

M.ED. – SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

The College of Education is reorganizing and departmental names and locations will be changed during the 2010-2011 academic year. Please see The College of Education website for updates.

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in our Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) program; we think we have an excellent program. The program is administered under the College of Education at the University of West Georgia and is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA). The graduate program prepares students for a professional career in the identification, assessment, and treatment of all communication disorders, including language, articulation, voice, resonance, fluency, and swallowing disorders. Successful completion of program and other professional requirements is designed to lead the applicant toward obtaining a Master of Education degree (M.Ed.) in Speech-Language Pathology, Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) certification, Georgia Licensure in Speech-Language Pathology, and ASHA's Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC).

The program currently seeks to admit approximately 20-25 fulltime students each fall semester, effective August, 2009. Students seeking to obtain a Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology must begin their program in the fall semester as no other admission semesters are permitted for SLP majors at the University of West Georgia at this time. **Prior graduates seeking licensure or ASHA certification must be informed of various requirements on an individual advisement basis to be determined in conjunction with ASHA recommendations. These individuals should contact the Department of Transformative Support & Intervention directly at 678 839-6567.**

Applicants with undergraduate majors other than SLP may be admitted to the program, but they must complete an undergraduate prerequisite course sequence before taking graduate level courses in SLP. The undergraduate prerequisites are taken while enrolled as a graduate student and these courses lengthen the time required for obtaining the Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology by approximately one year, for a total time of approximately three years of full-time enrollment required to obtain the master's degree. The program requires two years of full-time enrollment if undergraduate prerequisites were completed prior to enrolling in the master's program. Additionally, students who are seeking PSC certification to work in the K-12 educational system must complete required education courses while enrolled as a graduate student. These courses are added to the student's program of study and may lengthen the time for obtaining the Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology as well.

The Graduate School receives and processes all applications to the Speech-Language Pathology Program.

Proof of the following should be submitted to the Graduate School by **Monday, February 7, 2011**:

- ✓ Completed [application](#) for admission
- ✓ Non-refundable \$30.00 application fee (one time only)
- ✓ One official transcript from each college or university attended
- ✓ 3.0 cumulative GPA
- ✓ An acceptable admissions test score (over)
- ✓ Three strong [letters of recommendation](#)
- ✓ Photocopy of your highest teaching/educator certificate (if you hold one)
- ✓ Satisfactory [Certificate of Immunization](#) (New Students Only)
- ✓ [Academic Honor Form](#)
- ✓ Applicants should also be prepared to participate in an on-site interview with department faculty. A writing sample will be requested of each applicant during the interview process.

Please send all documents, except the [Certificate of Immunization](#) (see form for instructions), directly to the Graduate School, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Georgia 30118-4160. Please allow 7-10 business days for processing your application. CHECK YOUR APPLICATION STATUS online by clicking on [HOW TO APPLY](#) (Item #9).

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Dept of Transformative Support & Intervention	678-839-6567		
- Speech-Language Pathology			coe.ed.westga.edu/sedslp/
Graduate School	678-839-6419	678-839-5949 (FAX)	gradsch@westga.edu
College of Education	678-839-6570		coe.westga.edu/
Financial Aid	678-839-6421		www.westga.edu/finaid/
Registrar	678-839-6438		www.westga.edu/registrar/

THE IMPORTANCE OF ADMISSIONS TEST SCORES FOR THE MED IN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PROGRAM

REGULAR ADMISSION

- 1) 3.0 cumulative GPA
- 2) An official GRE test score of at least **1000** (minimum **500** Verbal score and minimum **500** Quantitative **or** Analytical score - whichever score is higher of the two sections on tests taken before October 2002. Test taken after October 2002 require verbal, quantitative, and minimum GRE Analytical Writing test score of 4.0.)
- 3) The Miller Analogies Test will not be accepted for admission in Speech-Language Pathology. Applicants must submit official GRE scores.
- 4) PRAXIS or GACE Basic Skills test scores will not be accepted for admission, but they are required for certification.

These criteria represent minimal admission standards. Meeting the minimal grade point average and test score requirements are no guarantee for admission.

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

Applicants applying to a masters degree program in the arts and sciences or education with less than the required GPA and GRE scores may be considered for provisional admission. They must submit official GRE test scores and must also have a grade point average of at least 2.2. In no event may the grade point average be less than 2.2. Programs may have higher grade point average and/or test score requirements. Applicants may also be admitted provisionally for reasons other than, or in addition to, grade point average and GRE test scores. **Meeting departmental test score and grade point average requirements is no guarantee of admission. Provisional admission is ultimately subject to departmental approval and the Dean of the Graduate School.** These criteria do not apply to applicants to Education Specialists or doctoral programs.

Provisional admission status cannot be changed to "Regular" until the student has completed at least 9 hours of graduate course work in the field of study with grades of B or better; or until the student has completed other requirements set forth by the department in which admission is being sought.

For information about Graduate Record Examination (GRE) testing sites and registration dates, please call 1-800-GRE-CALL; or visit online at www.gre.org/gentest.html.

