

# DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

Students who select speech-language pathology (SLP) as their major typically pursue a career as practicing speech-language pathologists. The Ithaca College undergraduate program in SLP provides the solid academic foundation essential for achieving that goal. We also offer the opportunity to observe clinical practice, and provide a capstone course in which students learn clinical methodology. Students who successfully complete the Ithaca College undergraduate program in SLP earn a B.S. degree that provides them with the foundational knowledge and beginning clinical skills that are important for further graduate study in speech-language pathology (note that a Master's degree is required to be certified as a speech-language pathologist by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association). Students are also well prepared to enter related areas of study at the graduate level, such as audiology, elementary education, and special education.

Core required coursework in the major focuses on basic human communication processes while introducing students to the study of speech-language and hearing disorders. This core coursework is complemented by the Integrative Core Curriculum which includes carefully selected liberal arts and teacher education courses. In the senior year, in addition to taking a capstone clinical methodology course, students participate in a clinical practicum.

Strengths of the Ithaca College program in SLP include the following:

1. classes in the major during the first year;
2. a minimum of 46 credits of coursework in basic communication processes and disordered communication (e.g., basic audiology, child language disorders, articulation disorders);
3. teacher education coursework that is required for New York State Education Department's *Teaching Students with Speech and Language Disabilities* (TSSLD) certificate;
4. 25 hours of clinical observations accompanied by thoughtfully constructed professional writing assignments;
5. clinical experience working directly with clients (clinical hours earned may be applied for future certification);
6. study abroad during the junior year, if desired;
7. a minor area of study (e.g., Psychology, Deaf Studies, Education Studies) if desired; and
8. excellent preparation for graduate school.

## Internal Transfers into the SLP Major

Speech-language pathology and audiology: Students who are currently enrolled at Ithaca College are welcome to transfer into the speech-language pathology major. It is recommended, but not required, that students transfer prior to beginning the sophomore year. Transfer after the second semester of the freshman year may extend the student's program of study by at least one year. Requirements for transfer into this department include a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 and no grade below C- in any speech-language pathology and audiology course completed. In addition, students must meet all college and departmental requirements for satisfactory academic standing.

To be eligible to transfer into the major, students must first meet with the department chair and then submit an Application for Internal Transfers to the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology which can be obtained in the department office. The college's online transfer request may be submitted after all of the eligibility requirements have been met.

All courses used to fulfill major requirements (SLPA XXXXX) must be taken at Ithaca College.

## Auto-acceptance into Graduate Program

Students in the speech-language pathology and audiology major at Ithaca College who meet minimum GPA and GRE requirements at the time of their application to the graduate program will be automatically accepted.

## Special Academic Status Policy for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Majors

To maintain satisfactory academic standing, a student must

- maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or above,
- complete all required departmental courses (SLPA xxxxx) with a grade of C- or better, and
- successfully complete at least 24 credits in any consecutive 12-month period.

Prior to completion of the major, the student is required to repeat required departmental courses in which he or she receives a grade below C-. No advanced course may be taken until all prerequisites for it have been completed with a grade of C- or better.

**Academic warning:** A student who fails to meet any of the requirements for satisfactory standing stated above will be placed on academic warning.

**Dismissal:** A student who fails to meet the requirements for satisfactory standing for two consecutive semesters will be dismissed from the major and also may be suspended or dismissed from the school and from Ithaca College. If remaining at Ithaca College, students must obtain entrance to another major during the semester following their dismissal; obtaining entrance to another major is the responsibility of the student.

## Occasional Study at Another Institution

All courses used to fulfill major requirements (SLPA XXXXX) must be taken at Ithaca College.

## Majors

- Speech-Language Pathology Major – B.S. (<https://catalog.ithaca.edu/undergrad/schools/school-health-sciences-human-performance/department-speech-language-pathology-audiology/speech-language-pathology-major-bs>)

## Minors

- Communication Disorders Minor (<https://catalog.ithaca.edu/undergrad/schools/school-health-sciences-human-performance/>)

department-speech-language-pathology-audiology/communication-disorders-minor)

- Deaf Studies Minor (<https://catalog.ithaca.edu/undergrad/schools/school-health-sciences-human-performance/department-speech-language-pathology-audiology/deaf-studies-minor>)

**SLPA 10901 American Sign Language I (LA)**

Introduction to the linguistic features and core vocabulary needed to develop basic communicative competence in ASL. Students learn basic ASL grammar and apply this knowledge when using ASL to ask and answer questions, introduce themselves, exchange personal information, talk about family and friends, talk about surroundings, provide descriptions, and discuss activities. Discussion of deaf culture is infused throughout the course. Practicing conversations and active participation in and out of class are required. (F-S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 11010 Phonetics (NLA)**

An introduction to the study of speech sounds used in the production of American English. Emphasis is placed on (1) sound to symbol transcription using the International Phonetic Alphabet, as well as (2) development of transcription speed and accuracy. Anatomy and physiology of the speech mechanism are introduced for the purpose of describing speech sound production. (F-S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 15000 Introduction to Communication Disorders (LA)**

