

Accelerated Master of Arts in Speech-Language Pathology

The accelerated master's degree in speech-language pathology is designed to produce highly skilled clinicians seeking to enter the field. This program enables qualified students to earn a Bachelor's degree in Speech-Language-Hearing: Sciences and Disorders and count up to 12 hours of 700-level or above course work in the major completed in Year 4 of study for both the Bachelor's and M.A. Speech-Language Pathology degrees. The M.A. is completed in the fifth year or beyond.

An accelerated master's degree from KU will, in most circumstances, satisfy the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (<http://www.asha.org/>)'s certification standards for continuing on to the clinical fellowship year. A certificate of clinical competence in speech-language pathology is awarded upon completion of a successful clinical fellowship.

Admission to Graduate Studies

Admission Requirements

- All applicants must meet the requirements outlined in the Admission to Graduate Study (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study/>) policy.
- Bachelor's degree: A copy of official transcripts showing proof of a bachelor's degree (and any post-bachelor's coursework or degrees) from a regionally accredited institution, or a foreign university with equivalent bachelor's degree requirements is required.
- English proficiency: Proof of English proficiency (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>) for non-native or non-native-like English speakers is required. There are two bands of English proficiency, including Admission and Full proficiency. For applicants to online programs, Full proficiency is required.

Careful course selection and steady progression through the undergraduate career is necessary to ensure all requirements for both degrees may be completed within the approximate 5-year time-frame. All prospective students should discuss their interest in admission to the Accelerated M.A. program (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/accelerated-master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology.html>) with their SPLH advisor and faculty mentor no later than the student's second year.

Prospective students are eligible to apply to the graduate program in Spring semester of their third year. The following program requirements must be met by this time:

- Major and cumulative GPA of at least 3.00;
- On track to complete all requirements for a BA or BGS degree in SPLH from KU by the end of the Spring semester of the fourth year;
- The following courses must be complete at the time of application: SPLH 161, SPLH 220, SPLH 462, SPLH 463, SPLH 465, SPLH 466, SPLH 568, SPLH 571

Applicants must complete an Application for Graduate Study (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>) online following the typical procedures for MA SLP admissions. A full list of the required application materials, including

the application deadline, can be found on the Eligibility and Requirements ([https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-\(ma-slp\)/eligibility-and-requirements.html](https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-(ma-slp)/eligibility-and-requirements.html)) and How to Apply ([https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-\(ma-slp\)/how-to-apply.html](https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-(ma-slp)/how-to-apply.html)) pages our of Department's website (<http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/hearing-and-speech.html>).

Non-native speakers of English must meet English proficiency requirements (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>).

Accelerated M.A. Degree Progression Requirements

Upon review of the Application for Admission, SPLH will notify the student of his or her eligibility to begin coursework in the program. Final acceptance to the graduate program will be contingent upon the following:

- Successful completion of all requirements for the bachelor's degree;
- Grades of B- or above in all SPLH graduate-level coursework taken in Year 4;
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all coursework completed in Years 1-4;
- A GPA of 3.0 for all graduate coursework completed in Year 4.

Please note that admission to the graduate program through the traditional process is highly competitive. Students applying to the Accelerated M.A. program will be reviewed with other students applying to the M.A. SLP program. Similar criteria will be used to select students for both programs. If a student is not admitted to the Accelerated M.A. program, they are encouraged to meet with their undergraduate advisor to discuss undergraduate activities to pursue in Year 4 to become more competitive and to re-apply to the M.A. SLP program through the traditional process in Year 4.

The course requirements for this accelerated program are fulfilled by a combination of graduate-level courses taken for both undergraduate and graduate credit in Year 4, and graduate credit courses taken in Year 5 (and beyond). Numerous graduate-level courses are regularly offered that fulfill distribution requirements for both the Bachelor's and M.A. degrees.

The student must be approved to begin coursework toward the Accelerated M.A. program prior to enrolling in any 700 level or above courses that are to count for both undergraduate and graduate credit.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

Code	Title	Hours
Speech-Language-Hearing Prerequisite or Co-Requisite Requirements		
Majors must complete this requirement, however, these hours do not contribute to the minimum number of hours required for the major.		
Mathematics. Satisfied by one of the following:		
MATH 101	College Algebra: _____	
MATH 104	Precalculus Mathematics (Or upper-level placement)	

Statistics. An introductory statistics course (PSYC 210, MATH 365) is recommended.

