



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
**Speech, Language
& Hearing Sciences**

Change of Major Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences

2025



Our Mission

The mission of the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences is to contribute to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders, to educate students regarding the relevant knowledge and skills necessary to clinical and research endeavors in the field, and to provide service to the university, community, state, and beyond.

Our Vision

Our vision is to be a premier university program in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, providing international leadership in research, excellence in education and clinical training, and service that advances the field and improves the lives of individuals with communication disorders.





The SLHS Building

Where are we located?

The SLHS Department is located at 1131 E. Second Street, Tucson, AZ 85721

We are a short walk from Old Main and the Student Union Memorial Center

What is in our building?

Our department contains classroom spaces, faculty offices, business and advising offices, and even clinic spaces! The SLHS building is proud to offer our own in-house clinic who serves the Tucson community.

What programs do we host?

The SLHS Department is home to students of the following programs:

- Undergraduate
 - Bachelors of Science in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
- Graduate
 - Masters of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (M.S. SLP)
 - Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)
 - Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)



Why choose to major in SLHS?



Healthcare + Education

You want to pursue a career that is the perfect blend of health and helping

You want to have career options that are not only hospitals, but the ability to work in schools, private practices, community clinics, or industry.

STEM Training

You want to gain scientific knowledge on all aspects of human communication

You want to be able to learn, integrate, and apply scientific knowledge through a combination of written, presented, hands-on and assessed teachings.

Community

You want to join a department that serves the greater community

You want to enter a profession focused on serving a variety of individuals from a variety of communities



Two Main Pathways, Unlimited Career Options

The SLHS Department prepares students who wish to pursue graduate studies in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, but the work settings and application of knowledge from a degree in SLHS is endless.



Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)

- SLPs are experts in human communication and its disorders. They evaluate and treat children and adults with speech, language, voice, cognitive, and swallowing difficulties.
- Potential work settings:
 - Schools, hospitals, community clinics, rehabilitation centers, home health care, private practice
- Roles:
 - Pediatric SLP
 - Adult SLP
 - Medical SLP
 - Travel SLP
- Graduate School Requirement: Master's Degree (two-year program following Bachelor's Degree completion)

Audiologist (AuD)

- Audiologists are health care professionals who identify, diagnose, and treat hearing and balance disorders in people of all ages. They play an important role in hearing loss prevention, intervention, and hearing health education.
- Potential work settings:
 - Hospitals, schools, private practices, physician offices (ENT offices), hearing clinics, industry
- Roles:
 - Clinical audiologist
 - Pediatric audiologist
 - Educational audiologist
 - Forensic audiologist
- Graduate School Requirement: Doctorate Degree (four-year program following Bachelor's Degree completion)

Additional Career Pathways:

- Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA)
- Audiology Assistant
- Voice Coach
- Feeding Specialist
- Researcher
- Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) Specialist
- Education
- Behavior Analyst

Additional Graduate School Pathways:

- Special Education
- Social Work
- Public Health
- Counseling
- Teaching, Early Childhood Education, Secondary Education, Higher Education
- Family Studies and Human Development
- Aging
- Rehabilitation



What will a Degree in SLHS Prepare me for?

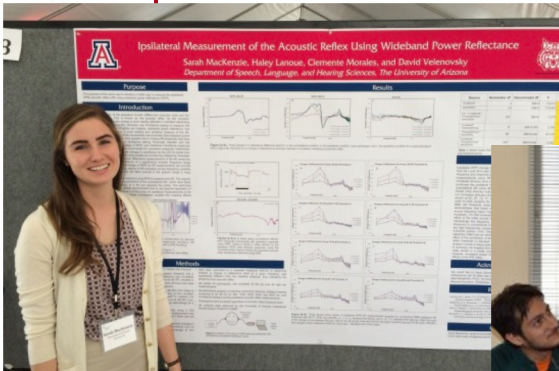


Undergraduate coursework in SLHS covers the biological, psychological, linguistic, acoustic, and cultural foundations of normal human communication, developmental communication disorders, and acquired communication disorders. A few examples of the disorders we cover extensively through our coursework includes:

- Aphasia
- Dysphagia
- Apraxia of Speech
- Alzheimer's and Dementia
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Down Syndrome
- Dyslexia
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Stroke
- Stutter
- Speech Sound Disorder
- Developmental Language Disorder
- Cleft Lip and Palate
- Right Hemisphere Disorder (RHD)
- Hearing Loss

A variety of learning methodologies are deployed through our coursework, spanning analysis of research articles, collaborative problem solving, clinical case studies, use of real patient videos/voice recordings in class, and assessment of knowledge through quizzes and exams.

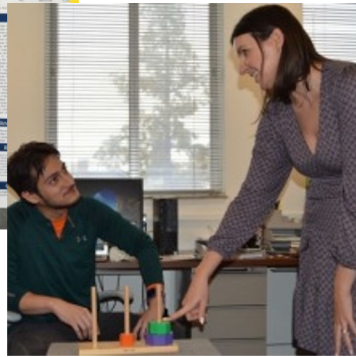
Opportunities Outside of Class



Research Labs

With 15 different labs in the SLHS department, students have the opportunity to get involved in the speech, language, or hearing research that interests them the most!

<https://slhs.arizona.edu/research-labs>



Independent Study

Some faculty members will allow students to conduct their own projects, or work on additional projects both research and non-research related and enroll in credit with the faculty member!

MAP Mentoring

Students have the opportunity to participate in a mentorship program that connects students within the department. Gain key knowledge and receive advice from your fellow SLHS peers!