An introduction to speech, language, and hearing disorders. A variety of disorders in both children and adults is surveyed, including articulation and language disorders, stuttering, learning disability, cleft palate, cerebral palsy, voice disorders, and hearing losses. The study of these disorders includes incidence/prevalence, characteristics, causes, cultural and linguistic variations, and the impact of the disorder on the individual and society. The course is designed for and open to all students. (F-S,Y)  
Attributes: 1, SS  
3 Credits

**SLPA 20800 Perspectives on Deafness (LA)**

Examination of disability perspectives and alternatives to disability perspectives on deafness in the US. Discussion of issues related to child development (e.g., development of speech, language, and literacy) from an educational perspective. Discussion of intervention from an audiological perspective. Discussion of controversies inside and outside the deaf community related to educational and clinical interventions. Prerequisite: SLPA 10901 with a grade of C- or better. (S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 20901 American Sign Language II (LA)**

Students learn additional linguistic features, cultural protocols, and core vocabulary. Students practice using ASL grammar for giving directions, describing others, making requests, attributing qualities to others, and talking about family, occupations, and routines. Discussion of Deaf culture is infused throughout the course. Practicing conversations and videotaping use of ASL in and out of class are required. Prerequisites: SLPA 10901 with a grade of C- or better. (F-S,Y)  
Attributes: HU  
3 Credits

**SLPA 21200 Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanisms (LA)**

Anatomy and physiology of the speech and hearing mechanisms; respiration, phonation, resonance, articulation, and basic neurological concepts underlying the communication process. Prerequisites: Second-semester freshman status. (F,Y)  
Attributes: NS  
3 Credits

**SLPA 21600 Normal Language and Literacy Development (LA)**

Introduces the student to the study of language and literacy development in children. Topics include prelinguistic development, components of language, theoretical models of language acquisition, individual differences, relationships between oral and written language, and cultural and linguistic variations in language development. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. (F,Y)  
Attributes: SS  
3 Credits

**SLPA 22000 Articulation and Phonological Development and Disorders (NLA)**

A study of the normal articulation process, its development, and causes and characteristics of delayed and abnormal development; phonological development and the relationship among phonology and other language areas. Transcription of speech production errors, identification of articulatory and phonological error patterns, and assessment and treatment techniques are heavily emphasized. Prerequisites: SLPA 11010 with a grade of C- or better. (S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 23000 Child Language Disorders: Assessment and Intervention (NLA)**

An introduction to the study of developmental language disorders. The course examines characteristics of language disorders in the areas of syntax, grammatical morphology, semantics, and pragmatics. The course demonstrates how to incorporate established theory into language assessment and intervention practices. Formal and informal assessment procedures are reviewed. Intervention techniques are examined, and specific intervention experiences are designed and executed. Prerequisites: SLPA 21600 with a grade of C- or better. (S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 24000 Basic Audiology (NLA)**

Study of anatomy and physiology of the hearing mechanism, acoustics, auditory pathologies, classification of hearing disorders, and the profession of audiology. Additional topics covered include pure-tone and speech audiometry, immittance measures, and material of current interest. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. (F,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 24200 Aural Rehabilitation (NLA)**

Study of the perceptual, psychological, and educational implications of hearing loss. The course will focus on areas significant to the (re)habilitation of individuals with hearing loss, such as identification, evaluation, remediation, and counseling. Prerequisites: SLPA 24000 with a grade of C- or better. (S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 30901 American Sign Language III (LA)**

Emphasis is placed on development of communicative competencies in ASL conversations beyond the basic level including telling life events, describing events in time, asking for clarification, correcting, conforming, elaboration on information, agreeing and disagreeing, resolving conflicts, and giving directions. Classroom and outside activities include practicing dialogues, short stories, narratives, and short conversation. Discussion of Deaf culture is infused throughout the course. Practicing conversations and videotaping use of ASL in and out of class are required. Prerequisites: SLPA 20901 with a grade of C- or better. This course is only open to Deaf Studies minors. (F,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 31000 Deaf Culture (LA)**

Examination of deaf heritage including contributions and perspectives of leaders in the Deaf community. Examination of deafness as portrayed in literature and movies. Examination of artistic expression within the Deaf community including contemporary visual artists and the National Theatre for the Deaf. This course is the capstone course for the minor; a guided project is required, and travel to a theatrical production may be required. Prerequisite: SLPA 20800 with a grade of C- or better. (F,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 32000 Fluency and Voice Disorders (NLA)**

Students are introduced to the characteristics of stuttering and people who stutter, theoretical constructs underlying the concept of dysfluency, anatomy and physiology of the vocal tract, and disorders particular to the vocal mechanism. General assessment and intervention strategies for fluency and voice disorders are introduced. Prerequisites: SLPA 21200 with a grade of C- or better. (F,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 35900 Communication Disorders in the Aging Population (LA)**

Introduces the communication disorders common to older persons. Speech and language disorders, hearing disorders, and the role of allied health professionals are examined. Prerequisites: Any 10000-level GERO course or BIOL 20500 or SLPA 21200, at least one of which must be completed with a grade of C- or better. (F,Y)  
Attributes: SS  
3 Credits