PRAXIS AND GACE BASIC SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Applicants applying for admission to the graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology must be eligible for admission to Teacher Education. To be accepted into Teacher Education, applicants must document a passing PRAXIS I or GACE Basic Skills Assessment score or be exempted from it. An applicant who holds a valid Georgia teaching certificate and/or who achieves a specific score on the GRE, SAT, or ACT may be exempted from the PRAXIS I or the GACE Basic Skills Assessment.

PRAXIS I or GACE Basic Skills Assessment may be exempted if high enough scores are obtained on the SAT, ACT or GRE. According to the Professional Standards Commission (PSC), exemption scores are as follows:

- SAT exemptions: minimum combined verbal and mathematics score of 1000
- GRE exemption: minimum combined verbal and quantitative score of 1030
- ACT exemption: minimum combined English and mathematics score of 43.

Note: For certification candidates in the field of Speech and Language Pathology the Praxis II test 0330 will remain the required test, for it is the test for national licensing with ASHA.

For more information about the PRAXIS or GACE, please see www.gapsc.com/Certification/index.asp and www.gace.nesinc.com/index.asp.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please understand that no more than 9 semester hours taken as a post-baccalaureate or in a non-degree status may subsequently be applied towards a masters degree program. Therefore, individuals attempting to gain admittance to a masters degree program should make every effort to take the GRE as soon as possible.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS SEEKING ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND GRADUATE SCHOOL

For admission into the College of Education and Graduate School, a prospective student must meet minimal GPA and GRE test score requirements in addition to meeting other specified criteria. The Graduate School calculates the GPA on all undergraduate course work attempted. If this GPA does not meet the department minimum GPA, the Graduate School recalculates the GPA on the basis of the last 60 hours (or its equivalent) of undergraduate and/or graduate course work completed. All courses taken during the term in which the 60th credit hour is completed shall be included in the calculation.

No prospective student may be admitted to the Graduate School to take any course without the approval of the appropriate department in the College of Education. This means that every prospective student must be recommended for admission into a degree or non-degree program before being admitted to the Graduate School. Each department must approve every student for regular or provisional admission into a program of study before any graduate courses in the College of Education may be taken. Any student admitted provisionally must receive specific requirements from the department which, when successfully completed, will result in "Regular" admission into the degree program. Any applicant denied admission can appeal such a decision. However, no prospective student will be considered for appeal with less than a 2.9 GPA on the last 60 hours of course work attempted.

INTERVIEW PROCESS

Interview Rating Criteria

The faculty team must reach a consensus on the interview rating.

4= Outstanding: Outstanding commitment to the field, fully prepared for demands of graduate school, motivated, professionally dressed, great interpersonal skills, great communication skills, excellent candidate for the program.

3= Above Average

2= Adequate

1 = Weak: Questionable commitment, unaware and unprepared for demands of graduate school, inadequate articulation and communication skills, poor interpersonal skills, and unprofessional.

Sample Rubric

Grading Rubric for Speech-Language Pathology Interview: Written				
	1	2	3	4
Clarity Of Writing	Inability to come to the point of the discussion	Notable difficulty making the point	Makes the point with minor difficulty	Makes the point without difficulty.
Organization	Paragraphs are poorly organized; sentences and thoughts are not sequential, and logic is absent.	Paragraphs and sentences are fairly well organized, but logic is somewhat compromised.	Paragraphs and sentences are well organized, but logic is somewhat compromised.	Paragraphs and sentences are well organized, and logic is well respected within the profession.
Mechanics of Writing (spelling, grammar, etc.)	Major errors in spelling, grammar, or in uses of formatting style.	Notable errors in spelling, grammar, or in uses of formatting style.	A few errors in spelling, grammar, or in uses of formatting style.	Minimal-to-no errors in spelling, grammar, or in uses of formatting style.

SAMPLE

University of West Georgia
Speech-Language Pathology Admissions
Total Score Rating Formula

Candidate Name: _____

Undergraduate School: _____

<u>Area to be rated:</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Rating</u>		<u>Point Value</u>
Undergraduate GPA	_____	_____	x 3 =	_____
Interview Performance	_____	_____	x 3 =	_____
Verbal GRE Score	_____	_____	x 2 =	_____
Total GRE Score	_____	_____	x 1 =	_____
Letters of Recommendation	_____	_____	x 1 =	_____
Writing Sample	_____	_____	x 1 =	_____
			Total=	_____ /44

Rating Criteria

Undergraduate GPA	4 = 3.75 – 4.00	3 = 3.40 – 3.74	2 = 3.10 – 3.39	1 = ≤ 3.00
Interview Performance	4 = Excellent	3 = Above Average	2 = Adequate	1 = Weak
Verbal GRE Score	4 = 600+	3 = 590 – 500	2 = 490 – 400	1 = 400 or less
Total GRE Score	4 = 1200+	3 = 1190 – 1100	2 = 1090 – 1000	1 = 990 – 900
Letters of Recommendation	4 = Excellent	3 = Above Average	2 = Adequate	1 = Weak
Writing Sample	4 = Excellent	3 = Above Average	2 = Adequate	1 = Weak