

Master of Science in Medical Speech-Language Pathology

Cohort: MS MedSLP 11



Rocky Mountain
University

Wendy Chase, MA, CCC-SLP
Program Director
wendy.chase@rm.edu

1800 S. Novell Place
Provo, UT 84606
801.375.5125
www.rm.edu

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Program Description

The vision of Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions (RMUoHP) is to advance the quality, delivery and efficacy of healthcare. The 60-credit Master of Science in Medical Speech-Language Pathology curriculum is a 24-month, full-time post-baccalaureate terminal professional degree program. A student who completes this degree is eligible to sit for national certification as a speech-language pathologist (i.e., the CCC-SLP) and, upon passage, may practice as a licensed speech-language pathologist.

The professional curriculum for SLP entry-level education includes areas related to: Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Speech Sound Disorders, Assessment/Treatment of Motor Speech Disorders, Cranio-Facial Anomalies, Traumatic brain injury, Assessment/Treatment of Neurogenic Language Disorders, Aphasia & Fluency Disorder, patient assessment and supervised practicum in Speech-Language Pathology, health policy, diversity and professional practice issues.

Program Outline & Requirements

	Course Code & Title	Credits
Core Courses (14 courses, 32 credits required):		
<i>All courses listed are required:</i>		
	SLP 612 Neural Bases for Communication & Swallowing	3
	SLP 616 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Speech Sound Disorders	3
	SLP 618 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Language Disorders	3
	SLP 620 Medical Speech-Language Pathology I	2
	SLP 624 Assessment/Treatment of Motor Speech Disorders	2
	SLP 626 Assessment/Treatment of Adult Neurogenic Language Disorders	2
	SLP 636 Dysphagia II	2
	SLP 638 Medical Speech-Language Pathology II	2
	SLP 644 Dysphagia I	3
	SLP 646 Assessment/Treatment of Cognitive-Communication Disorders	2
	SLP 648 Assessment/Treatment of Voice & Resonance Disorders	3
	SLP 650 Assessment/Treatment of Fluency Disorders	2
	SLP 652 Augmentative & Alternative Communication Disorders	2
	SLP 719 Counseling	1
Core Courses Credits:		32
Lab and Practicum Courses (6 courses, 12 credits required):		
<i>All courses listed are required:</i>		
	SLP 661 Clinical Practice Application Lab I	2
	SLP 662 Clinical Practice Application Lab II	2
	SLP 663 Clinical Practice Application Lab III	2
	SLP 658 Clinical Externship I	2
	SLP 722 Clinical Externship II	2
	SLP 734 Clinical Externship III	2
Core Courses Credits:		12
Clinical Methodology Courses (6 courses, 11 credits required):		
<i>All courses listed are required:</i>		
	SLP 622 Clinical Methods I	2
	SLP 628 Clinical Methods II	2
	SLP 640 Clinical Methods III	2
	SLP 654 Clinical Methods IV	2
	SLP 660 Clinical Methods V	2
	SLP 735 Clinical Methods VI	1
Clinic Courses Credits:		11
Capstone Courses (5 courses, 5 credits required):		
<i>All courses listed are required:</i>		
	SLP 623 Research Methods	1
	SLP 630 Capstone Seminar I	1
	SLP 634 Capstone Seminar II	1
	SLP 668 Capstone Seminar III	1
	SLP 720 Capstone Seminar IV	1
Capstone Courses Credits:		5

Program Outline & Requirements (Cont.)

Advanced Seminar Elective Courses <i>(Optional credits for concentration areas):</i>		
<i>Students choose courses from the selections below.</i>		Credits
SLP 712 A SLP 712 B SLP 712 C SLP 712 D	Clinical Service Areas <i>(course offerings vary by semester)</i>	1 per course
SLP 713 A SLP 713 B SLP 713 C SLP 713 D	Service Delivery Areas <i>(course offerings vary by semester)</i>	1 per course
SLP 714 A SLP 714 B SLP 714 C SLP 714 D	Professional Practice Areas <i>(course offerings vary by semester)</i>	1 per course
	Advanced Seminar Elective Credits:	up to 12
Total Minimum Program Required Credits:		60
Total Potential Program Credits with Concentration Areas:		72

