COMMUNICATION SCIENCES (COSI)

COSI 101. Introduction to Health Communication. 3 Units.
An introductory examination of the influences associated with the functions of human life, communication processes, and research related to health and the health care industry from interpersonal, cultural, and organizational communication perspectives. The course will include a review of the history and development of health communication and the understanding and application of communication theories.

COSI 109. Introduction to Communication Disorders. 3 Units.
Forty-two million Americans have some type of communication disorder. How does a person with a communication disorder cope with the challenges of daily living? This course will examine the characteristics of communication disorders via first hand and fictionalized accounts in books, films, and simulated communication disorders experiences. Topics will include disorders of speech, language, and hearing in children and adults. Effects of communication disorders on families.

COSI 200. Interpersonal Communication. 3 Units.
Communication is a primary means of initiating, maintaining, and dissolving relationships. Managing interpersonal relationships is a human concern across several contexts. Interpersonal communication is a highly interactive course whereby participants investigate the foundations, processes, and issues associated with communication in relationships. The student will become sensitized to theories and processes via traditional lectures and textbook readings. The student is also expected to participate in group discussions. The result is a continuous dialogue with others about communication processes, and outcomes. The goal of this course is to provide a forum for both investigation and increased competence.

COSI 211. Phonetics and Phonology. 3 Units.
Theoretical and applied study of the speech sounds of language. The use of the international phonetic alphabet as a tool for characterizing normal and deviant sound patterns. The linguistic structure and function of speech sound systems of both the adult and developing child.

COSI 220. Introduction to American Sign Language I. 3 Units.
This course offers basic vocabulary training and conversational interaction skills in American Sign Language. Syntactic and semantic aspects of American Sign Language will be addressed.

COSI 221. Introduction to American Sign Language II. 3 Units.
This course incorporates non-verbal communication techniques, intermediate vocabulary, grammatical rules and conversational skills. Deaf culture and history is also an important part of the course. Students will focus on general aspects of conversational signs and nonverbal aspects of American Sign Language. Using Signing Naturally Units 7-12 as a guide; students will also incorporate the use of expressive and receptive skills in every class. The full immersion model will be applied in each class. Instruction and student participation will only be in ASL. Prereq: COSI 220.

COSI 260. Multicultural Aspects of Human Communication. 3 Units.
Introduces intercultural/interracial communication by discussing specific communication principles and by putting theory into practice by exploring differences in perception, and verbal and nonverbal communication messages. Course emphasizes relationship between communication, race, culture; nature of race and culture; and how they influence the communication process. Various theories and approaches to study of intercultural/interracial communication will be discussed, along with significant concepts, processes and considerations. Practical outcomes of intercultural/interracial encounters also will be discussed. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

COSI 261. Multicultural Aspects of Communication Disorders. 3 Units.
Introduces intercultural/interracial communication principles and includes the exploration of differences in perceptions for communication messages. Provides students with a basic understanding of the differences associated with assessment, intervention, and identification of communication disorders for culturally and linguistically diverse populations. Students will critically analyze best practice approaches for communication disorders for diverse populations including differences in race, ethnicity/culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status. Practical outcomes that can encourage more positive intercultural/interracial encounters will be discussed. Offered as COSI 261 and COSI 461. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

COSI 280. Organizational Communication. 3 Units.
This course includes a review of the development of organizational communication theories and how application of theories enhances our understanding of various types of organizations. COSI 280 addresses the communication challenges faced by contemporary organizational leaders and members. Knowledge of the theories and development of analytical skills should improve students’ chances for successful interactions in diverse organizational situations and cultures.

COSI 305. Neuroscience of Communication and Communication Disorders. 3 Units.
The course focus is neuroanatomy and neurophysiology related to motor control and cognition, particularly aspects of cognition involved in language functions. Topics to be addressed include: principles of neurophysiology and neurochemistry; functional neuroanatomy of the central and peripheral nervous systems; neurological and neuropsychological assessment of communication; neurodiagnostic methods. In part, the course material will be presented in a problem-based learning format. That is, normal aspects of human neuroscience will be discussed in the context of neurological disorders affecting communication. COSI 305 is an elective for undergraduate students. COSI 405 is an introduction to COSI 557 and COSI 561, and a required course for graduate students. Offered as COSI 305 and COSI 405.

