

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

GRADUATE PROGRAM

PENDING APPROVAL BY THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS COMMISSION ON COLLEGES AND AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION (CAA)



MISSION AND VISION

Mission: To provide exceptional speech-language pathology education with a global perspective that fosters human connection, cultural humility, and a deep sense of community. We nurture intellectual curiosity and prepare students to be of service to others by developing empathetic, skilled professionals dedicated to the fundamental right to communicate.

Vision: To be a national leader in speech-language pathology education through cultivating practitioners who foster connection, build community, and uphold the human right to communicate. Our graduates will advance the field through compassionate care, lifelong learning, and a commitment to uplift global perspectives and enact cultural humility in evolving contexts.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Engage students in opportunities and experiences to promote a developed sense of cultural humility, global perspectives and commitment to human connection through relevant professional practice.
- Provide real world application and academic course content to enhance assessment, intervention strategies, collaborative approaches and culturally relevant, evidence-based practices that emphasize human dignity.
- Provide state-of-the-art academic coursework and clinical experiences that are community-based, culturally relevant, and relationship driven in identification, prevention, evaluation and intervention of speech, language, and swallowing disorders.
- Foster life-long learning and curiosity about cultural relevancy and global perspectives in speech language pathology using an intersectional frame (CSSP, 2019).

STRATEGIC PLAN

Our envisioned future of this newly founded speech-language pathology program is to transform the field of speech-language pathology through a socially just program founded on community-centered, collaborative teaching practices and by educating our students to be humanity-centered, compassionate and exceptional speech-language pathologists.

To embrace this future our focus areas include:
Social Justice, Mentorship, Community Engagement and Scholarship.

Social Justice: To achieve our vision and fulfill our mission, our program needs to be immersed in social justice (meaning equal rights, equitable opportunity and treatment) therefore a focus area is to evaluate our program in how we obtain and maintain social justice in our academic programs, preceptors and community. We will also implement community-centered and humanistic intersectionality framed teaching practices (CSSP, 2019) to both acknowledge systemic oppression in higher education and to provide alternative methods for demonstrating knowledge and skills (such as use of Ungrading, service-learning practices and reflective practices)

- Goal #1: All courses will incorporate antiracist teaching practices and utilize ungrading, project-based learning and reflective practices and students rate 90% of instructors as being social justice oriented (Assessment: Review of syllabus; SLP Program Survey)
- Goal #2: Provide for preceptor educational opportunities and experiences in social justice and students rate 90% of instructors as being social justice oriented (Assessment: SLP Program Survey)

Mentorship: To achieve our vision and fulfill our mission, our program will use a high-impact practice of mentorship to develop exceptional clinicians. In acknowledgement of overwhelmingly white spaces our students of color will participate in, we will incorporate practitioner mentorship and provide for a racially, linguistically and culturally rich faculty and staff.

- Goal #1: Develop and refine of affinity groups for students January 2027 (SLP Program Survey; Review of Knowledge and Skills met)
- Goal #2: KASA (Knowledge and Skills) standards will be met across 95% of students in addition to a high feeling of self-confidence and belonging as rated on Program Survey (Assessment: SLP Program Survey; Review of Knowledge and Skills met)

Community Engagement: To achieve our vision and fulfill our mission, our program will cultivate community engagement to provide for preceptors, internships and service-learning opportunities. These networks will be established reciprocally, and Marymount University SLP program will be responsive to needs and we will seek support for our student experiences in both service-learning courses and internships.

- Goal #1: Develop pathways for internship and service-learning courses including approximately 100 sites for students (Assessment: Review of program sites)
- Goal #2: Across 75% of sites, demonstrate reciprocal relationships by value adding to their programs (Assessment: Review of program sites)

Scholarship: To achieve our vision and fulfill our mission, our program will establish a rigorous and community-centered and humanistic scholarly community with our faculty and community partners. This will allow opportunities for junior faculty to meet university standards for scholarship and maintain good standing with our accreditation. These opportunities will also be available to university students as a high-impact practice and to meet our workforce's needs to instill interest in a doctorate.

- Goal #1: With greater than 80% of faculty, completing presentations or articles during the first two years of the program (Assessment: Review of CV and Faculty Performance Reviews)
- Goal #2: With greater than 30% of students engaged in research projects during the first two years of the program (Assessment: Knowledge and Skills Reviewed)

The strategic plan, mission and goals and program/student learning outcomes will be reviewed annually in a process called program assessment. An executive summary will be provided on our website and on our social media.