Program Calendar

Semester	Course	Credits
Semester 1 Fall 2027	SLP 612 Neural Bases for Communication & Swallowing	3
	SLP 616 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Speech Sound Disorders	3
	SLP 618 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Language Disorders	3
	SLP 620 Medical Speech-Language Pathology I	2
	SLP 622 Clinical Methods I	2
	SLP 623 Research Methods	1
	SLP 661 Clinical Practice Application Lab I	2
	SLP 719 Counseling	1
	Semester Totals:	17
Semester 2 Winter 2028	SLP 624 Assessment/Treatment of Motor Speech Disorders	2
	SLP 626 Assessment/Treatment of Adult Neurogenic Language Disorders	2
	SLP 628 Clinical Methods II	2
	SLP 630 Capstone Seminar I	1
	SLP 662 Clinical Practice Application Lab II	2
	SLP 648 Assessment/Treatment of Voice & Resonance Disorders	3
	SLP 644 Dysphagia I	3
	SLP 652 Augmentative & Alternative Communication Disorders	2
	Semester Totals:	17
Semester 3 Summer 2028	SLP 634 Capstone Seminar II	1
	SLP 636 Dysphagia II	2
	SLP 638 Medical Speech-Language Pathology II	2
	SLP 640 Clinical Methods III	2
	SLP 663 Clinical Practice Application Lab III	2
	SLP 646 Assessment/Treatment of Cognitive-Communication Disorders	2
	SLP 650 Assessment/Treatment of Fluency Disorders	2
	Semester Totals:	13
Semester 4 Fall 2028	SLP 654 Clinical Methods IV	2
	SLP 658 Clinical Externship I	2
	SLP 668 Capstone Seminar III	1
	<i>Advanced Seminar Elective Courses for Student Selection (optional)</i>	1-4
	Semester Totals:	5-9
Semester 5 Winter 2029	SLP 660 Clinical Methods V	2
	SLP 720 Capstone Seminar IV	1
	SLP 722 Clinical Externship II	2
	<i>Advanced Seminar Elective Courses for Student Selection (optional)</i>	1-4
	Semester Total:	5-9
Semester 6 Summer 2029	SLP 734 Clinical Externship III	2
	SLP 735 Clinic Class VI	1
	<i>Advanced Seminar Elective Courses for Student Selection (optional)</i>	1-4
	Semester Total:	3-7
Total Minimum Program Required Credits:		60
Total Available Program Credits with Concentration Areas:		72
<i>Three-year deadline for program completion from start of program.</i>		

Course Descriptions

Core Courses

SLP 612 Neural Bases for Communication & Swallowing (3 credits)

Examination of the central and peripheral nervous systems as they relate to normal and disordered human communication. Overview of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, common neuropathological conditions relevant to communication disorders, and strategies in neurogenic problem solving.

SLP 616 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Speech Sound Disorders (3 credits)

Exploration of acquisition, assessment, and treatment of articulation and phonological disorders in children.

SLP 618 Assessment/Treatment of Childhood Language Disorders (3 credits)

Principles and methods of prevention, diagnosis and intervention applicable to developmental language disorders. Includes consideration of both oral and written developmental language.

SLP 620 Medical Speech-Language Pathology I (2 credits)

Roles and responsibilities of speech-language pathologists in medical settings with patients spanning the lifespan and a variety of diagnoses. Topics include medical models, assessment/intervention models in medical settings, medical bioethics, pharmacology, medical terminology, and documentation.

SLP 624 Assessment/Treatment of Motor Speech Disorders (2 credits)

The role of central and peripheral motor systems in speech production and speech disorders related to abnormalities in these motor systems. Emphasis on the neurological bases, assessment, and clinical management of the dysarthrias and apraxia of speech across the lifespan.

SLP 626 Assessment/Treatment of Adult Neurogenic Language Disorders (2 credits)

This course explores neurogenic (acquired) language disorders with specific content focused on the aphasias as it relates to neurolinguistic aspects. We will target diagnosis and classifications of aphasias as well as intergenerational approaches.

SLP 636 Dysphagia II (2 credits)

Second in a sequence of dysphagia courses. Explores issues with feeding in pediatric caseloads, more work with instrumental intervention and treatment.

SLP 638 Medical Speech-Language Pathology II (2 credits)

This course prepares students to work with patients who are tracheostomy and ventilator dependent. We will explore speaking valves, different types of tracheostomy tubes, alternative airways, and ventilator applications.

