ELECTIVES

Students select a minimum of four elective credits during their CSD master’s program. RU offers electives in areas such as counseling, hearing loss, advanced research, and a variety of other related topics.

The core curriculum consists of 48 credit hours, including:

- Required core coursework, 37 credit hours
- Electives, a minimum of 4 credit hours
- Clinical practicum, 7 credit hours

CORE CURRICULUM

Core coursework includes classes such as:

- Articulation and phonological disorders
- Fluency disorders
- Voice and resonance disorders
- Motor speech disorders
- Cognitive communication disorders in adults
- Language disorders in children birth to age five
- Language disorders in school age children
- Augmentative and alternative communication
- Autism
- Linguistic and cultural issues in communication sciences and disorders
- Concepts and practices of research
- Swallowing disorders
- Aphasia

THE CSD PROGRAM

By mixing work in and out of the classroom, our program will prepare you to offer speech language services in a variety of facilities and settings. Full-time students can complete the program in two years, while part-time students take about three years.
COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
Clinical hours offer you valuable experience working in area facilities with culturally and linguistically diverse populations. With more than 125 participating clinical sites, you’ll expand your professional network and make lasting connections.

Some of the site options include:

- Urban, suburban and rural school districts
- Preschools
- Children’s hospitals
- Home-based services for families
- Private practices
- Outpatient facilities
- Nonprofit agencies
- Acute care hospitals
- Rehabilitation hospitals
- Long-term care facilities

CAPSTONE PROJECT
The graduate CSD program culminates with a capstone project, giving you the opportunity to work with your faculty mentor and choose from several topics for student research. You’ll present your research and findings during your final semester in the program.

THE ADMISSION PROCESS
To apply for the CSD program, you must:

1. Complete an undergraduate degree in communication sciences and disorders from an accredited college or university, or appropriate leveling coursework.
2. Complete all prerequisite courses in statistics, biological, physical and behavioral sciences, as required by ASHA.
3. Obtain a minimum overall 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale), as well as a recommended minimum 3.0 GPA in your undergraduate major.
4. Complete the GRE [Graduate Record Examination].
5. Possess excellent oral and written communication skills and appropriate interpersonal skills.
6. Take part in a personal interview with CSD faculty (if required).
7. Demonstrate the ability to fulfill the essential functions of the profession.
8. Submit an application for admission at rockhurst.edu/CSDapply, along with the required essay, three recommendations, and two official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

A complete list of CSD program admission requirements can be found at rockhurst.edu/csd.

For more information on admission requirements or to apply, visit rockhurst.edu/csd or contact the director of graduate admission at cheryl.hooper@rockhurst.edu or 816-501-4097.