

Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

The Field of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies professions are concerned with the development of people's communicative abilities and the various speech, language, or hearing problems they experience.

Speech pathologists evaluate and provide remediation for speech and language problems. They work with individuals and families, coordinating all aspects of programs designed to correct and modify communicative disorders.

Educators of the deaf are involved with the classroom education of deaf and hard of hearing children, helping these students to develop skills in communication, language, academics (prevocational or vocational), and socialization.

Audiologists specialize in preventing, assessing, and rehabilitating hearing disorders. They prescribe and dispense hearing aids and instruct hearing-impaired individuals in their use, teach speech reading, and conduct many other activities.

Sign language interpreters facilitate communication between deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing individuals and provide both linguistic and cul-

tural equivalencies. Interpreters work in a variety of settings (e.g. medical, community, and legal.)

The Department

The California State University, Fresno Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies is one of four programs in California that offer audiology, deaf education, interpreting, and speech-language pathology. The department is accredited by the Council for Academic Accreditation (CAA) and the Council for Education of the Deaf (CED).

Careers in Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

The program's graduates are employed in various settings, including public schools, hospitals, speech and hearing centers, Headstart programs, home-health or extended-care facilities, research centers, and state and federal agencies. Many graduates assume administrative positions in these settings.

Related Careers

The major also provides an excellent background for persons interested in regular or special education, child development, gerontology, rehabilitation counseling, and other education and health-related careers. The major, along with gerontology coursework from other areas,

prepares students for careers in administration or research.

Future Education

Upon completion of the coursework for a master's degree in speech-language pathology, students are eligible for state licensure from the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance, credentialing from the California Teaching Commission, and the Certificate of Clinical Competence from ASHA. These licenses, credentials, and certifications allow graduates to practice throughout the country. Deaf Studies students who complete undergraduate and graduate-level requirements meet all academic and pre-employment requirements for their basic certification as a teacher of the deaf from CED. They are eligible for full certification after three years of teaching experience.

General Preparation

Successful students are well-adjusted, hard-working, caring people who enjoy working with people on a one-to-one or small-group basis. They enjoy helping people overcome communication difficulties. They provide opportunities for individuals with hearing loss to overcome communication difficulties. Students teach and interpret for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals and serve as advocates of their rights and needs.

California State University, Fresno

Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

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B.A. in Communicative Disorders

Options:

- *Audiology*
- *Deaf Education*
- *Interpreting*
- *Speech-Language Pathology*

Minor in Communicative Disorders

M.A. in Communicative Disorders

Options:

- *Deaf Education*
- *Speech-Language Pathology*

FRESNO STATE

Discovery. Diversity. Distinction.

Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores.

Suggested Related Activities

Students are encouraged to participate in activities that involve working with people. Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies is a profession where human interaction is important. Experience helps students to find out if they have an interest in working with people.

General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college. Community colleges can certify up to 39 of the units required in Fresno State's General Education pattern.

College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalogs to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level). Since the major consists primarily of upper-division coursework, certain similar courses taken at a community college may not satisfy Fresno State requirements. Students may benefit by transferring to Fresno State at the beginning or during the middle of the sophomore year.

Course Requirements

Since changes may occur, students should consult the *General Catalog* and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses.

Lower Division

Freshman-Sophomore level courses
(may be taken at a community college)

Introduction to Human Communication
and Disorders
(CDDS 80)

Introduction to Speech and Language
Development
(CDDS 95)

American Sign Language I
(CDDS 91)

American Sign Language II
(CDDS 92)

Additional Courses

	Units
Audiology.....	35
Deaf Education	40
Interpreting.....	35
Speech-Language Pathology	41

**For additional
information, write**

**California State
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Department of
Communicative
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Visit or call

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PLEASE NOTE: This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule and www.fresnostate.edu/catalog.

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