

September 10, 2008

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Memo: Changes in Minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders for Fall 2009

To: Committee Members

Attached please find the changes proposed to the Minor Curriculum in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Changes to the curriculum in the Major necessitate these changes in the Minor. The Minor originally required that students take one of the disorders courses and its specific prerequisite course as a sequence. However, we have collapsed two of our disorders courses down to one disorders course in the major, so that option for the minor is no longer possible. Additionally, we have strengthened our scientific foundation area of the curriculum by requiring one of our science courses earlier in the major (See CBM003 COMD 2385). We want our Minor students to have the full benefit of the scientific foundation courses we offer.

Three types of students choose to minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders:

Students with a genuine interest in Communication Sciences and Disorders, but a desire to major in another health care- or education-related discipline find that the minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders offers them an opportunity to consider typical development of communication skills, the scientific bases of communication and specific information of particular communication disorders.

Students in the new ASLI (American Sign Language Interpreter) program, which requires students to minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders comprise the second group. This offers the ASLI majors the opportunity of not only learning how to interpret using American Sign Language, but a broader understanding of the science of communication and particular disorders that they may encounter in their careers.

Finally, students who originally planned to major in Communication Sciences and Disorders who do not successfully complete a COMD Core, may elect to complete the minor instead.

In order to meet the needs of these three types of students, we have proposed changing the minor requirements as shown on the attachment. We specified the courses that begin with foundation courses covering communication development and the acoustic and physiologic science of communication. Specialization courses include courses that will help Minor students to focus on the communication needs of individuals with hearing impairment. This specifically will assist students in the new ASLI program and those pursuing majors in other health care- or education-related fields. Our students who were unsuccessful in the COMD major benefit from the courses already completed and develop a focus on a specific population of disordered individuals.

None of the changes require additional CBM003 forms.


Thank you for considering these changes to the COMD Minor.

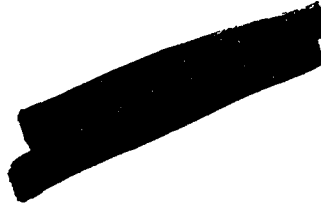
Martha Dunkelberger, Ph.D. CCC-SLP
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CC:

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Current Requirements	Specific Courses	Proposed Changes	Specific Courses	Justification
<p>Requirements are 15 hours of specified coursework, 9 of which must be advanced; 9 semester hours in residence, 6 of which must be advanced. Communication Sciences and Disorders minors must earn a minimum grade of C in each course they apply to the minor. An undergraduate advisor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders must approve the proposed minor program. Students may declare their minor for Communication Sciences and Disorders in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, 120 CRS Building.</p>		<p>Minor requirements: * 15 hours of specified course work must be completed, 9 of which are advanced. * 9 semester hours must be in residence of which 6 must be advanced. * Students who are completing a minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders must earn a minimum grade of C in each minor course.</p>	<p>COMD 2340 – Science of Sound COMD 3381 – Fundamentals of Audiology COMD 3301 – Deaf Culture</p>	<p>clarity These courses, taken together are foundation courses in our department</p>
	COMD 2339 – Speech and Language Development		COMD 2139 – Speech and Language Development Lab	
	COMD 3381 – Fundamentals of Audiology		COMD 3301 – Deaf Culture	This course serves as the most specialized of our minor courses.
	Students must choose only one of the following pairs of courses		COMD 4382 – Aural Rehabilitation	
	COMD 2340 AND COMD 3371	OR	COMD 2376 Anatomy	Choice of:
	COMD 2339 AND COMD 3383	OR	COMD 2385/4385 Speech Science	Each of these courses is a foundation course in our department.
	TOTAL: 15 credits		TOTAL: 15 credits	