Faculty of Health Sciences

Master of Speech Language Pathology - 2016
Master of Speech Language Pathology  
(Graduate Entry)

Applicants for the Master of Speech Language Pathology course must have pre-existing knowledge in the following essential areas:

- Linguistics
- Phonetics

The depth of coverage and learning and teaching hours will be assessed and taken into account.

If prior study was undertaken more than 5 years ago you will be required to sit a challenge exam in linguistics and phonetics, prior to the start of Summer School. If you pass the challenge exam you will be exempted from having to enrol in Summer School.

Linguistics and Phonetics can be studied as a single/combined non-award unit through the Faculty of Health Sciences. Successful completion of such study will meet the required knowledge in the stated area(s). Please note that if you choose to undertake such non-award study, it will have to be completed (or be on track to complete) before commencement of the main Master's program.

Depending on availability and scheduling, non-award studies can be done at the Faculty of Health Sciences or through Summer School. Please be aware that regardless of what method you choose in order to meet the assumed knowledge criteria, you have to complete this before commencement of the main program. Also to be noted is that if you do the units as a non-award student, you will have to pay upfront and will not be eligible for HECS-Help.

If you are currently studying at another faculty or university, depending on your course framework and if permitted by your home institution/faculty, you could also do the units mentioned in this document as cross-institutional units. By studying these units as a cross-institutional student, you will not have to pay for the unit(s) upfront as they will be considered as part of your current award course. Fees for any units done as cross-institutional can be absorbed into your current HECS debt (or as per your current payment method).
Definitions of required knowledge areas

Linguistics – knowledge and practical skills required

- Morphology, word structure
- "Grammar – traditional framework for grammar analysis; clause level analysis; phrase level analysis; word level analysis; complex clauses
- "Demonstrate competence in analysis of syntax (grammar transcription)
- Identify and differentiate component levels of oral and written language such as form (phonology/orthography), meaning (semantics), and structure (morphology/syntax)
- Semantics and pragmatics – lexical/sense relations; language in context; conversational implicature; Grices’s Maxims; Speech Act theory
- Explain the reasons why there is more to communication than simply describing component parts (e.g., pragmatics)
- Describe and compare theories and models of key linguistic processes such as spoken word recognition and semantic representation
- Language acquisition – competing theories of language acquisition; stages of language development in children
- Psycholinguistics – language processing; language and computers; bilingualism
- Interpret and apply scientific information on linguistics necessary for speech pathology (e.g., regarding bilingualism)
- Sociolinguistics – interactional sociolinguistics; language and social dimensions; language policy and planning; language change
- CSCD1034 Linguistics and Phonetics is available as an undergraduate non-award study unit in Semester 1. Please refer to http://sydney.edu.au/courses/health-sciences-undergraduate-non-award for further information. CSCD1034 is also offered by Summer School, during January/February each year. Please refer to http://sydney.edu.au/summer/ for further information

* Must be individually and formally assessed
Phonetics – knowledge and practical skills required

- Demonstrate competence in real-time broad (phonemic) transcription of adult and child English (formally assessed in-class) using the International Phonetics Alphabet. Use appropriate diacritics for clinical evaluation
  - NB: Distance/online phonetics courses do not meet the requirements for ‘real-time, in-class assessed’ phonemic transcription. You will be offered a challenge exam in broad phonemic transcription. If you pass the exam you will be exempted from having to enroll in Summer School

- English Phonemes
- Unstressed Vowels – neutral vowel
- Morpho-phonemic rules
- Describe, apply, interpret and integrate scientific information on phonetics and phonology to speech pathology contexts
- Explain the importance of reliability measures and be able to evaluate their own phonemic transcription reliability
- Map vowels and diphthongs onto an acoustic-articulatory map from knowledge of the values of the first two formants. Interpret this information when provided with a complete map
- Compare the vowels of various dialects of English (including Australian English) by using an acoustic-articulatory map and interpreting the map in acoustic and articulatory terms
- Choose an appropriate sampling rate when digitally recording speech signals for analysis in clinical and research settings
- Suprasegmentals – prosody – the rhythms and melodies of speech
- Phonotactics – the combinatory rules of the sound system
- Acoustic Analysis – vowels, formants, spectographs
- Identify individual phonemes in a spectrograph of connected speech and relate the findings of spectrographic analysis to articulatory function using the Source-Filter model of speech production

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