Speech-Language-Hearing Introductory Knowledge

Majors must complete a course in the following areas (recommended within first and second year):

Survey Communication Disorders. Satisfied by:

SPLH 161	Survey of Communication Disorders	3
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The Physics of Speech. Satisfied by:

SPLH 220	The Physics of Speech	4
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Speech-Language-Hearing Core Knowledge and Skills

Principles of Speech Science. Satisfied by:

SPLH 462	Principles of Speech Science	3
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Principles of Hearing Science. Satisfied by:

SPLH 463	Principles of Hearing Science	3
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Fundamentals of Clinical Phonetics. Satisfied by:

SPLH 465	Fundamentals of Clinical Phonetics	1
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Language Science. Satisfied by:

SPLH 466	Language Science	3
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Language Sample Analysis Laboratory. Satisfied by:

SPLH 565	Language Sample Analysis Lab	1
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Language Development. Satisfied by:

SPLH 566	Language Development	3
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Introduction to Audiological Assessment & Rehabilitation. Satisfied by:

SPLH 568	Introduction to Audiological Assessment and Rehabilitation	4
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Introduction to Speech-Language Pathology. Satisfied by:

SPLH 571	Introduction to Speech-Language Pathology	4
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The Communication Brain: The Ultimate Personal Computer. Satisfied by:

SPLH 620	The Communicating Brain: The Ultimate Personal Computer	3
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Capstone Course

Research Methods in Speech-Language-Hearing. Satisfied by:

SPLH 660	Research Methods in Speech-Language-Hearing	3
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Total Hours **35**

Code	Title	Hours
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Further Speech-Language-Hearing Study

SPLH 451	Directed Study Abroad in Speech-Language-Hearing ^{*hours listed indicates the maximum}	3
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SPLH 452	Examining Global Perspectives in Speech-Language-Hearing: _____	3
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SPLH 498	Departmental Research ^{*hours listed indicates the maximum}	8
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SPLH 499	Directed Study in Speech-Language-Hearing	3
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SPLH 516	Speech Perception	2
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After completing the requirements, students with grade-point averages of 3.0 or higher may enroll in any one of the following:

SPLH 670	Beginning Clinical Practice in Audiology ^{*hours listed indicates the maximum}	3
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SPLH 672	Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology	3
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During the Senior Year (Year 4), the student must take the following SPLH courses:

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses in Year 4 to prepare for the MA Degree:		
SPLH 860	Evaluation of Speech and Language	2
SPLH 862	Clinical Processes	1
SPLH 864	Advanced Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology	4
SPLH 700+	level basic electives, as defined by the MA SLP handbook	4
SPLH 588	Multicultural Considerations in Speech-Language-Hearing I	1
SPLH 889	Multicultural Considerations in Speech-Language-Hearing II	1
Total Hours		13

Of these courses, taken in the fall and spring term of year 4, **12 credit hours** will count toward the master's degree and the 120 hour requirement for the undergraduate degree.

SPLH 889 does not count towards the 700+ level basic elective credits.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 35 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 28 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Requirements for the M.A. Degree:

Code	Title	Hours
Required Graduate Experiences for Breadth ^{*hours listed indicates the maximum}		
SPLH 862	Clinical Processes ¹	1
SPLH 864	Advanced Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology ²	6
SPLH 868	Professional Issues ³	2
SPLH Electives (6 seminars, 2 credit hours each)		12
Required Graduate Experiences for Depth		
SPLH 866	Field Study in Speech-Language Pathology	5
Research experience (thesis or nonthesis option)		3
Advanced electives (SPLH, outside department, or thesis)		4
Second field study or fourth practicum experience		5
Total Hours		38