SLP 644 Dysphagia I (3 credits)

A study of the anatomic and physiologic systems involved in normal swallowing and swallowing disorders (dysphagia) in adults. Emphasis on the role of the speech-language pathologist in the areas of assessment and treatment of dysphagia and as a team member in the areas of dysphagia-related counseling, ethical and quality of life issues.

SLP 646 Assessment/Treatment of Cognitive-Communication Disorders (2 credits)

An investigation of acquired, cognitive-based language disorders including traumatic brain injury (including right brain injury), related cognitive communication sequelae, and dementia. Emphasis on assessment and treatment of cognitive communication disorders.

SLP 648 Assessment/Treatment of Voice & Resonance Disorders (3 credits)

Examination of the physiology acoustics, and perception of voice quality and speech resonance, as well as the etiologies, diagnosis, and management of voice and resonance disorders.

SLP 650 Assessment/Treatment of Fluency Disorders (2 credits)

Examination of the diagnosis and assessment related to fluency across the lifespan. Procedures specific to the differential assessment of fluency are examined, evaluated and related to therapeutic strategies and the methods of behavior change.

SLP 652 Augmentative & Alternative Communication Disorders (2 credits)

Introduction to alternative and augmentative communication systems for consumers. Discussions include the use of aided and unaided communication systems, assessment procedures and intervention, including education and team approaches.

SLP 719 Counseling (1 credit)

Counseling theory, process, and application to individuals who present a variety of communication disorders and to the families of these individuals, with an emphasis on the discipline of speech-language pathology.

Lab and Practicum Courses

Not all courses are offered each term. The listing of courses does not imply a contractual obligation to offer the same during the year of publication of this catalog. The university reserves the right to offer, limit, or cancel course offerings for academic, funding, or facility considerations, and to cancel any offered course for which there is insufficient enrollment. The program is committed to offering a comprehensive set of elective courses that allow students to pursue meaningful learning in interest areas.

SLP 661 Clinical Practice Application Lab I (2 credits)

This course provides direct and hands-on application experience in methods of assessment, intervention, case management, treatment modification, and documentation. Knowledge, skills, and attitudes are assessed through faculty assessment, simulation and application exercises, and documentation review. Specifically, students will learn foundational skills that apply to these areas including advocacy, interprofessional education and practice, client rapport, goal writing, session management, technical skills, diagnostic administration,

clinical data interpretation, treatment planning, ethics and scope of practice, and client documentation.

SLP 662 Clinical Practice Application Lab II (2 credit)

This course provides direct and hands-on application experience in methods of assessment, intervention, case management, treatment modification, and documentation. Knowledge, skills, and attitudes are assessed through faculty assessment, simulation and application exercises, and documentation review. Specifically, students will learn foundational skills that apply to these areas including advocacy, interprofessional education and practice, client rapport, goal writing, session management, technical skills, diagnostic administration, clinical data interpretation, treatment planning, ethics and scope of practice, and client documentation.

SLP 663 Clinical Practice Application Lab III (2 credits)

This course provides direct and hands-on application experience in methods of assessment, intervention, case management, treatment modification, and documentation. Knowledge, skills, and attitudes are assessed through faculty assessment, simulation and application exercises, and documentation review. Specifically, students will learn foundational skills that apply to these areas including advocacy, interprofessional education and practice, client rapport, goal writing, session management, technical skills, diagnostic administration, clinical data interpretation, treatment planning, ethics and scope of practice, and client documentation.

Clinical Methods Courses

SLP 622 Clinical Methods I (2 credits)

Introduction to professional communication and mechanics of being a clinician. Examination of the role of the speech-language pathologist as a therapist, with an emphasis on diagnostic evaluation, differential diagnosis, and intervention. Includes measurement concepts and clinical problem-solving theory and methods.

SLP 628 Clinical Methods II (2 credits)

An examination and exploration of the topics of diversity and professional ethics as they involve clinical speech-language pathology.

SLP 640 Clinical Methods III (2 credits)

An examination and exploration of the topics of professional issues, regulations and law as they involve clinical speech-language pathology.

SLP 654 Clinical Methods IV (2 credits)

An examination and exploration of clinical documentation and reporting, as well as business organization/planning as they involve clinical speech-language pathology.

