



جامعة دار الحكمة
DAR AL-HEKMA UNIVERSITY

Education, Health And Behavioral Sciences School
Department Of Health and Behavioral Sciences
Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology
Program
AY 2023-2024

PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Contents

DAH University Vision	3
DAH University Mission	3
DAH University Values	3
DAH University Strategic Goals Values	3
School of Education, Health and Behavioral sciences School Mission	3
MSLP Program Mission	3
MSLP Program Graduate Attributes.....	4
MSLP Program Goals	4
MSLP Program PLOs	5
Overview About MSLP Program.....	5
Significance of the Program.....	6
What the students would work when they graduate.....	6
Admission Criteria	6
MSLP Program Plan of Study.....	7
Course Descriptions	8
Contacts	12
SEHB School Dean.....	12
Health & Behavioral Sciences Department Chair.....	12
MSLP Program Director	12
MSLP Program Administrative Assistant.....	12
MSLP Faculty members in the program	12

DAH University Vision

A university that takes the lead in education, development, and creativity to positively impact society.

DAH University Mission

Graduating leaders and entrepreneurs who embody the values of the university by providing an educational environment that encourages development, creativity, scientific research and community service.

DAH University Values

- Quest for Excellence
- Appreciation for Knowledge
- Service to Our Community
- Creativity and Innovation
- Vision for the Future

DAH University Strategic Goals Values

- Ensure high quality programs, services and teaching
- Achieve financial sustainability
- Expand academic programs and strategic research contributions
- Upskill and prepare graduates to transition into professional careers & leadership roles that fulfill job market needs
- Expand reach & impact of Dar Al-Hekma

SEHB School Mission

Graduating health professionals, educators and researchers empowered to lead the fields of health and education and enhance the quality of life of the people in Saudi Arabia.

MSLP Program Mission

The mission of the Master's Program in Speech-Language Pathology is to provide students with the knowledge and skills required for competent clinical service delivery to children and adults with communication disorders, in Arabic and English.

MSLP Program Graduate Attributes

1. **Cognition:** Students should have essential cognitive functions such as language, understanding, synthesizing, memory, attention, visuospatial skills, and higher-level cognitive abilities.
2. **Communication:** Students should have the communicative abilities to demonstrate competencies, answer oral and written questions, and present information in class or conferences.
3. **Professionalism:** Students should consistently respect themselves and others, be caring, fair, honest, prompt, and abide by all the laws and regulations of the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties and the DAH university codes of conduct.
4. **Competencies:** Students should demonstrate the following competencies: being knowledgeable, an influencer, collaborator, critical thinker, problem-solver, and be research-oriented.
5. **Values:** Students should possess the following values: loyalty, responsibility, conscientiousness, generosity, reliability, passion, respectfulness, humility, and creativity.
6. **Attitudes:** Students should demonstrate the following attitudes be tolerant, positive, balanced, punctual, health- conscious, disciplined, flexible, resourceful, empathetic, and confident.

MSLP Program Goals

- Introduce students to various theories and concepts that are relevant to speech-language pathology.
- Equip students with professional clinical skills that include screening, assessment, diagnosis, intervention, counseling services, and report writing.
- Ensure that students are equipped with up-to-date technologies for evaluation and intervention in the field of speech-language pathology.
- Provide students with a wide range of learning resources that foster their understanding of scientific and clinical research.
- Enhance ethical conduct in clinical practices by providing clinical experience with individuals who have communication disorders and by involving students in interprofessional service delivery.

MSLP Program PLOs

Knowledge and Understanding

K1: Demonstrate a deep knowledge of concepts and theories related to the identification and treatment of communication and swallowing disorders.

Skills

S1: Design treatment plans for patients/clients beginning with the evaluation and diagnosis of speech and language disorders.

S2: Apply basic principles and methods of data collection, analysis, interpretation, and reporting to determine the presence or absence of communication disorders to devise and implement effective treatment plans.

S3: Utilize advanced techniques to evaluate and analyze data to make informed decisions about speech, language, and cognitive communication disorders.

Values

V1: Employ ethical practices when working with individuals with communication disorders and their families, and while collaborating with other professionals in the field.

V2: Demonstrate ethical knowledge and integrity in conducting scientific research.

Overview About MSLP Program

The Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (MSLP) program is designed to inspire students to become exceptional professionals. The program integrates academic knowledge with research and clinical experience to help students develop superior critical thinking and clinical skills. The curriculum was developed by scholars certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), and then reviewed and approved by the Saudi Ministry of Education, ensuring its quality and relevance. The curriculum emphasizes clinical competency, research independence, and faculty mentorship to empower students to excel in their fields. The program offers a personalized mentoring approach and a student-centered learning environment with small class sizes, encouraging independence and innovation.