1 This course is taken twice for a total of 2 credit hours.

2 This course is taken more than once for a total of 10 credit hours

3 This course is taken more than once for a total of 2 credit hours

Code	Title	Hours
Elective Options		
SPLH 716	Speech Perception	
SPLH 736	Foundations of Early Intervention	
SPLH 737	Infants and Toddler with Significant Needs	
SPLH 752	Examining Global Perspectives in Speech-Language-Hearing: _____	
SPLH 764	Seminar in: _____	
SPLH 820	Developmental Phonological Disorders	
SPLH 822	Neuromotor Speech Disorders	
SPLH 824	Fluency Disorders	
SPLH 826	Phonatory Disorders	
SPLH 830	Communication in Autism	
SPLH 832	Dysphagia	
SPLH 833	Dysphagia Treatment in Adults	
SPLH 834	Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Literacy	
SPLH 836	Introduction to Augmentative and Alternative Communication Technologies	
SPLH 838	Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Schools	
SPLH 840	Communication of Infants and Toddlers: Early Intervention Supports and Services	
SPLH 899	Master's Thesis	
SPLH 842	Language Disorders of Children: Preschool	
SPLH 844	Language Disorders of Children: School Age	
SPLH 846	Language Disorders of Adults	
SPLH 848	Language Disorders of Special Populations	
SPLH 850	Cognitive-Linguistic Disorders of Adults	
SPLH 852	Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities	
SPLH 853	Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Adult Acquired Disorders	
SPLH 854	Reading Disorders	
SPLH 856	Bilingual Child Speech-Language Assessment and Intervention	
SPLH 858	Bilingual Speech-Language Pathology: Practice and Research	
SPLH 876	Independent Study in Problems of Speech, Language, and Hearing	

Students should consult their faculty advisor to determine elective coursework selection.

Progression Requirements

Given the accelerated nature of this program, each student's progress will be closely monitored at various points during the program:

1. Upon approval to begin coursework toward the Accelerated M.A. track, the student must meet with their assigned SPLH faculty mentor

to plan the final year of undergraduate study (Year 4). Performance in graduate coursework during Year 4 must meet the academic standing and student performance expectations outlined in the MA SLP handbook (https://www.kumc.edu/documents/_shp/hearing-speech/MASLP-StudentHandbook-07092024.pdf) or the consequences detailed in the handbook will be enacted (e.g., remediation plan created).

2. In the final semester of undergraduate work and prior to being formally admitted, the student must meet with their assigned SPLH faculty mentor to review the student's performance in SPLH courses. The student must earn a grade of "B-" or better in these courses and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to be eligible for admission to the master's program. If these conditions are not met, then the following actions are possible.
 - a. For grade(s) of C+ or C: Students may be admitted with monitoring by the Advising Committee;
 - b. For grade(s) of C-, D, F: Students may be admitted with monitoring by the Advising Committee and will need to re-take the course(s) because grades below C cannot count towards graduate requirements;
 - c. For students that fail to meet progression criteria in year four, the program may deny formal admission to the graduate program
3. During Year 5 (and beyond), performance must meet the academic standing and student performance expectations outlined in the MA SLP handbook (https://www.kumc.edu/documents/_shp/hearing-speech/MASLP-StudentHandbook-07092024.pdf) or the consequences detailed in the handbook will be enacted (e.g., remediation plan created).
4. If the baccalaureate degree is not completed at the end of Year 4, the student will not be permitted to enroll in courses for graduate credit toward the master's degree until the baccalaureate degree has been conferred.
5. Students should complete all requirements for the Accelerated M.A. within 1-1.5 years of receiving the bachelor's degree. If unforeseen circumstances prevent the timely completion of the master's degree, the student must consult with their graduate advisor to develop an alternative plan for completion\

Other Requirements:

- Complete a formative assessment in the 3rd semester in the Masters program. This formative assessment is in the form of a mid-program review with their advisor.

Summative (or optional Thesis) Examination

- Students must pass the oral summative exam (including the thesis defense if applicable). Potential outcomes include honors, pass, revision, or fail. Please see the student handbook for criteria on revised exams. If an outcome is recorded as a fail, a student may re-take the exam. If a student fails the exam twice, the program will consider the student as making unsatisfactory progress and unable to continue in the program.
- If students complete an optional thesis as part of their summative exam, students must enroll in a minimum of 4 thesis credits (SPLH 899). These thesis credits can count towards the required research requirement.