SLP 660 Clinical Methods V (2 credits)

Topics will focus on advanced clinical topics, EPB, supervising assistants.

SLP 735 Clinical Methods VI (1 credit)

Class topics will focus on transitioning from student to professional and preparing the student for their Clinical Fellowship Year.

Capstone Courses

SLP 623 Research Methods (1 credit)

An overview of what constitutes clinical research. The class instructs students in how to understand the strengths and weakness of various research methods. An overview of research ethics, and application of research results to clinical practice.

SLP 630 Capstone Seminar I (1 credit)

Review fundamental research issues and concepts to prepare to be a consumer of research literature and to prepare for your capstone project. This includes demonstrating knowledge of various research types and designs, validity, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and clinical research applications. We will specifically concentrate on developing your ability to dissect the *single subject design* to prepare you to work with an SLPD mentor and/or consider the pursuit of the SLPD yourself. In addition, you will conduct several literature searches using various tools to explore areas of interest for your eventual capstone project.

SLP 634 Capstone Seminar II (1 credit)

In this course, you will continue to explore clinical interests and complete a short literature review on each topic. You will compare and contrast the issues around each topic and brainstorm the deliverables/projects that might result from that exploration. You will also identify how issues of diversity, ethics, and equity affect EBP and use formal tools (PRISMA) to demonstrate the integration of these concepts in assessing the quality of EBP.

SLP 668 Capstone Seminar III (1 credit)

This seminar will culminate in a complete, comparative and analytical literature review on the PICO question and professional project in collaboration with the support of a faculty advisor.

SLP 720 Capstone Seminar IV (1 credit)

This semester consists of revision to your literature review, development of your project materials (education information, guidelines, blog, artwork), and submission of your final presentation.

Clinical Externship Courses

SLP 658 Clinical Externship I (2 credits)

Offsite clinical practicum experience, completed under the supervision of community-based, qualified and certified speech-language pathologists. Emphasis on the evaluation

and treatment of disorders related to speech, language, cognitive-communication disorders, and swallowing. Meet the competency standards set for the semester.

SLP 722 Clinical Externship II (2 credits)

Offsite clinical practicum experience, completed under the supervision of community-based, qualified and certified speech-language pathologists. Emphasis on the evaluation and treatment of disorders related to speech, language, cognitive-communication disorders, and swallowing. Meet the competency standards set for the semester.

SLP 734 Clinical Externship III (2 credits)

Offsite clinical practicum experience, completed under the supervision of community-based, qualified and certified speech-language pathologists. Emphasis on the evaluation and treatment of disorders related to speech, language, cognitive-communication disorders, and swallowing. Meet the competency standards set for the semester.

Advanced Seminar Elective Courses

Not all courses are offered each term. The listing of courses does not imply a contractual obligation to offer the same during the year of publication of this catalog. The university reserves the right to offer, limit, or cancel course offerings for academic, funding, or facility considerations, and to cancel any offered course for which there is not sufficient enrollment.

SLP 712 A, B, C, and D Clinical Service Areas (1 credit)

Elective courses will fall into one of the following three domains: Standard-different emerging patient population, practice setting, instrumentation or procedure. Based on domains of professional practice, scope of practice populations, instrumentation/assessment/treatment, service delivery domains, service delivery areas. Advanced Seminar/Elective courses will explore subtopics within the SLP scope of practice in a more focused and descriptive manner. Learners will brainstorm solutions to problems using critical thinking frameworks, challenge existing frameworks for approaching a clinical situation, and seek alternative perspectives from stakeholders. Courses will require analysis of peer reviewed literature and application of peer reviewed to client cases influenced by setting, severity, or barriers to care. Exploration of case studies representing unique or complex presentations, and practice creating novel management plans that reflect ethical client-centered care will unfold during discussion and clinical inquiry for clinician competence initiatives (CICC). Active engagement with the material, the instructor, and peers is required to pass elective courses. Elective courses may be delivered as intensive one- or two-day seminars, instrumentation workshops, or via learner driven virtual materials. Some electives may have synchronous sessions available.

SLP 713 A, B, C, and D Service Delivery Areas (1 credit)

Elective courses will fall into one of the following three domains: Standard-different emerging patient population, practice setting, instrumentation or procedure. Based on domains of professional practice, scope of practice populations, instrumentation/assessment/treatment, service delivery domains, service delivery areas.

