Audiology (AuD)

Degree Requirements

The Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) is a professional doctoral degree and is administered through the Pat Capps Covey College of Allied Health Professions. The Au.D. serves either as preparation for professional clinical audiologists or as preparation for graduate study leading to the Ph.D. degree. The Au.D. program provides a broad range of basic science courses and specialized offerings emphasizing assessment, intervention, and prevention techniques used with patients of all ages who have hearing or balance related disorders. Students are prepared for careers as clinicians in schools, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, private practice and community clinics.

Clinical practicum opportunities occur at the on-campus Speech and Hearing Center and many affiliated ENT clinics, rehabilitation centers, schools, and hospitals. Within this framework, students are prepared to meet the academic and practicum requirements for national certification (the Certificate of Clinical Competence, CCC, in Audiology awarded by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) and State of Alabama Licensure. The Au.D. Program typically extends for 11 academic semesters including three semesters of clinical externship. Assistantships are available annually on a competitive basis. Applications for admission and assistantships are available after November 1 with enrollment beginning in the Fall Semester only. Specific information about the Au.D. Program is available from the department.

Details regarding the Admissions process and deadline are available on the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology website.

Requirements For Admission

Students are admitted in the Fall Semester only.

The following describes admission criteria:

Regular Admission

1. A baccalaureate degree (or equivalent) from an accredited college or university is required for admission.
2. A minimum 3.0 (A=4.0) overall undergraduate GPA is required to be considered for regular admission.
3. Completion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) within the last five years. In order to be considered for regular admission, a minimum combined score of 290 for the Verbal and Quantitative portion of the GRE is required. In rare instances applicants with a GRE score of less than 290 may be considered for provisional admission. The GRE analytical writing score is required.
4. International students must submit documentary evidence showing TOEFL test scores of at least 600 (written form), 250 (computer version), or 100 (internet based version), or bachelor’s or graduate degrees earned at accredited United States institutions of higher education. A minimal IELTS score of 7 is considered equivalent to the TOEFL scores required.
5. Three references from faculty at the undergraduate institution are required. Two of these references should be provided by Ph.D. faculty within the applicant's undergraduate department.
6. Personal Essay stating the applicant's reasons for pursuing the degree, and addressing specific questions outlined in the application instructions.

Because the number of applicants is greater than the number of vacancies in the program, students are admitted on a competitive basis, based on the criteria stated above. Because of limited course sequencing, students are admitted in fall semester only. Details regarding the Admissions process and deadline are available on the Department of Speech-Pathology and Audiology website. In addition, coursework each in biological sciences, physical sciences, behavioral sciences, and statistics is recommended.

Retention Policies

1. Any term in which a graduate student enrolled in the Au.D. program drops below a 3.0 GPA, the student will be placed on probationary status and has a period of one semester to attain a 3.0 GPA or be dismissed from the program.
2. A student in the status of Provisional Admission who does not earn all A and B grades in their 1st year of coursework (Fall, Spring, and Summer) and/or does not successfully pass 1st year Summative Assessments will be dismissed from the Au.D. program.
3. Any student who receives a grade lower than a "C" in a graduate level course will be dismissed from the program.
4. A "C" in any combination of two or more AUD courses will result in academic dismissal.
5. A passing grade on summative assessments administered during the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years of the AuD program is required in order to progress to the next year of academic and clinical study.
6. Dismissal due to poor performance can occur at anytime during the course of study. Students should understand and agree that they may be required to complete additional and/or augmentative work or clinical experience as determined by the faculty. As such, graduation may be delayed.
7. If for any reason a student must withdraw from the Au.D. program, re-admission will require approval of the department chairperson and the Dean of the Pat Capps Covey College of Allied Health Professions.
8. If a student is dismissed from a program prior to the end of the regular semester and that dismissal occurs after the University's refund deadline, the student will not receive any type of refund even if the next series of classes have not begun.

**Requirements For A Degree**

The Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) requires:

- A minimum of eleven full-time semesters of academic study. The final three semesters are spent off campus completing a full-time externship.
- A minimum GPA of 3.0.
- A passing grade on summative assessments administered during years 1, 2, and 3 of the program. Students must also complete formative assessments throughout the program.
- Demonstration of academic and clinical competencies as reflected in the ASHA Tracking Competency Form.
- 1820 clinical clock hours (52 weeks X 35 hours per week) in the required areas as stipulated by ASHA.
- The Praxis Exam must be taken prior to graduation.

**Department Information**

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<tr>
<th>Speech Pathology and Audiology Administrative Staff</th>
<th>(251) 445-9378</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Elizabeth M. Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Emeritus</td>
<td>Talbott</td>
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<td>Professor Emeritus</td>
<td>Dagenais, Evans, Sellers</td>
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<td>Associate Professor Emeritus</td>
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<td>Associate Professor Emeritus</td>
<td>Holston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>Adams, B. Beverly, Davis, Gordon-Hickey, Ramkissoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professors</td>
<td>T. Beverly, Choi, Flagge, Garand, Nichols, Rishiq, Roberts, Smith</td>
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<td>Senior Instructor</td>
<td>Hudson</td>
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<td>Instructors</td>
<td>Brown, Hill, Wiles</td>
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Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology web site  
http://www.southalabama.edu/colleges/alliedhealth/speechandhearing

The mission of the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology is to provide undergraduate, masters and doctoral programs that challenge the students to achieve the highest standards of academic learning, scientific inquiry and clinical excellence. The Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology seeks to deliver a comprehensive program of academic, research and clinical training in the areas of speech, language and hearing development and disorders. The Department offers the Bachelor
of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences, the Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology, the Doctor of Audiology, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Communication Sciences and Disorders, degree programs.

The undergraduate program readies the graduate to undertake professional study on the graduate level. Students in Speech-Language Pathology who complete the master's program will meet all the academic and practicum requirements to be eligible for the Clinical Fellowship (CF) that leads to national certification (C C C - S L P) by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and eligibility for the Alabama State License. Students in Audiology who complete the Doctor of Audiology program will meet all the academic and practicum requirements for national certification (C C C -A) and also be eligible for the Alabama State License.

The master’s program (Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology) education program in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of South Alabama is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (800)-498-2071 or (301)-296-5700.

The doctoral program (Doctor of Audiology) education program in Audiology at the University of South Alabama is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (800)-498-2071 or (301)-296-5700.