Accelerated M.A. Sample Academic Plan.

Please consult with an advisor for an individual program plan. Students will apply to the Accelerated M.A. program during the spring semester (please see the How to Apply ([https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-\(ma-slp\)/how-to-apply.html](https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-(ma-slp)/how-to-apply.html)) page for the application deadline) of their third year. Students complete their undergraduate degree at the end of the spring term in Year 4. If progression criteria is met, students will be admitted and begin their graduate coursework in the summer following undergraduate degree conferral. Please see the admissions tab of the catalog for further details.

Year 1

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3 ENGL 102 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3
MATH 101 (Core 34: Math and Statistics (SGE)) ⁰³⁰	3 BA Quantitative Reasoning (QR) (PHSX 114 or CHEM 130 recommended)	4-5
1st Semester Language (BA Second Language)	5 2nd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	5
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) ⁰⁵⁰	3 SPLH 220	4
SPLH 161	3	
17		16-17

Year 2

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	3 4th Semester Language, or 1st semester of Another Language, unless req for mjr (BA Second Language) ³	3
Core 34: Communications (SGE) ⁰²⁰	3 SPLH 463	3
SPLH 462	3 SPLH 566	3
SPLH 465	1 SPLH 565	1
SPLH 466	3 SPLH 571	4
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) (PSYC 104 or SOC 104 recommended) ⁰⁵	3 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3
16		17

Year 3

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
SPLH 568	4 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3
Core 34: US Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3 Core 34: Global Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3
SPLH 620	3 SPLH 660	3
SPLH 672	3 Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE) (BIOL 100 recommended) ⁰⁴	4-5
SPLH Research	3 BA Laboratory/Field Experience (LFE)	1
	SPLH Elective (SPLH Research or SPLH 670 or SPLH 672 recommended)	3
16		17-18

Year 4

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
MA Basic Elective	2 SPLH 864	4 SPLH 864	2
SPLH 860	2 SPLH 874	1 MA Basic Elective	2
SPLH 588	1 SPLH 589	1	
Statistics	3 SPLH 862	1	
Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3	
MA Basic Elective	2		
13		10	4

Year 5

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
SPLH 862	1 SPLH 866	5 SPLH 866	5
SPLH 864	4 MA Advanced Elective	2 MA Basic Elective	2
MA Basic Elective	2 MA Advanced Elective	2	
MA Basic Elective	2 SPLH 868	1	
MA Basic Elective	2 Research	1	
MA Basic Elective	2 MA Basic Elective	2	
SPLH 868	1		

Research	1		
	15	13	7

Total Hours 161-163

¹ Hour requirements (incl. 45 jr/sr hrs) are typically met through Core 34, degree, major, second area of study and/or elective hours. Students completing the BGS with a major must choose a secondary area of study. Individual degree mapping is done in partnership with your advisor.

² Visit this page (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/#ba-quantitative-reasoning>) for a list of courses that fulfill the BA Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

³ For students completing the language requirement via the 3+1 language option, note that many first semester languages are 5 credit hours.

Accelerated M.A. Sample Academic Plan.

Please consult with an advisor for an individual program plan. Students will apply to the Accelerated M.A. program during the spring semester (please see our How to Apply ([https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-\(ma-slp\)/how-to-apply.html](https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/academics/departments/hearing-and-speech/academics/speech-language-pathology-degrees/master-of-arts-in-speech-language-pathology-(ma-slp)/how-to-apply.html)) page for the application deadline) of their third year. Students complete their undergraduate degree at the end of the spring term in Year 4. If progression criteria is met, students will be admitted and begin their graduate coursework in the summer following undergraduate degree conferral. Please see the admissions tab of the catalog for further details.