COSI 313. Language Development. 3 Units.
Language acquisition theory and stages of development of syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and phonology in children. Contributions of biological, social, cognitive and environmental factors to process of language development. Information on language variation in multicultural populations. Open to majors and non-majors. Recommended prerequisite: Child Psychology. Offered as COSI 313 and COSI 413.
COSI 321. Speech and Hearing Science. 3 Units.
A strong foundation in normal aspects of oral communication will prepare students for advanced study in the assessment and management of disorders of speech and hearing perception. This course will focus on speech and hearing acoustics, sound measurement, the nature of hearing, speech production, and speech and hearing perception. Topics to be covered include speech and hearing acoustics, auditory anatomy and physiology, psychoacoustics, and speech and hearing perception. Offered as COSI 321 and COSI 421. Prereq: COSI 325.

COSI 325. Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanism. 3 Units.
The course will focus on normal anatomy and physiology of the body systems involved in the processes of speech, language, hearing, and swallowing including the following: the auditory, respiratory, phonatory, articularatory, resonatory, and nervous systems. In part, the course material will be presented in a problem-based learning format. That is, normal aspects of human anatomy and physiology will be discussed in the context of the disorders that affect the processes of human communication and swallowing.

COSI 332. Persuasion. 3 Units.
This survey course explores the history, theories, and dynamics of persuasion. There is an extensive focus on theoretical models of attitude change. Persuasion also plays a strong role in everyday aspects of our culture. Along these lines, we will investigate persuasion activities in everyday life from compliance gaining to media campaigns. Learning is conveyed through lecture, activities, and observation of the student’s everyday life. At the end of the semester, the astute student will be literate in a variety of persuasion strategies and dynamics.

COSI 340. Advanced Health Communication. 3 Units.
Various communication processes assume a central role in the acquisition and enactment of health care. This course examines communication activity across a broad range of health care contexts. Attention will be given to provider-client communication, communication, and ethical concerns, persuasive health promotion efforts, media impact on health, and basics in health communication methodology and research. Students will consider source, message, and receiver aspects of health communication as well as cultural and illness-specific issues. Offered as COSI 340 and COSI 440. Prereq: COSI 101.

COSI 345. Communication and Aging. 3 Units.
The normal and abnormal psychobiological changes that occur during aging and their effects on communication are addressed, as are communicative interaction styles, disordered communication, and rehabilitation practices. Graduate students are given an opportunity to incorporate information from their own disciplines in a special project, where appropriate. Offered as COSI 345 and COSI 445. Counts as SAGES Departmental Seminar.

COSI 352. Introduction to Clinical Practice in Speech-Language Pathology. 3 Units.
Clinical assessment and teaching procedures as well as the role of research/theory in clinical practice. Procedures to observe, measure, analyze communication skills. Practical application through case studies. Students complete 25 hours of observation of speech/language assessment and intervention. Prereq: COSI 211 or COSI 313.

COSI 355. Introduction to Linguistics. 3 Units.
This course provides an introduction to linguistics, with application to clinical assessment, diagnosis and therapy of language disorders. In particular, the course provides an introduction to theory and methods of linguistics: universal properties of human language; phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic structures and analysis; nature and form of grammar.

COSI 357. Acquired Neurogenic Communication Disorders. 3 Units.
This course is designed to provide knowledge about the theoretical foundations, etiologies, and characterizations of acquired language-based and cognitive-communication disorders in adults. The organization of the course is designed so that we will discuss communication disorders typically associated with left hemisphere lesions (e.g., aphasia), right hemisphere lesions (e.g., RHD), frontal lobe lesions (e.g., traumatic brain injury) and mesial temporal lesions (e.g., dementia). This course is intended to provide students with a framework for considering communication disorders of diverse medical etiologies rather than specific impairment types. The course is meant to provide information that can be used as a foundation for a clinically applied course in acquired language disorders. The course will focus on critical thinking, professional presentation (both oral and written), and critical consumption of research. Instructor consent for COSI 457 only. Offered as COSI 357 and COSI 457. Prereq: COSI 109.

COSI 370. Introduction to Audiology. 3 Units.
Fifteen percent of the US population has some degree of hearing loss. Yet, many people do not seek audiological intervention and only one in five people who could benefit from a hearing aid wear one. In this class, students will learn about the field of audiology including assessment and diagnostics measures and interventions used by audiologists. Students will evaluate audiometers and test environments for audiology, describe pure-tone audiometry, and conduct simulated hearing tests. Students will also be introduced to audiological pathologies and related disorders. Students will also be introduced to assessments in infants and children, audiological screening and audiological management. Offered as COSI 370 and COSI 470. Prereq: COSI 321 and COSI 325.

