

## Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies

the unit requirements of the degree. (See *Criteria for Thesis and Project*.)

Students considering a thesis or project need to consult the faculty very early in their graduate program, so as to assure completion of the assignment prior to graduation. Selecting a thesis or project option is recommended for students who may at some point consider working toward a doctoral degree. Students who do not participate in a thesis or project must complete a comprehensive written examination. For this examination, students write detailed responses to questions about specific topics within the field. Further information about these options is available from an adviser.

**Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology.** Completion of the master's degree fulfills all the academic and clinical practicum requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) in Speech Pathology. A Clinical Fellowship Year (CFY) of paid, professional supervised experience is required along with passing the PRAXIS Exam in Speech-Language Pathology before the certificate is granted by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. A Certificate of Clinical Competence is required for employment in nearly all work settings except the public schools. All students are encouraged to acquire national certification regardless of the work setting they may choose.

**California License as a Speech Pathologist.** The master's degree fulfills all academic and clinical practicum requirements for the State License. A year of paid Required Professional Experience (RPE) is necessary along with passing the PRAXIS Exam in Speech-Language Pathology before the license is issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs. The license is required for employment in almost all settings except the public schools.

The CFY and RPE can be completed concurrently when graduates accept their first professional position.

**Certification by Council on Education of the Deaf.** For students specializing in deaf education, completion of the master's degree fulfills all the academic and clinical practicum requirements for Provisional Certification by the Council on Education of the Deaf, the national organization responsible for certifying teachers of the deaf. Professional level certification is available following three years of successful teaching under the super-

vision of a professionally certified educator of deaf and hard-of-hearing children. All students are encouraged to acquire national certification.

### Credentials

Two major school credentials for employment are available through the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies. Students majoring in speech-language pathology complete their Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential before they work as speech-language pathologists with individuals and/or small groups in one or several schools. Speech-language pathology students accepted into the graduate program in the fall of 1994 or thereafter must complete the master's degree before they are issued the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential.

Students in speech-language pathology must be approved for admission into the graduate program before the Speech-Language Pathology Services Credential is issued. Deaf education students may pursue the Preliminary Level I and Professional Level II Education Specialist Credential: Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing with or without pursuing the M.A. They are trained to teach deaf and hard-of-hearing classes in early childhood, elementary, and secondary settings, as certified by CED. Students pursuing these credentials must meet all admission requirements for the graduate program.

Individuals interested in teaching children and youth who are deaf or hard of hearing must obtain the Preliminary Level I Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Credential and within five years receive the Professional Level II Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Credential. For more detailed information, contact the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies office.

Students are not eligible to take any Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies (CDDS) 200-level coursework without departmental acceptance into the M.A. or credential program. CDDS 200-level coursework taken by deaf education students for a credential will not be included on a master's degree program of study unless the student has been admitted into the M.A. program. Students cleared as credential candidates by the department and the School of Education and Human Development are not automatically accepted into the department's graduate program.

Information regarding the two credentials is available from departmental credential advisers and the School of Education and Human Development. Students must see their advisers in regard to the upcoming changes in the credential programs.

### Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Credential: Deaf and Hard of Hearing

*Units*

Undergraduate courses: CDDS 80, 93, 94S, 95, 106, 114, 121, 128, and 131 (concurrently), 138, 139, 141, 162, 163, 164.....	<b>43</b>
Graduate courses: CDDS 202, 255, 262, 263, 264.....	<b>15</b>
Graduate clinical courses: CDDS 260 (2 units); CDDS 258 (6 units) and CDDS 268 (6 units) or CDDS 258 (12 units) .....	<b>14</b>
State credentialing professional education courses: <i>Phase I</i> (11 units) CI 171; LEE 172, 173; EHD 174 <i>Phase II</i> (11 units) CI 175, 176; LEE 177; EHD 178 .....	<b>22</b>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>94</b>

### Professional Level II Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Credential

After candidates complete their Preliminary Level I Credential program, they can be employed in a special education position requiring the Level I Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Credential authorization. Additional coursework and a minimum of two years of employment are required for the Professional Level II Credential.

The Level II Credential is required as a condition for continuous employment in special education in the state of California and must be obtained no later than five years after obtaining the Preliminary Level I Credential.

Information regarding admission to the Professional Level II Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Credential can be obtained from the Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies office, 278.2423, or by visiting the department's Web site at [www.csufresno.edu/csd](http://www.csufresno.edu/csd).