

Communication Disorders at Truman

DISTINCT BY DESIGN

Degree offered

MA

Master of Arts in
Communication Disorders

The Speech and Hearing Clinic **serves over 1,000 clients per year**. These services are of no cost to the client.

Provides **the knowledge and skills to become certified** by the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Students work **face-to-face with clients** in our on-site Speech and Hearing Clinic or through telehealth.

There are seven clinic rooms including one that is specialized for literacy services.



VISIT US ONLINE OR
IN-PERSON

<https://connect.truman.edu/register/graduatevisit>



The program has an innovative “comps” process called the **Clinical Process Commentary (CPC)** which allows student clinicians to reflect on their clinical strengths and areas of need.

The Truman State University RiteCare Early Literacy Lab provides space for the remediation and prevention of literacy problems in children who are at risk.



Special clinical opportunities such as working with individuals with Parkinson’s disease.

ACCREDITED

by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

To apply

Use the CSDCAS application at <https://csdcas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>, then search for Truman.

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

Students pursuing this degree in communication disorders must demonstrate clinically appropriate speech/language/hearing skills prior to enrollment in clinical practicum.

Behavioral Science Component

- **CMDS 520G - Interprofessional Healthcare Team Experiences** Credit: 1
- **CMDS 563G - Swallowing Disorders** Credits: 3
- **CMDS 564G - Voice Disorders** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 566G - Diagnosis of Communication Disorders** Credits: 3
- **CMDS 568G - Speech Sound Disorders** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 578G - Augmentative & Alternative Communication** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 660G - Fluency Disorders** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 661G - Language Disorders in Early Childhood** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 662G - Aphasia: Assessment and Treatment** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 669G - Neurogenic Motor Speech Disorders** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 671G - Advanced Clinical Audiology** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 684G - Language Disorders in School-Aged Children** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 685G - Acquired Cognitive-Linguistic Disorders** Credits: 2

The following courses may be taken to reach credits needed for the degree:

- **CMDS 550G - Counseling in Communication Disorders** Credits: 3
- **CMDS 562G - High Risk Infants** Credits: 3
- **CMDS 567G - Neural Bases of Speech, Language, and Swallowing** Credits: 2
- **CMDS 663G - Oro-facial Anomalies** Credits: 3
- **CMDS 680G - Seminar: Speech Disorders** Credits: 1-3
Some recent elective topics include dementia, head and neck cancer, medical SLP and autism

Practicum Component

- **CMDS 681G - Advanced Clinical Practice** Credit(s): 1-3 (must be taken at least 3 times)

- **CMDS 682G - Internship in Hospital/Clinic** Credits: 4
- **CMDS 683G - Internship in Public School** Credits: 4
- **Clinical Hours Requirement:** Students are required to complete a minimum of 400 clinical contact hours of which 325 must be completed at the graduate level. The curriculum is designed to qualify master's degree candidates for Missouri Licensure and the Certificate of Clinical Competence awarded by the American Speech-Language Hearing Association. Typically, CMDS 681G is taken every semester the student is on campus.

Education Component

- **ED 621G - Psychology of Reading** Credits: 3
- This requirement must be met by all Communication Disorders Master's graduates from Truman. Normally, this requirement is met by completing ED 621G Psychology of Reading. However, students who can demonstrate mastery of this material through coursework completed at another university may, with the consent of their advisor, substitute these credits with electives.

Clinical Process Commentaries

- **CMDS 676G - Clinical Process Commentary 1** Credit(s): 1-3
- **CMDS 677G - Clinical Process Commentary 2** Credit(s): 1-3

The Clinical Process Commentaries (CPC) consists of a sequence of major projects that:

- emphasize strong ties between the academic and clinical curricula
- provide opportunity for formative and summative evaluation
- provide opportunity for students to demonstrate depth of knowledge and expertise through both oral and written presentation.

The CPC is required at two (2) different times in the course of graduate study, usually the second semester (spring) and the last semester (fall) prior to internship. A total of 3 credits of CPC is required.

Research Component:

- **CMDS 667G - Research Methodology** Credit: 3

All graduate students complete a single-subject research project with a client they are assigned in the clinic.

Thesis Option: 6 Credits

- **CMDS 689G - Research in Communication Disorders (Thesis)** Credit(s): 1-6

Master's Program Completion Rate

Academic Year	Number completing program in expected time	Number taking longer than usual*	Number not completing the program	Percent completing in expected time
2021/2022	17	0	1	94.4%
2020/2021	18	1	1	90.0%
2019/2020	23	0	1	96%
3-year average	58	1	3	93.5%

* We make every effort to accommodate non-traditional students, some of whom have family and other obligations that prevent them from following the curriculum in exactly the usual way or on the usual schedule. Some students also elect to complete a thesis or extend their program for other reasons that are part of an individualized academic plan. For the purposes of this table, "taking longer than usual" means that the student required more than the planned amount of time due to difficulties fulfilling academic or clinical requirements on schedule.

National Exam (Praxis Examination) Pass Rate*

Academic Year	Number taking test	Number passing test	Pass rate*
2021/2022	17	17	100%
2020/2021	19	19	100%
2019/2020	23	23	100%
3-year average	59	59	100%

* Truman CMDS graduate students are required to take the national Praxis exam in speech-language pathology prior to graduation; most take it during their internship semester. This pass rate represents first attempts. As far back as we have records, no Truman grad student has failed the test on their second attempt.

Employed in the profession

Academic Year	Number of graduates	Percent of graduates
2020/2021	18 out of 19	95%
2019/2020	22 out of 24	92%
2018/2019	30 out of 30	100%
3-year average	70 out of 73	96%