COSI 390. Independent Study. 1 - 6 Units.
Individual study, under the guidance of a faculty member, involving specific programs of reading, research and special projects.

COSI 395. Capstone and Honors Program. 3 Units.
Supervision in carrying out an independent research study in the student’s area of interest. Offered every semester. Any student majoring in communication sciences (COSI) may take this course to fulfill the capstone requirement; qualified students may take this course to fulfill the capstone requirement AND to graduate with honors. During their Junior year, qualified COSI majors are encouraged to apply to the department’s Honors Program, which leads to a B.A. with Honors. The program’s purpose is to provide students with an intensive, supervised research experience in areas of their choice. The program consists of PSCL 375 and COSI 395 and begins in the junior year, when students receive instruction in research design and methodology. This provides the foundation for students to work under close supervision with a department faculty member during the senior year. At the end of the semester, the research project is written in scholarly form, and presented for consideration of graduation with Honors. Junior majors with a minimum 3.25 average in COSI major courses are a 3.0 overall GPA may apply. The Honors Program requires a great deal of work, and only students with a serious interest in behavioral sciences should apply. Counts as SAGES Senior Capstone. Prereq: (STAT 201 or PSCL 282) and PSCL 375.
COSI 405. Neuroscience of Communication and Communication Disorders. 3 Units.
The course focuses on neuroanatomy and neurophysiology related to motor control and cognition, particularly aspects of cognition involved in language functions. Topics to be addressed include: principles of neurophysiology and neurochemistry; functional neuroanatomy of the central and peripheral nervous systems; neurological and neuropsychological assessment of communication; neuropsychiatric methods. In part, the course will be presented in a problem-based learning format. That is, normal aspects of human neuroscience will be discussed in the context of neurological disorders affecting communication. COSI 305 is an elective for undergraduate students. COSI 405 is an introduction to COSI 557 and COSI 561, and a required course for graduate students. Offered as COSI 305 and COSI 405.

COSI 406. Academic English Proficiency: Speech Production. 3 Units.
In this module, the provisional student will work in small groups with the instructor/s to develop new speech habits and patterns to improve production of spoken English for academic and professional success. Following successful completion of the course, the student will demonstrate an improvement of 50% from baseline speech production scores, and demonstrate the ability to practice sound production independently to assure continued refinement over time. The course includes 90 minutes of small group instruction per week and a minimum of 50-60 minutes of daily practice. The student will be required to submit a minimum of 2 practice recordings per week for feedback. Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate 50% improvement from baseline speech production scores.

COSI 413. Language Development. 3 Units.
Language acquisition theory and stages of development of syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and phonology in children. Contributions of biological, social, cognitive and environmental factors to process of language development. Information on language variation in multicultural populations. Open to majors and non-majors. Recommended prerequisite: Child Psychology. Offered as COSI 313 and COSI 413.

COSI 421. Speech and Hearing Science. 3 Units.
A strong foundation in normal aspects of oral communication will prepare students for advanced study in the assessment and management of disorders of speech and hearing perception. This course will focus on speech and hearing acoustics, sound measurement, the nature of hearing, speech production, and speech and hearing perception. Topics to be covered include speech and hearing acoustics, auditory anatomy and physiology, psychoacoustics, and speech and hearing perception. Offered as COSI 321 and COSI 421.

COSI 431. Medical Aspects of Developmental Disabilities: Theory and Practice. 2 Units.
The practicum provides structured training activities to help the student become proficient in birth to three assessment and intervention and infant and toddler development. This intensive training experience will provide skills that students need when working in early intervention settings. Guided observation of children and developmental domains, parent-child interaction, and family-based assessment will be included.

COSI 440. Advanced Health Communication. 3 Units.
Various communication processes assume a central role in the acquisition and enactment of health care. This course examines communication activity across a broad range of health care contexts. Attention will be given to provider-client communication, communication, and ethical concerns, persuasive health promotion efforts, media impact on health, and basics in health communication methodology and research. Students will consider source, message, and receiver aspects of health communication as well as cultural and illness-specific issues. Offered as COSI 340 and COSI 440.

COSI 443. Meta-Analysis of Communication Disorders Research Workshop. 1 Unit.
This course will guide students through the application of meta-analysis to the systematic literature review completed in COSI 444L to address a clinical question and will serve as the analysis and results section of the paper which will be used in partial fulfillment of the Plan B Master’s Project requirements. Prereq: COSI 444 and COSI 444L.

