

Merger of Communication Sciences and Disorders from CLAS with Communicative Disorders in PPHP

Request: Approval of (1) Department Name Change and (2) Academic Changes associated with merging the undergraduate program in CSD into PPHP

Submitted by: Stephanie Hanson, PhD, Executive Associate Dean

Background: As a result of recent university budgetary decisions, the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in CLAS was merged into the Department of Communicative Disorders in PPHP. The merger has resulted in a need to create a unified identity and to align the academic program requirements of the undergraduate program in communication sciences and disorders with PPHP rather than CLAS. At this time we are requesting approval of a new department name reflecting the unification of the two departments and approval of academic changes that align the communication sciences and disorders academic program with PPHP's requirements.

Request for Approval of New Department Name: In order to create a unified identity, we initiated a process to select a new department name reflecting the merged status of the two previously independent groups. Faculty and staff were given the opportunity to suggest potential names and to vote on their choice for a new name based on the suggestions received. Forty-six out of 55 faculty and staff voted in the final selection. Thirty of the 46 people selected the name: Department of Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences. We are requesting approval at this time to change the department name from Communicative Disorders to Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

Request for Approval of Academic Changes, including change to degree and curricular requirements. The table on the next page illustrates the previous requirements for the undergraduate program in communication sciences and disorders and the new requirements based on the transfer to PPHP. We provide brief commentary in the table where compromises were reached in order to minimize changes to the CMS curriculum and thus, the impact on the student.

Changes in Academic Requirements for Communication Sciences and Disorders Students

	CLAS	PHHP
Degree ¹	BA	BHS
Major	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Communication Sciences and Disorders
Major Code ²	CSD	CMS
GPA ³ – overall and prereq	2.0	2.7
General Education Math	6, including STA 2023	6, including STA 2023
Composition	6	6
Humanities	9	9
Social/Behavioral Sciences	9, including PSY 2012 Recommended PSB 3004	9, including PSY 2012 and either DEP 3053 or CLP 3144; we will add PSB 3004 to choice for 2 nd psychology (so must choose from these 3)
Biological/Physical Science	12, recommended 6 credits of physical science but had to include at least 3	9, including BSC 2007 and APK 2105C; we will waive our required APK 2105C and substitute 3 credits of physical science
International	3 (can be fulfilled by a course from another category)	3 (can be fulfilled by a course from another category)
Diversity	EEX 3312	3 (fulfilled by EEX 3312 for CSD students)
Advanced Writing	ENC 3254	ENC 3254
College Requirements		
Foreign Language	3 semesters	Not required
Specific College Core ⁴	None	PHC 4101C
College Electives	18	9
Major Prerequisite Changes ⁵	SPA 2024 (required)	SPA 2024 (recommended); COM 1000 or SPC 2600 or SPC 2300 required for CMS
Major Core Requirements will remain the same		

General comments on changes:

1. BA degree is a liberal arts degree; BHS is consistent with program move in to a Health Science Center.
2. The code needed to be changed to maintain the historical record of CSD while allowing the major to continue under a new college.
3. This major successfully targets students interested in graduate school in communicative disorders. Until two years ago, the GPA for this program was a 2.8. The revised GPA from a 2.8 to a 2.0 does not appropriately represent the level of competitiveness required of this student group and the faculty representatives have been unhappy with the reduced GPA, which was apparently done to address broader CLAS priorities. Our lowest program GPA in PHHP is a 2.7, which is fairly consistent with what communication and sciences and disorders traditionally used as a GPA and brings the program in line with our college's overall preprofessional focus at the undergraduate level.

4. PHC 4101 was designed to meet one of the accreditation criteria for schools of public health. Therefore, it is required of all undergraduate students.
5. SPA 2024 is not available at all community colleges and, therefore, should not have been required. The choice of COM 1000, SPC 2600, or SPC 2300 ensures that transfer students have the same prerequisite requirements as UF students.

General information on the transition process for undergraduates: All students except seniors will be reclassified into PHHP by Fall semester, 2009. Academic requirements will be determined by the student's progression towards graduation as noted below

Seniors (includes only students graduating by the end of Summer C 2010) – they will incur no changes to requirements and will remain as CLAS students

Rising sophomores, juniors and seniors not graduating by Summer C 2010 – they will be required to complete PHC 4101 Public Health Concepts; they will not have to complete CLAS requirements (e.g. foreign language, 18 hrs of electives); other requirements remain the same for the major

Freshmen – will complete PHHP requirements