The MSLP program values diversity and welcomes qualified students from around the world. Its courses are taught by nationally and internationally recognized researchers and clinicians, inspiring students to become leaders in their field.

The MSLP program provides an inspiring opportunity for students to acquire the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) clinical competence certification. Students can take a significant step toward their career goals by completing the necessary supervised hours with an ASHA-certified clinician. Additionally, eligible students can benefit from graduate scholarships to help achieve their dreams.

Significance of the Program

The program equips students with the necessary skills to excel in various career paths and job opportunities. As a graduate, you will have countless possibilities to explore and excel in your chosen field, such as:

- Providing invaluable services to individuals with communication and swallowing disorders
- Working in various national and local agencies such as hospitals, clinics, public and private schools, or starting your own clinic and private practice.
- Prepare future professionals in colleges and universities, engage in empirical research to further knowledge about communication processes and disorders, and develop new assessment and intervention methods.

The MSLP program offers an unparalleled opportunity for students who want to apply for the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Certificate of Clinical Competence. Students can take a significant step toward their career goals by completing the necessary supervised hours with an ASHA-certified clinician.

Admission Criteria

- A bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution accepted by the Ministry of Education (MOE) in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences or Communication disorders.
- Satisfactory scholastic average with a minimum GPA of 3.75 out of 5.
- TOFEL Score must be a minimum of 550 / IELTS Score of 5.5.
- Official copies of transcripts and certificates of undergraduate and graduate studies completed earlier (the original documents are required for verification).
- Personal statement (minimum 1000 words).
- Two Recommendation letters, one from the applicant's former professor.
- On-campus or Virtual Interview.

MSLP Program Plan of Study

Year One	SEMESTER ONE				CREDITS	TOTAL
	CSCD	6301	Oral & Written Language Disorders	3	10	
	CSCD	6302	Advanced Research Methods	3		
	CSCD	6303	Autism Spectrum Disorders	3		
	CSCD	6101	Practicum I	1		
	SEMESTER TWO					
	AURE	6301	Advanced Aural Rehabilitation	3	9	
	CSCD	6201	Medical Aspects of Speech- Language Pathology	2		
	CSCD	6304	Phonological Disorders	3		
CSCD	6102	Practicum II - Child Practicum in Speech- Language Pathology	1			

Summer					CREDITS	TOTAL
	CSCD	6305	Voice Disorders	3	4	
	CSCD	6103	Practicum III - Adult Practicum in Speech- Language Pathology	1		

Year	SEMESTER ONE				CREDITS	TOTAL
	CSCD	6306	Dysphagia	3	10	
	CSCD	6307	Aphasia & Cognitive Disorders	3		
	CSCD	6308	Craniofacial Anomalies	3		
	CSCD	6104	Practicum IV - School Practicum in Speech- Language Pathology	1		
	SEMESTER TWO					
	CSCD	6309	Motor Speech Disorders & Traumatic Brain Injury	3	9	
	CSCD	6202	Fluency Disorders	2		
	CSCD	6310	Clinical Research Project	3		
	CSCD	6105	Practicum V - Medical Practicum in Speech- Language Pathology	1		
CSCD	6000	Preparation for Comprehensive Examination	0			

Summer II (Optional)					CREDITS	TOTAL
	CSCD	XXXX	Free Elective (Students may not be required to take this elective)	2	2	

Total Credit Hours for Graduation					42

Course Descriptions

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6301 Oral and Written Language Disorders

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course provides the skills needed for evidence-based practice in disorders covering listening, speaking, reading and writing. It also focuses on theories, characteristics, etiologies, diagnosis, treatment and research in oral and written language disorders. The course covers language disorders as it relates to impairment and learning disabilities, language literacy and communication development, motor and sensory impairments, ability-achievement discrepancy and cognitive referencing policies.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6302 Advanced Research Methods

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course covers evidence-based practice and research methodology in the field of Speech-Language Pathology. The course emphasizes components of research topic selection, research design, literature review, research concepts using scientific terminology, hypothesis setting, variables, data collection and research conclusions, as they relate to a completed research project. It also supports research as framed within the context of the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) model.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6303 Autism Spectrum Disorders

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course focuses on the diagnostic criteria used to identify children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and etiological and contributing factors of ASD. It also emphasizes the communication, social interaction and play characteristics of individuals with ASD. The course also covers speech-language pathology (SLP) methods of prevention, assessment and intervention for this population and their implementation. The course incorporates research and knowledge of cultural and family practices to evaluate and modify current prevention, assessment and intervention SLP practices to meet the needs of clients with ASD.