COSI 444. Evidence Based Practice in Communication Disorders. 2 Units.
Evidence-based practice is the conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual clients. Having its origins in the fields of medicine and clinical epidemiology, EBP is now an essential component to clinical practice in speech-language pathology. The goal of COSI 444 is to instill in you a career-long desire to seek out high-quality relevant evidence pertinent to the clinical questions that affect your practice. To do this, you must first know how to find the evidence and evaluate the quality of evidence available. This course is intended to demystify the research process so that you can become critical consumers of the research literature in our field.

COSI 444L. Evidence Based Practice in Communication Disorders Lab. 1 Unit.
This course will guide students through the application of meta-analysis to the systematic literature review completed in COSI 444L to address a clinical question and will serve as the analysis and results section of the paper which will be used in partial fulfillment of the Plan B Masters Project requirements. Prereq: COSI 444.

COSI 445. Communication and Aging. 3 Units.
The normal and abnormal psychobiological changes that occur during aging and their effects on communication are addressed, as are communicative interaction styles, disordered communication, and rehabilitation practices. Graduate students are given an opportunity to incorporate information from their own disciplines in a special project, where appropriate. Offered as COSI 345 and COSI 445. Counts as SAGES Departmental Seminar.

COSI 452A. Graduate Clinical Practicum I: Case Management. 1 Unit.
Addresses professional issues in speech-language pathology including case management, clinical effectiveness, counseling and working with families from diverse backgrounds. Four to ten hours of clinic contact per week at the Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center. (Maximum of 2 credits.) Recommended preparation: COSI 352 and COSI 413.

COSI 452B. Graduate Clinical Practicum II: Professional Issues. 1 Unit.
Addresses professional issues in speech-language pathology including case management, managed health care, ethics and interviewing. Four to ten hours of clinic contact per week at the Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center. (Maximum of 2 credits.) Recommended preparation: COSI 352, COSI 413, COSI 452A, and COSI 453.
COSI 452C. Graduate Clinical Practicum III: Special Populations. 1 Unit. Addresses professional issues in speech-language pathology including case management, special clinical populations, collaborating with other professionals, teaming, leadership, and use of technology. Fifteen to thirty hours of clinic contact per week at area skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, rehab centers, early intervention centers, centers for developmentally disabled, private practices, etc. (Maximum of 2 credits.) Recommended preparation: COSI 352, COSI 452A, COSI 452B, COSI 453, and COSI 456.

COSI 452E. Graduate Clinical Practicum V: Medical Speech Pathology. 1 Unit. Addresses professional issues in speech-language pathology including case management, special clinical populations, collaborating with other professionals, documentation, managed health care, and use of technology. Fifteen to thirty hours of clinic contact per week at area skilled nursing facilities, hospitals. (Maximum of 2 credits.) Recommended preparation: COSI 352, COSI 452A, COSI 452B, COSI 452C, COSI 453, and COSI 456.

COSI 452S. Graduate Clinical Practicum III: Special Populations. 1 Unit. Addresses professional issues in speech-language pathology including case management, special clinical populations, collaborating with other professionals, teaming, leadership and use of technology. This course confines full time student status in the summer term in recognition of an average of 25 hours of clinic contact per week at area skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, rehab centers, early intervention centers, centers for developmentally disabled, private practices etc. Prereq: COSI 452A and COSI 452B.

COSI 453. Articulation and Phonology Disorders. 3 Units. Overview of normal speech sound development and characterization of children with speech sound disorders. Distinctions between phonology and articulation are drawn. Theoretical as well as assessment and treatment issues are addressed.

COSI 455. Fluency Disorders. 3 Units. Stuttering and related disorders of rhythm and prosody in terms of the symptomatology, etiology, measurement, and treatment of nonfluent speaking behavior.


COSI 457. Acquired Neurogenic Communication Disorders. 3 Units. This course is designed to provide knowledge about the theoretical foundations, etiologies, and characterizations of acquired language-based and cognitive-communication disorders in adults. The organization of the course is designed so that we will discuss communication disorders typically associated with left hemisphere lesions (e.g., aphasia), right hemisphere lesions (e.g., RHD), frontal lobe lesions (e.g., traumatic brain injury) and mesial temporal lesions (e.g., dementia). This course is intended to provide students with a framework for considering communication disorders of diverse medical etiologies rather than specific impairment types. The course is meant to provide information that can be used as a foundation for a clinically applied course in acquired language disorders. The course will focus on critical thinking, professional presentation (both oral and written), and critical consumption of research. Instructor consent for COSI 457 only. Offered as COSI 357 and COSI 457.

