Major: M.A., Speech-Language Pathology

The graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) is American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), Council of Academic Accreditation (CAA) accredited. The program is offered by the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and enrolls the largest number of full-time students of any graduate major in the university.

The Speech-Language Pathology program provides for advanced educational training in assessment and treatment of speech, language, and hearing disorders. Course work and experiential learning experiences meet or exceed the current requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) as defined by ASHA. The faculty and staff of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders are committed to providing a quality program to meet the needs of students. The department provides learning opportunities and activities which enable students to develop into skilled and accomplished professionals. The department is proud of its low student/faculty ratio, which permits close contact between students and professors. Recommendation for clinical certification is made upon completion of the appropriate requirements. The major provides for a nonthesis or thesis option.

Graduate Education in Speech-Language Pathology Strengths:

- The development of problem solving skills necessary for distinguished service as a clinical professional
- Independent critical thinking skills necessary for the effective evaluation and management of a broad range of communicatively impaired individuals
- Clinical skills to effectively treat individuals with a broad range of communicative impairments
- Interpersonal skills necessary to function as a contributor to an interdisciplinary rehabilitation team, and an increased awareness of professional ethics and client advocacy.
Sample Course Offerings

Speech-Language Pathology

Required Courses:
Advanced Clinical Practice
Aphasia and Related Disorders
Diagnostics in Communication Disorders
Disorders of Voice
Dysphagia
Motor Speech Disorders
Phonetics in Communicative Disorders
Professional Issues
Research
Research Methods in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology
Treatment of Child Language Disorders

Clinical Practica

The M.A. degree in Speech-Language Pathology is oriented toward the achievement of clinical competence and certification by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Both assessment and treatment of speech, language, and hearing disorders are conducted by students and faculty in UNI’s Roy Eblen Speech and Hearing Clinic and at a variety of satellite centers. Clinical experiences include assignments on diagnostic teams, language group therapy, instruction of multiply handicapped children, and working with children and adults with organic and functional disorders of communication. Graduates are prepared to provide services to speech, language, and hearing impaired persons in various educational and clinical settings.

Unique Features

- A Clinical focus in coursework and hands-on experience
- School and medical practicum
- State-of-the-art teaching and research technology
- Accredited by the Council of Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
- Student members of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) host the Iowa Conference on Communicative Disorders each spring

Facilities

- Roy Eblen Speech and Hearing Clinic located in the Communication Arts Center, an excellent venue for practicum experience
- Sertoma Laboratory for the Advanced Study of Communicative Disorders
- Instructional computer laboratory

Financial Opportunities

Graduate College Sponsored
- Assistantship Stipend
- Tuition Scholarship

Scholarship Competition
- Roy Eblen Scholarship Award
- Iowa Speech and Hearing Association Scholarship
- Sertoma Communicative Disorders Scholarship Program
- Irene M. Thompson Scholarship
- Cedar Valley Sertoma Service Award

Communication Sciences and Disorders Faculty

Ken Bleile, Ph.D., professor, University of Iowa, Phonology, Child Language
Todd Bohnenkamp, Ph.D., associate professor, Indiana University, Neurogenics, Voice
Angela Burda, Ph.D., professor, Wichita State University, Aphasia, TBI, Accent Modification, Aging & Communication
Evette Edmister, Ph.D., assistant professor, University of Kansas, Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Literacy
Jennifer Garrett, Ph.D., assistant professor, University of Cincinnati, School-aged Language and Literacy
Carlin Hageman, Ph.D., professor, University of Colorado, Neurogenics, Stuttering, Voice
Theresa Kouri, Ph.D., director, Roy Eblen Speech and Hearing Clinic, Kent State University, Child Language
Lauren Nelson, Ph.D., associate professor, Memphis State University, Phonology, Child Language
Katie O’Brien, M.S., instructor, Lamar University, Deaf Studies/Deaf Education, American Sign Language
Bruce Plakke, Ph.D., associate professor, Memphis State University, Audiology, Hearing Conservation