Advanced Seminar/Elective courses will explore subtopics within the SLP scope of practice in a more focused and descriptive manner. Learners will brainstorm solutions to problems using critical thinking frameworks, challenge existing frameworks for approaching a clinical situation, and seek alternative perspectives from stakeholders. Courses will require analysis of peer reviewed literature and application of peer reviewed to client cases influenced by setting, severity, or barriers to care. Exploration of case studies representing unique or complex presentations, and practice creating novel management plans that reflect ethical client-centered care will unfold during discussion and clinical inquiry for clinician competence initiatives (CICC). Active engagement with the material, the instructor, and peers is required to pass elective courses. Elective courses may be delivered as intensive one- or two-day seminars, instrumentation workshops, or via learner driven virtual materials. Some electives may have synchronous sessions available.

SLP 714 A, B, C, and D Professional Practice Areas (1 credit)

Elective courses will fall into one of the following three domains: Standard-different emerging patient population, practice setting, instrumentation or procedure. Based on domains of professional practice, scope of practice populations, instrumentation/assessment/treatment, service delivery domains, service delivery areas. Advanced Seminar/Elective courses will explore subtopics within the SLP scope of practice in a more focused and descriptive manner. Learners will brainstorm solutions to problems using critical thinking frameworks, challenge existing frameworks for approaching a clinical situation, and seek alternative perspectives from stakeholders. Courses will require analysis of peer reviewed literature and application of peer reviewed to client cases influenced by setting, severity, or barriers to care. Exploration of case studies representing unique or complex presentations, and practice creating novel management plans that reflect ethical client-centered care will unfold during discussion and clinical inquiry for clinician competence initiatives (CICC). Active engagement with the material, the instructor, and peers is required to pass elective courses. Elective courses may be delivered as intensive one- or two-day seminars, instrumentation workshops, or via learner driven virtual materials. Some electives may have synchronous sessions available.

Faculty

Program Leadership

Wendy Chase, MA, CCC-SLP
Program Director
wendy.chase@rm.edu

ElBea Stonier, MS, CCC-SLP
Director of Clinical Education
elbea.stonier@rm.edu

Academic Faculty

Phillip Sechtem, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Associate Professor
phil.sechtem@rm.edu

Lydia Kallhoff, PhD, CCC-SLP
Assistant Professor
Lydia.kallhoff@rm.edu

Elizabeth Meyerowitz, EdD, CCC-SLP
Assistant Professor, SLPD
Elizabeth.meyerowitz@rm.edu

Sandra Combs, PhD, CCC-SLP
Program Director, SLPD
Sandra.combs@rm.edu

Clinical Faculty

Kristen Ipson, M.S. CCC-SLP
Assistant Professor
kristen.ipsen@rm.edu

Lauren Siemers, MS, CCC-SLP
Assistant Professor
Lauren.siemers@rm.edu

Adjunct Instructors

Linda Spencer, PhD, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Linda.spencer@rm.edu

Priscilla Danielson, PhD, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Priscilla.danielson@rm.edu

Scott Dailey, PhD CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
scott.dailey@rm.edu

Paula Johnson, PhD
Director, Office of Research,
Adjunct Faculty
Paula.johnson@rm.edu

Kristin Dolan, SLPD, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Kristin.dolan@rm.edu

Crystal Emery, PhD
Adjunct Faculty
Crystal.emery@rm.edu

Faith Hoelzel-Lemke, MS CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Faith.hoelzel@rm.edu

Darrell Matthews, MS, CC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
darrell.matthews@rm.edu

Allison Schuette, MA CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
allison.schuette@rm.edu

Timothy Stockdale, MS, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
tim.stockdale@rm.edu

Adjunct Clinical Educators

Greg Young, MS, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Greg.young@rm.edu

Kyra Peery, MS, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Kyra.peery@rm.edu

Savannah Pipkin-Litster MS, CCC-SLP
Adjunct Faculty
Savannah.pipkin-litster@rm.edu

Program Support Staff
Sausha Herget
Administrative Coordinator
Sausha.herget@rm.edu

Lauren Murray
Clinical Placement Coordinator
Lauren.drake@rm.edu