COSI 461. Multicultural Aspects of Communication Disorders. 3 Units. Introduces intercultural/interracial communication principles and includes the exploration of differences in perceptions for communication messages. Provides students with a basic understanding of the differences associated with assessment, intervention, and identification of communication disorders for culturally and linguistically diverse populations. Students will critically analyze best practice approaches for communication disorders for diverse populations including differences in race, ethnicity/culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socio-economic status. Practical outcomes that can encourage more positive intercultural/interracial encounters will be discussed. Offered as COSI 261 and COSI 461. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

COSI 470. Introduction to Audiology. 3 Units. Fifteen percent of the US population has some degree of hearing loss. Yet, many people do not seek audiological intervention and only one in five people who could benefit from a hearing aid wear one. In this class, students will learn about the field of audiology including assessment and diagnostics measures and interventions used by audiologists. Students will evaluate audiometers and test environments for audiology, describe pure-tone audiometry, and conduct simulated hearing tests. Students will also be introduced to auditory pathologies and related disorders. Students will also be introduced to assessments in infants and children, audiological screening and audiological management. Offered as COSI 370 and COSI 470. Prereq: COSI 325.

COSI 555. Language Disorders 2: Language and Literacy. 3 Units. This course focuses on research-based theories of reading, cognition, language, and learning disorders in the school-age and adolescent student. Language development of the older child during the school age and adolescent years will be reviewed. Topics include the development of metalinguistic skills, the expanding lexicon, narration and discourse, and advances in syntax and morphology. The relationship of spoken language to literacy will be discussed. The course will examine common language, literacy and learning disabilities during the school age years. The student will explore interventions for word skills, reading decoding and comprehension, oral expression, vocabulary, and written languages as they apply to the Speech Language Pathologist. Assessment and intervention strategies for the school-age child and adolescent with a language/learning disorder are included. The class format includes lectures, discussions of case studies, and experiential learning through the observation of therapy with the school age/adolescent student. Prereq: COSI 456.

COSI 557. Acquired Adult Language Disorders. 3 Units. A model relating communication impairment to activities of daily living and quality of life will serve as the study of acquired neurogenic communication disorders in adults. The focus will be on dementia, aphasia, and the communication disorders associated with traumatic brain injury and right hemisphere stroke. Knowledge about the biological basis of neurogenic communication disorders will be applied in discussion on assessment and intervention for these disorders. Prereq: COSI 405 or equivalent.

COSI 561. Med Aspects of Speech Path II: Neuromotor and Craniofacial Anomalies. 4 Units.
Speech disorders resulting from conditions acting on motor speech production including dysarthria and apraxia will be discussed. The speech production system, diseases and acquired and congenital neuropathological conditions that affect motor process and resulting speech disorders of phonation, articulation, resonance and prosody will be reviewed. Also covered will be the speech, language and hearing disorders stemming from craniofacial anomalies; cleft lip and palate. Principles and methods of assessment and treatment within an interdisciplinary rehabilitation framework will be reviewed for both types of disorders. Prereq: COSI 321 or COSI 421 and COSI 405 or equivalent.

COSI 562. Medical Aspects of Speech Pathology III: Dysphagia. 3 Units.
Course relates to medical speech-language pathology and includes analysis of clinical problems involving dysphagia in high risk populations. Course focus is on the anatomy and physiology of the normal swallow, dysphagia, early identification and prevention, the clinical swallow assessment, instrumental assessment and intervention in pediatric and adult populations.

COSI 563. Medical Aspects of Speech Pathology IV: Pediatric Dysphagia. 3 Units.
This course focuses on swallowing and dysphagia in infants and children. Topics include typical development of anatomy and physiology of pediatric swallowing, evaluation of pediatric swallowing function, treatment modalities, and clinical populations. Prereq: COSI 562.

COSI 580. Aural Rehabilitation. 3 Units.
The effects of hearing impairment, especially related to speech perception and language processing. Remediation and intervention strategies for children and adults who are hard-of-hearing, including speech reading, auditory training, the use of hearing aids and other assistive listening devices.

COSI 600. Special Problems and Topics. 1 - 3 Units.
Topics and instructors by arrangement of the department chair.

COSI 601. Directed Study and Research. 1 - 6 Units.
Individual study and research under the direction of a faculty member.

COSI 651. Thesis M.A.. 1 - 6 Units.
(Credit as arranged.)

COSI 701. Dissertation Ph.D.. 1 - 9 Units.
(Credit as arranged.) Prereq: Predoctoral research consent or advanced to Ph.D. candidacy milestone.