will be practiced. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 504 - Research in Speech-Language Pathology Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding research in communication disorders. Includes research design, techniques, and results in the context of evidence-based practice. Learners will become critical consumers of research and will apply research to clinical problems. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 505 - Motor Speech Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding apraxia of speech and the dysarthrias in both children and adults, including their neurological basis, characteristics, assessment, and treatment. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 506 - Neurogenic Language Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding the various types of aphasia in terms of characteristics, assessment, and treatment as well as levels of hospital care, such as intensive care, outpatient, etc. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 507 - Advanced Dysphagia Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding normal swallowing processes as well as disordered swallowing in babies, children, and adults. Assessment and treatment of swallowing is a main focus of this class. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 508 - Cognitive-Communicative Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding right hemisphere syndrome, traumatic brain injury, dementia, and other disorders that affect both communication and cognition. Includes emphasis on assessment and treatment of such disorders. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 509 - School and Hospital Based Issues Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge in ethical conduct, professional issues, advocacy, and policies associated with speech-language pathology practice in public schools and hospitals. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 510 - Advanced Fluency Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding theories of etiologies, assessment, and treatment of individuals with fluency disorders with a special emphasis on the management and effects of behavioral and emotional aspects of stuttering. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 511 - Advanced Audiology and Aural Rehabilitation Credits 3

Learners will review anatomy and physiology of the ear, audiological testing and gain knowledge and skills to relate this to pediatric and adult clients. Aural rehabilitation/habilitation therapy sessions for the speech language pathologist will be explored and created. Auditory processing disorders will be discussed. Students will conduct screenings and air conduction threshold testing and learn to interpret for referral. Principles for adapting speech therapy sessions with varying degrees of hearing loss will be discussed as well as counseling when negative emotions are expressed. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Biblical Ministries (BBMN), Business Management (BMNG) or Applied Psychology (APSY); and Graduate Level.

MSLP 512 - Advanced Voice and Craniofacial Disorders Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding etiology, interdisciplinary assessment, and treatment of communication impairments associated with craniofacial anomalies and knowledge and skills regarding normal vocal anatomy and physiology as well as laryngeal pathologies. Assessment and treatment of these pathologies and use of current technologies will be targeted. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 513 - Counseling and Christian Care in Speech-Language Pathology Credits 3

Learners will gain knowledge and skills regarding understanding the goals and practice of counseling people with communication disorders. Generally, students will understand counseling within the scope of practice for a speech-language pathologist. Specifically, students will participate in specific practice exercises designed to help them develop basic counseling skills. An emphasis will be placed on the care of people with communication disorders from a Christian perspective. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 514 - Advanced Capstone Experience Credits 3

In this summative capstone class students will take comprehensive examinations and present and defend student portfolios in order to demonstrate they have achieved theoretical and clinical knowledge and have the ability to integrate Christian faith with SLP practice. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 515 - Theology of Disability Credits 3

In this course students will explore a variety of questions regarding disability and suffering through the lens of Scripture, the writings of theologians, and their own personal experiences working with individuals with disabilities or illnesses and learn to formulate appropriate responses to injury, illness, disability and suffering from a Biblical perspective. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 516 - Directed Research Credits 1-3

Individual research in areas of communication disorders determined in consultation with the instructor. **Notes:** May be taken for a total of 3 credits. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 601 - Diagnostic Team Credits 3

Learners will acquire 20 supervised clinical hours conducting speech and language assessments with linguistically, culturally, and etiologically diverse clients. A special emphasis will be placed on utilization of a variety of formal and informal assessment measures, analysis of assessment results utilizing a holistic strategy, and effective communication of information to clients and their families. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 602 - Clinical Practicum I Credits 3

Learners will acquire 50 supervised clinical hours in assessment and treatment of individuals with a variety of communication disorders. Clinical contact will include individuals at a variety of age levels who are linguistically, culturally, and etiologically diverse. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 603 - Clinical Practicum II Credits 3

Learners will acquire 50 supervised clinical hours in assessment and treatment of individuals with a variety of communication disorders. Clinical contact will include individuals at a variety of age levels who are linguistically, culturally, and etiologically diverse. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 604 - Hospital Externship Credits 3

Students will gain 125 hours of clinical experience in a supervised medical-based speech and language service setting. Clinical contact will consist of provision of supervised services to linguistically, culturally, and etiologically diverse population and include specialty areas of dysphagia and motor speech disorders. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 605 - School Externship Credits 3

Students will gain 125 hours of clinical experience in a supervised school-based speech and language service setting. Clinical contact will consist of provision of supervised services to linguistically, culturally, and etiologically diverse pediatric population. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.

MSLP 606 - Arranged Clinical Practicum Credits 1-3

This clinic is for students who have not completed their required clinical hours at the graduate level and need to or desire to acquire additional hours. Students arrange for the clinical practicum placement with the guidance of a faculty member. **Grade Mode:** A.

Restrictions: Must be Graduate Level.