Preceptorship

Students who have previously taken a course and done well have the opportunity to serve in a supporting role for students to help with study strategies and foster success in SLHS courses.

Clinical Observation

Students have the opportunity to observe clinical appointments in our on-site Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic.

<https://slhs.arizona.edu/clinical-observations>



How to get involved:

Check out our student organizations:

<https://slhs.arizona.edu/student-groups>

- National Student Speech-Language and Hearing Association (NSSLHA)

<https://www.instagram.com/uansslha/>

- Speech-Language and Hearing Cats of Color (SHCC)

https://www.instagram.com/ua_shcc/

- Student Academy of Audiology (SAA)

<https://www.instagram.com/uarizonasaa/>





SLHS

Academics



Degree Required Coursework

Anatomy
Acoustics
Development
Disorders
Neurobiology
Phonetics

... and so much more!

SLHS MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES (33 UNITS)

FALL

SLHS 261 ☐ 3

SLHS 340* ☐ 3

SLHS 362 ☐ 3

SLHS 380* ☐ 4

SLHS 477 ☐ 3

SPRING

SLHS 267 ☐ 3

SLHS 367 ☐ 3

SLHS 441 ☐ 3

SLHS 483* ☐ 4

SLHS 473 ☐ 3

* = may be offered during the summer (varies yearly)

Overview of Courses

SLHS 261: Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech Mechanism

- This course is focused on the basic anatomy and physiology of the respiratory, laryngeal, and supraglottic airway subsystems as they pertain to speech production for human communication

SLHS 267: Acoustics for Speech and Hearing Sciences

- This course will cover the basic principles of acoustics in speech and hearing.

SLHS 340: Language Science

- Core features of language are identified and integrated into a model of language that is applicable to language disorders and language development. Topics include: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics

SLHS 367: Phonetics for Speech-Language Pathology

- This course overviews the scientific study of speech sounds with a focus on transcription of different types of speech, including adult and child speech, and typical and disordered speech. The focus of the class will be primarily on English (including its dialectal variants), but other languages will also be discussed.

SLHS 362: Neurobiology of Communication

- This course focuses on the role of the central nervous system in human communication. The study of brain anatomy and physiology is approached from the perspective of how neurological systems support speech, language, and hearing and how breakdowns in these systems disrupt aspects of communication.

SLHS 380: Hearing Science

- This course introduces the scientific foundation for the sense of hearing, and is organized around lectures and laboratory-demonstrations that address (a) the anatomy and physiology of the ear and related structures, and (b) the basics about auditory perception.

SLHS 477: Communication Disorders I

- This course focuses on disorders affecting communication across the lifespan. Consideration is given to signs and symptoms, etiology, clinical course, and vocational-social impact of these disorders. Principles of assessment and intervention are highlighted.

SLHS 441: Language Acquisition

- Principles and processes of language acquisition (monolingual and bilingual) will be described in relation to children's social, cognitive, and motor development. This course will briefly compare and contrast the first language acquisition processes to child and adult second language acquisition. Although not the focus of the course, warning signs of language disorders will also be highlighted

SLHS 483: Principles of Audiology

- Basic principles and techniques of audiological testing, etiologies of hearing impairment, and intervention strategies

SLHS 473: Communication Disorders II

- This course focuses on disorders affecting communication across the lifespan. Consideration is given to signs and symptoms, etiology, clinical course, and vocational-social impact of these disorders. Principles of assessment and intervention are highlighted.

SLHS MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES (33 UNITS)

FALL

SLHS 261 ☐ 3
SLHS 340* ☐ 3
SLHS 362 ☐ 3
SLHS 380* ☐ 4
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SPRING

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SLHS 367 ☐ 3
SLHS 441 ☐ 3
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SLHS ELECTIVE COURSEWORK

FALL

SLHS 207 ☐ 3

SLHS 471 ☐ 3

SPRING

SLHS 255 ☐ 3

SLHS 263 ☐ 3

SLHS 435 ☐ 3

SLHS 454 ☐ 3

AVAILABLE SLHS ELECTIVES:

SLHS 207: Survey of Communication and Its Disorders – Students are introduced to the scientific study of human communication and its disorders, with an overview of the biological systems of speech, language, and hearing, and a basic understanding of the nature and treatment of communication disorders across the lifespan

SLHS 255: Hearing, Health, and Society – This course introduces students to critical thinking in relation to quality of life associated with hearing loss across the lifespan. **Counts for GEN ED: Social Scientist, Diversity & Equity US Context**

SLHS 263: World of Sound – An introduction to sound – its production, perception, and use in speech, music, and animal communications. The course is divided into basics of sound; music and speech production; the hearing system; and speech perception. **Counts for GEN ED: Natural Scientist, Quantitative Reasoning**

SLHS 435: Bilingualism, Multiculturalism, and Nonmainstream Dialects – This course provides students with an overall understanding of child socialization practices, typical language development, and communication disorders across cultural-linguistic groups and issues related to the assessment of and intervention with individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

SLHS 454: Audiologic Rehabilitation Across the Lifespan – This course provides an introduction to interventions aimed at minimizing the communication difficulties associated with hearing loss in people of all ages. **Recommended for those pursuing AuD & SLP graduate studies.**

SLHS 471: Speech Sound Disorders – The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major constructs currently framing the study of speech sound disorders as well as cover topics on assessment and treatment of these disorders. This course is highly recommended for students interested in pursuing an SLPA (Speech-Language Pathology Assistant) certificate or graduate study. **Recommended for those pursuing SLP graduate studies**



College of Science

Questions?

Visit our webpage <https://slhs.arizona.edu/>

Email: science@arizona.edu