Course Code & Title: AURE 6301 Advanced Aural Rehabilitation

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course emphasizes evidence-based practice in assessment and intervention for individuals with hearing loss. It also covers technologies for accessing sound, communication strategies for optimizing communication for adults with hearing loss, and intervention approaches for children with hearing loss, including the development of listening and spoken language.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6201 Medical Aspects of Speech-Language Pathology

Credit Hours: 2

Course Description:

This course provides relevant theory and a comprehensive overview of Medical Speech-Language Pathology (SLP). It covers basic SLP problems, medical SLP problems. In addition, it covers the evaluation and treatment of these SLP problems, medical ethics, and standards of various professional organizations.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6304 Phonological Disorders

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course highlights advanced competencies in the knowledge of phonology and phonological disorders, including the selection, planning, and implementation of assessment and intervention strategies. It covers similar and different phonological characteristics of the English and Arabic speech production, and what is considered as typical or atypical speech. The course also focuses on the diagnosis and treatment, as well as clinical and theoretical research, of typical and disordered phonology.

Course Code & Title: CSCD Voice Disorders

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course introduces the theory and application of the study of voice disorders and their rehabilitation in children and adults. It covers the societal and personal relevance of pathologies affecting voice, the prevention of voice disorders, the effect of pharmaceutical agents on voice, basic science foundation of voice therapy, and an overview of critical voice therapy programs and outcome data.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6306 Dysphagia

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course focuses on examining, at an advanced level, the structures and physiology of swallowing. It also covers the assessment procedures, pathologies, and treatment strategies. In addition, it emphasizes clinical research associated with the processes of deglutition and their disorders in adults and children.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6307 Aphasia and Cognitive Disorders

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course focuses on adult neurogenic language disorders including adult aphasia and cognitive disorders, definitions, incidence, prevalence, and causes. It also covers the clinical types, and contemporary approaches to assess and treat aphasia and cognitive disorders.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6308 Craniofacial Anomalies

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

The course focuses on the nature, causes, and characteristics of craniofacial anomalies and the speech, language, and hearing disorders that accompany them. It emphasizes the diagnosis and treatment of speech and language disorders associated with cleft lip and palate. This course also covers other craniofacial anomalies related to syndromes, birth defects, and acquired defects.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6309 Motor Speech Disorders & Traumatic Brain Injury

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course provides the academic knowledge base for clinical practice with individuals who have neurologically based speech disorders. The course introduces the best practices in clinical treatment of motor speech disorders and provides a knowledgeable and practical foundation in the area of motor speech disorders. It highlights the etiologies, types, assessment, and treatment of motor speech disorders through collaborative, problem-based learning experiences, and labs. The course also covers: (1) the anatomical and physiological bases of motor speech disorders, (2) the assessment of motor speech disorders, and (3) the treatment and management of motor speech disorders.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6202 Fluency Disorders

Credit Hours: 2

Course Description:

This course provides an understanding of the complex issues related to the evaluation and treatment of fluency disorders. It also includes the etiological theories, assessment, best practice in treatment and service delivery. In addition, it covers the contemporary research and interdisciplinary considerations.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6310 Clinical Research Project

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description:

This course provides the research competency required by the Ministry of Higher Education. It also highlights the knowledge and skill to conduct independent research and focuses on the discipline of speech-language pathology.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6101 Practicum I-in Speech-Language Pathology-Diagnostic

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide the students with supervised clinical experience in planning and evaluating the speech and language of children and adults, analyzing and interpreting assessment data, and submitting assessment reports.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6102 Practicum II - Child Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

This field experience allows student clinicians to obtain practical skills in the diagnosis and treatment of children. It also aims to give training in a broad spectrum of communication disorders among culturally and linguistically diverse populations' settings. Further skills are practiced preparing students to become independent, competent speech-language pathologists.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6103 Practicum III - Adult Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

This field experience allows student clinicians to obtain practical skills in the diagnosis and treatment of adults. It also aims to give training in a broad spectrum of communication disorders among culturally and linguistically diverse populations and settings. Further skills are practiced preparing students to become independent, competent speech-language pathologists.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6104 Practicum IV – School Practicum in Speech Language Pathology

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

This field experience allows student clinicians to obtain practical skills in the diagnosis and treatment of children in a school setting. It also aims to give training in a broad spectrum of communication disorders among culturally and linguistically diverse populations and settings. Further skills are practiced to prepare students to become independent, competent speech-language pathologists.

Course Code & Title: CSCD 6105 Practicum V – Medical Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

This field experience allows student clinicians to obtain practical skills in the diagnosis and treatment of adults and/or children. It also aims to give training in a broad spectrum of communication disorders among culturally and linguistically diverse populations and settings. Further skills are practiced to prepare students to become independent, competent speech-language pathologists.

Contacts (office number and Ext of each)

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