**SLPA 36000 Brain Science (LA)**

Addresses the basic structure and function of the brain with a special focus on the neuroscience of communication. Relationships between different lesion sites in the brain and the communication breakdowns that they produce will be introduced. Prerequisites: SLPA 21200 with a grade of C- or better. (F,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 36500 Basic Speech Science (LA)**

Introduces the undergraduate student in speech-language pathology to topics in speech science. Areas covered include an overview of the acoustics of sound, the glottal spectrum, acoustics of consonant and vowel production and perception, suprasegmentals, and instrumentation. Prerequisites: SLPA 21200 with a grade of C- or better. (S,Y)  
Attributes: NS  
3 Credits

**SLPA 37000 Clinical Observation (NLA)**

An intensive clinical observation experience is provided in conjunction with classroom instruction focusing on designing individualized intervention programs, writing behavioral objectives, and general case management strategies. This course is only open to Speech-Language Pathology majors. Prerequisite: SLPA 22000, SLPA 23000 with a grade of C- or better. (F,S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 39900-39904 Selected Topics in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**

Topics of current interest to faculty and students. Experimental courses are offered under this course number and title. This course may be repeated for credit for different selected topics. Prerequisites: As appropriate to topics. (IRR)  
1-3 Credits

**SLPA 42900 Tutorial in Speech-Language Pathology (NLA)**

Intensive study in speech-language pathology for advanced students. The student presents a written proposal to an instructor who is chosen by the student to direct the tutorial. After the instructor agrees to direct the tutorial, copies of the proposal are forwarded to the student's adviser and chairperson for final approval. This procedure must be completed prior to registration. Prerequisites: Junior standing; permission of adviser and department chair. (F-S,Y)  
1-3 Credits

**SLPA 44900 Tutorial in Audiology (NLA)**

Intensive study in audiology for advanced students. The student presents a written proposal to an instructor who is chosen by the student to direct the tutorial. After the instructor agrees to direct the tutorial, copies of the proposal are forwarded to the student's adviser and chairperson for final approval. This procedure must be completed prior to registration. Prerequisites: Junior standing; permission of adviser and department chair. (F-S,Y)  
1-3 Credits

**SLPA 45200 Diagnosis and Appraisal in Speech-Language Pathology (NLA)**

Develops proficiency in clinical interviewing as well as test administration and scoring, primarily in the areas of oral-facial inspection, articulation and child language. Specific procedures are then developed and practiced outside of class meetings. An evidence-based practice model guides clinical decisions for planning, interviewing, evaluating, interpreting findings, and for documentation. Prerequisites: SLPA 22000, SLPA 23000 with a grade of C- or better, MATH 14500 or MATH 15500 or PSYC 20700, and senior standing. (F,S)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 45400 Speech and Language Disabilities in Educational Settings (NLA)**

Focus on the organization and management of speech and language programs in a variety of settings, including categories of disability, identification and evaluation procedures, models of service delivery, evidence-based practice, a workload approach, cultural considerations, and the development of professional relationships. Implications of applicable federal and state statutes covering service provision are also discussed. Prerequisite: SLPA 37000 with a grade of C- or better. (F-S,Y)  
3 Credits

**SLPA 45900 Communication Disorders in Culturally Diverse Populations (NLA)**

Cultural pluralism as it relates to communication disorders in the United States; its impact on the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology; and sociolinguistic issues of dialect, communication style, and attitudes toward them. Discussion includes cultural factors that may influence the acquisition of speech and language; incidence and variation of specific speech and language disorders among diverse populations; assessment and treatment procedures that accommodate cultural differences; goal selection strategies; selection of unlisted materials; educational implications; and specific intervention cases.

Prerequisites: Senior standing or permission of instructor; only open to Speech-Language Pathology majors. (S,Y)

3 Credits

**SLPA 47200 Clinical Methods (NLA)**

This capstone course provides in-depth discussion of the clinical process with emphasis on assessment and intervention strategies, therapy approaches, and principles. This course is open only to Speech-Language Pathology majors. Prerequisites: SLPA 37000 with a grade of C- or better; senior standing. Corequisites: SLPA 47300. (F-S, Y)

Attributes: CP

3 Credits

**SLPA 47300 Clinical Practicum (NLA)**

Applied, supervised clinical practicum experience in speech-language pathology that provides the opportunity to interact with clients. Involves developing and implementing a program of therapy, preparing lesson plans, and writing progress reports. Prerequisites: SLPA 37000 with a grade of C- or better. Corequisites: SLPA 47200. This course is only open to Speech-Language Pathology majors. (F-S, Y)

1 Credit

**SLPA 49900-49902 Independent Study in Speech-Language Pathology/ Audiology (NLA)**

Individual investigations (in-depth study, research, reading) related to Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology that are not fully covered by regular coursework. Arranged individually between the student and faculty sponsor according to the guidelines set forth by the school of HSHP. Prerequisites: Approval of the faculty sponsor, advisor, department chair, and dean. (F-S,IRR)

1-3 Credits