



NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Communication Sciences & Disorders
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Dear Prospective CSD Student;

Thank you for your interest in the graduate program in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) at NAU; this program leads to the Master of Science in Clinical Speech Pathology degree. Applicants must have an earned bachelor's degree completed in any area prior to entering our program. You may apply to our program before your undergraduate degree is completed, but that degree must be posted prior to beginning any CSD coursework. CSD program applications are accepted from November 1 - January 31 of each year for admission the following summer or fall of that same year, depending on which CSD program track you choose to pursue; our program tracks are Full-Time, Leveler and Summers-Only.

The following information details various application documents you will need to submit. However, the **process** for submitting these application documents will change to also include a Centralized Application System for the 2009-2010 admission year. Please monitor the CSD webpage, <http://csd.nau.edu/> after August 1, 2009 for updates.

The **Full-Time track** entails a rigorous load of coursework during the fall, spring and summer semesters for two consecutive years. The **Leveler track** comprises a rigorous load of coursework during the fall, spring and summer semesters for two consecutive years, plus an additional fall semester. The **Summers-Only track** comprises a rigorous load of coursework during three consecutive summers with an online class during each intervening fall and spring semester; the fourth summer involves an externship experience. Our Summers-Only classes usually begin the second week in June and run for 8 - 8 1/2 consecutive weeks. For other session dates, please refer to the calendar on the Registrar's web page at <http://home.nau.edu/registrar/calendars.asp>.

For complete information regarding our program, please refer to our web page at <http://csd.nau.edu/>. It will be useful to select the "Graduate Program" link first, paying close attention to the various links from that page. You can network through our Application and Admissions information, peruse our various Programs of Study, become familiar with our Course Prerequisites and review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) through this process.

There is approximately a 25% to 30% acceptance range in each of our program tracks. The applicants in any specific year present a different set of GRE and GPA data, but we recommend a combined GRE score of over 900 (Quantitative plus Verbal plus Writing scores) and an undergraduate GPA of not less than 3.0 in order to be competitive in our application process. The admissions committee endeavors to construct a profile of each applicant's potential that is not dependent upon any single criterion. If an applicant is weak in one area, strength in another area may bring up the rating of the entire packet.

Students who are accepted into our program are required to complete certain undergraduate courses (refer to the "Course Prerequisites" link on our web page, <http://csd.nau.edu/graduate/prerequisites.php>) at NAU, these courses have the prefix "SST." This link includes course descriptions which can be used to establish course equivalencies if your undergraduate speech pathology courses were taken at another university. Completion of these courses or their equivalents must be accomplished prior to entering our program if you are applying to the Summers-Only or Full-Time-"regular" track. However, these undergraduate course prerequisites may also be completed as a part of our Full-Time "leveler" program; if you are accepted into our Leveler track, you will take the appropriate undergraduate courses near the beginning of your CSD program of study.

We offer an exception to only one of our prerequisite courses. If you are unable to take SST 405 (Neurological Foundations of Speech Language and Hearing) or its equivalent before coming to NAU, we can incorporate that course into your NAU graduate program of study as CSD 508, Neurobiology of Communication. However, we highly encourage you to take this prerequisite prior to coming to NAU, if at all possible. After you have reviewed the web pages above, you may go to the Graduate College web page at <http://home.nau.edu/gradcol/prospectivestudents.asp> between November 1 and January 31 to begin the application process. We look forward to hearing from you.

The SST prerequisite courses are offered online as undergraduate courses through the Department of Health Sciences at NAU. The SST classes are NOT a part of the CSD master's program and we cannot answer questions related to those classes; you may refer to the SST contact information below. Only seven of the SST undergraduate courses are prerequisites for our CSD master's degree program. Our seven prerequisites are: SST 202, SST 251, SST 350, SST 375, SST 376, SST 405 and SST 456. Please refer to the NAU catalog at <http://www4.nau.edu/aio/AcademicCatalog/academiccatalogs.htm> for SST course descriptions. Select the current catalog and type "SST" into the search box at the top of the screen. Check for availability of SST classes for any particular semester through the following steps: NAU Home page > Quick Links > Louie Online > from the LEFT side of the page, select "Class Search/ Browse Catalog" > enter term (semester) and select "search for classes" > Course Subject = SST and Course Career = Undergraduate > click on "Search." This will bring up a list of open SST courses for the semester you chose to view. If you click on a Section number from this list, you will get additional information about that class. To register for SST courses through NAU, you may apply to NAU as a non-degree-seeking undergraduate student; the NAU Undergraduate Admissions web page is <http://home.nau.edu/admissions/undergrad.asp>.

If you are seeking the undergraduate degree, Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) in Speech-Language Sciences and Technology (SST) or an undergraduate Speech Pathology Assistant certificate rather than a master's degree, or if you are interested in just taking the SST Leveling classes, please go to the Health Sciences - Degree Programs web site at <http://hs.nau.edu/>; review "BIS" information under the Residential heading and SLPA Certificate information under the Online heading. For additional SST or undergraduate questions, please send email questions to speech.assistant@nau.edu or call 928/523-6198.

Best,

Joán Brakefield
CSD Program Coordinator

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