The Master of Health Sciences Degree in Communication Disorders

Planning for your program
Welcome!

I am excited to welcome you into the graduate program in Communication Disorders at GSU. You are joining a program that is innovative, community-oriented, and diverse. We have challenging and rewarding courses and programming, and many opportunities for you to individualize your education to help explore special areas of interest.

As you prepare to meet with your academic advisor, be sure to visit www.govst.edu/chhs/cdis/mhs for a wealth of program information, including the department’s student handbooks and calendars.

On the next few pages, you will receive specific instructions for preparing for your advising visit and setting up a plan of study. You will also see suggestions for other things you may do over the summer to be ready to hit the ground running in the fall.

I look forward to seeing you on August 23rd 2018!

Dr. Jessica Bonner
Interim Department Chair
Planning your course sequence

- Print out a copy of the department’s projected course schedule.
- Print out the list of requirements for the MHS program from the department’s webpage [www.govst.edu/chhs/cdis/mhs/](http://www.govst.edu/chhs/cdis/mhs/). If you did not graduate from GSU, please also print out the requirements for the BHS program.
- Review the Graduate Student Handbook see CDIS webpage.
- Notice that all 3-credit graduate and undergraduate courses are taught once per week for 3 hours. Also notice that 1-credit courses are on individualized schedules or online.
- Begin building a schedule for your entire program. Schedule all academic courses to be completed before practicum courses begin.
Planning your course sequence

- Develop a potential plan which includes 3-4 graduate courses per semester if you are full time, or 1-2 graduate courses per semester if you are part time.
- If you have not had equivalent courses to those listed in the BHS program requirements, you must include any missing undergraduate courses in your first two semesters of graduate study. You may want to complete BHS courses the summer before your graduate program begins. Highlight these to discuss with your advisor.
- Schedule the 6000 level courses in your first year.
- Consider whether you might be interested in completing a thesis. If so, you should begin working on a plan with your advisor during your first semester in the program.
Summer Preparations

- During May or June, meet with your advisor to develop a study plan.
- Once you have a study plan developed, register for your fall classes.
- Take and pass the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) from the ISBE. If you have taken the ACT Plus Writing with a composite score of 22 or higher, or the SAT with a score of 1030 or higher, within the past 10 years, you may have these scores reported instead of taking the TAP. A passing score on the TAP or its equivalent is required for all MHS candidates in CDIS. You will not be permitted to register for the Spring semester until you have fulfilled this requirement.
Summer Preparations

• Send copies of your official transcripts to GSU as instructed by the Office of Admissions.
• Submit your immunization verifications to the university.
• Take undergraduate courses you need. We encourage you to take them here at GSU, and can help you do so.
• Attend the mandatory orientation on Thursday, August 23rd from 8:30–5:00 p.m.
Your Advisor

• Go to your advisor with any questions about the program, courses, or policies that are not answered in the Department of Communication Disorders Graduate Student Handbook.

• Asking fellow students may result in incorrect or confusing information. It is your advisor's intention to ensure your academic and professional progress.
Registration – Authorization

• After your advisor has approved your SSP, including the Study Plan Grid, enter your sequence in the Course Authorization Book.
• Do not sign up for academic courses in the authorization book which already have 25 students listed.
• Your approved study plan grid should match your requests in the authorization book.
Registration – Authorization

- By signing up for your courses in the Course Authorization Book, you are reserving a place in that section of the graduate course.
- If you wish to make changes to your approved study plan grid, you are required to have your changes approved by your academic advisor. These changes then must be reflected in the course authorization book.
- Authorization will permit you to register, it does not replace your registration.
Registration

Once authorized, you still need to register!
Registration Options

• Do not attempt to enroll concurrently in a course and its prerequisite. Special permission from the instructor is required for this.

• It is important to remember that undergraduate CDIS courses are not authorized. You must register as early as possible in order to ensure a space in the course.
Checklist of Steps to Complete M.H.S. Degree Requirements

- View [Pre-Advising Orientation document]
- Schedule [Advising Appointment]
- Develop [SSP and Grid with Advisor]
- Register for Fall 2018 courses
- RSVP/register for August 23rd Orientation
- Required: Attend [Orientation and Practicum Information Session] on [Thursday, August 23rd, 8:30-5:00].