Year 1

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3 ENGL 102 (Core 34: English (SGE)) ⁰¹⁰	3
MATH 101 (Core 34: Math and Statistics (SGE)) ⁰³⁰	3 BA Quantitative Reasoning (QR) (PHSX 114 or CHEM 130 recommended)	4-5
Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) ⁰⁵⁰	3 SPLH 220	4
SPLH 161	3	
	15	14-15

Year 2

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3

Core 34: Communications (SGE) ⁰²⁰	3 SPLH 463	3
SPLH 462	3 SPLH 566	3
SPLH 465	1 SPLH 565	1
SPLH 466	3 SPLH 571	4
Core 34: Social and Behavior Science (SGE) (PSYC 104 or SOC 104 recommended) ⁰⁶⁰	3 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3

16**17****Year 3**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
SPLH 568	4 Core 34: Arts and Humanities (SGE) ⁰⁶⁰	3
Core 34: US Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3 Core 34: Global Culture (SGE) ⁰⁷⁰	3
SPLH 620	3 SPLH 660	3
SPLH 300+ Elective	3 Core 34: Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE) (BIOL 100 recommended) ⁰⁴	4-5
SPLH Elective (SPLH Research or SPLH 670 or SPLH 672 recommended)	3 BA Laboratory/Field Experience (LFE) (BIOL 102 recommended)	1
	SPLH Elective (SPLH Research or SPLH 670 or SPLH 672 recommended)	3

16**17-18****Year 4**

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
MA Basic Elective	2 SPLH 864	4 SPLH 864	2
SPLH 860	2 SPLH 874	1 MA Basic Elective	2
SPLH 588	1 SPLH 589	1	
Statistics	3 SPLH 862	1	
Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3 Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3	

MA Basic Elective	2 Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours ¹	3	
	13	13	4
Year 5			
Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
SPLH 862	1 SPLH 866	5 SPLH 866	5
SPLH 864	4 MA Advanced Elective	2 MA Basic Elective	2
MA Basic Elective	2 MA Advanced Elective	2	
MA Basic Elective	2 SPLH 868	1	
MA Basic Elective	2 MA Basic Elective	2	
MA Basic Elective	2 Research	1	
SPLH 868	1		
Research	1		
	15	13	7

Total Hours 160-162

¹ Hour requirements (incl. 45 jr/sr hrs) are typically met through Core 34, degree, major, second area of study and/or elective hours. Students completing the BGS with a major must choose a secondary area of study. Individual degree mapping is done in partnership with your advisor.

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Critical Thinking Knowledge / Skill Levels:
 - Level 1: Develop a disposition to think critically – engage in skepticism, judgement and free thinking.
 - Level 2: Draw judicious conclusions, justify results based on logic drawn from a range of information.
 - Level 3: Relate issues (e.g., current events) to the academic field and larger contexts.
 - Level 4: Engage in abstract reasoning, problem solving, questioning and understanding, and apply these skills to basic science and clinical scenarios.
- Basic Science and Skills in Speech, Language, Hearing Knowledge / Skill Levels:
 - Level 1: Identify core concepts in field (e.g., what is a sound wave?)
 - Level 2: Recognize core concepts in practical scenarios.
 - Level 3: Apply concepts within a class to untaught but related content within the same class. For example, applies core principle from early in class in subsequent opportunities.
 - Level 4: Generalize and integrate skills and information across SPLH classes (e.g., integrates information from Hearing science into Intro to Audiology; Frequency from SPLH 220 and its role in Hearing Science and Speech Science; applies concepts of reliability taught in research methods to data collection in clinical practice).

- Written and verbal communication on the principles and practices of communication sciences, assessment, and intervention Knowledge / Skill Levels:
 - Level 1: Demonstrate interpersonal skills that reflect respect for all individuals.
 - Level 2: Basic written communication on the principles and practices of communication sciences.
 - Level 3: Basic written and verbal communication that clearly communicates to others including stakeholders (other professionals and community members).
 - Level 4: Use effective and persuasive written and verbal communication to inform audiences about research and clinical practices.
- Knowledge / Skill Levels:
 - Level 1: Identify sources of information for Speech, Language, and Hearing, such as scholars, organizations (ASHA) who might produce relevant material text, and whether obtainable from resources available to students.
 - Level 2: Demonstrate ability to find primary sources on Speech, Language, and Hearing research (e.g., ASHA portal evidence maps, JSLHR, AJSPLP).
 - Level 3: Implement search procedures to identify EBP in a variety of sources including research and clinical practices.
 - Level 4: Manage search processes and results effectively. Collect and evaluate information/evidence regarding clinical practices and/or research questions and persist in the face of challenges. Know when they have enough information to complete their information task.