

PROGRAM MODIFICATION PROPOSAL FORM

Name of Institution: University of South Carolina Columbia

Briefly state the nature of the proposed modification (e.g., adding a new concentration, extending the program to a new site, curriculum change, etc.):

The Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders is moving forward with changing the MSP program degree designation to MS. The current MSP degree designation is unusual/non-standard for the speech pathology profession. The general public, interested student, employers and national associations do not recognize what the MSP degree signifies. Therefore, for clarity and to align with our peers and national associations, the Department is moving forward with changing MSP to MS. No other changes to admission requirements, curriculum, or policy are being changed. In addition, this degree program will also be offered face-to-face (F2F) and 100% online. Students may choose to be a part of the F2F or 100% online program as they see it fits their needs.

Current Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks):
Master of Speech Pathology (MSP)

Proposed Name of Program (include degree designation and all concentrations, options, and tracks):
Master of Science (MS)

Program Designation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's Degree | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 4 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's Degree: 5 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.) | |

Does the program currently qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
 No

If No, should the program be considered for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
 No

Proposed Date of Implementation: August 2020.

CIP Code: 510203

Current delivery site(s) and modes: USC Columbia - 51102

Proposed delivery site(s) and modes: USC Columbia: 51102 and 100% online – 85750

Program Contact Information (name, title, telephone number, and email address):

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Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval:

- Board of Trustees approval - Academic Affairs meeting: June 7, 2019
- Board of Trustees approval - Full meeting: June 21, 2019
- Office of Academic Program sends program modification to CHE: August 1, 2019
- CHE approval – ACAP: September 12, 2019

Background Information

Provide a detailed description of the proposed modification, including target audience, centrality to institutional mission, and relation to strategic plan.

Our program modification is to change the MSP degree to an MS degree, the typical degree designation for speech-language pathology programs in the U.S. Due to the fact that the department has not used the standard designation (MS) in the past, individuals outside of UofSC (e.g., employers of our students) do not understand what the designation means. Thus, our graduating students, and faculty members when asked, must explain that our graduating students have the same master's program experiences and knowledge as other students who graduate from MS programs. Further, our national organization (the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) lists our degree program as "other" under available U.S. master's programs because this degree does not have the typical degree designation. This impacts student recruitment as well.

Thus, our target audience are prospective students, employers of our students, and our national organization (as a disseminator of master's program information). Our master's program is central to the university's mission. Indeed, the mission of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is to promote and advance knowledge of the nature, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of communicative disorders. Through excellence in scientific research, instruction, and service, the Department seeks to fulfill its mandate as the leading graduate and research program in communication sciences and disorders in South Carolina and, indeed, one of the leading programs in the nation. The scope of the program reflects the broader communities (state, national, and international) it seeks to serve. This mission dovetails with the university's mission (and strategic plan), which is the education of the state's residents through teaching, research, creative activity and community engagement.

Assessment of Need

Provide an assessment of the need for the program modification for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable.

With a change in degree designation, the university, the state, the region (and beyond) will be affected. First, a standard designation (MS) will increase prospective students' understanding of what UofSC (and COMD) offer as a graduate program. The state and region will be affected because prospective employers will understand the degree earned by our graduate students. It is anticipated that this better understanding will lead to a much-needed increased employment opportunities in the state and region for graduates from the degree program. According to the U.S. News and World Report, speech-language pathology ranked #23 in best jobs (salary, number of expected openings, etc.). Further, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts that 25,900 speech-language pathology jobs will open before 2026.

Transfer and Articulation

Identify any special articulation agreements for the modified proposed program. Provide the articulation agreement or Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding.

Description of the Program

Projected Enrollment						
Year	Fall Headcount		Spring Headcount		Summer Headcount	
	New	Total	New	Total	New	Total
2019	35	70	0	70	0	70
2018	32	65	NA	65	NA	65
2017	32	63	NA	63	NA	63
2016	35	69	NA	69	NA	69
2015	34	65	NA	65	NA	65

Explain how the enrollment projections were calculated.

First, students are only admitted for the Fall semester. The headcount was based on actual students who were enrolled in the MSP program and allows for attrition. Enrollment data are collected as part of our accreditation process. It is anticipated that years 2020 and beyond will be consistent with the past enrollment.

Curriculum

Attach a curriculum sheet identifying the courses required for the program.

**Master of Speech Pathology (MSP)
 Course Sequence**

Year/Term	Course Number & Title	Hours
Background Coursework (not prev. taken)	COMD 501: Anatomy & Physiology of Speech & Hearing Mechanism	3
	Summer 1st session	
	COMD 507: Phonetics	3
	COMD 560: Observation (<i>runs all summer</i>)	1
	Summer 2nd session	
	COMD 570: Introduction to Language Development	3
	COMD 526: Articulation Disorders	3
Fall 1	COMD 744: Neurocognitive Bases of Language Behavior	3
	COMD 745: Speech Science & Acoustic Measurement	3
	COMD 706: Preschool Language Development and Disorders	3
	COMD 790: Introduction to Research in Speech Pathology	3
	COMD 772: Practicum in Speech Pathology	1
Spring 1	COMD 700: Advanced Seminar in Speech Disorders	3
	COMD 705: Adult Speech, Language and Cognitive Disorders	3
	COMD 720: School Age Language and Literacy Development and Disorders	3
	COMD 750: Introduction to Audiology and Aural (Re)Habilitation	3
	PUBH 678: Transforming Healthcare	1
	COMD 707: Clinical Evaluation - Principles of Clinical Writing	1
	COMD 772: Practicum in Speech Pathology & Audiology	1
Summer 1	COMD 704: Voice disorders	2
	COMD 717: Professional Issues in COMD	1
	COMD 722: Dysphagia	3
	COMD 754: Aural Habilitation in Children	3
	COMD 772: Practicum in Speech Pathology & Audiology	4
	Register for Fall Praxis exam	
Fall 2	COMD 701: Stuttering: Evaluation and Therapy	2
	COMD 715: Augmentative Communication	2
	COMD 721: Cognitive Rehabilitation	2
	Select One Elective (<i>TBA; 2 credits</i>)	2
	COMD 772: Practicum in Speech Pathology & Audiology	4
	COMD 760: Cochlear Implants (<i>mandatory for AV-track</i>)	3
	Take Praxis between November and January	

Spring 2	PUBH 700-50: Public Health Perspectives	3
	COMD 727: Advanced Study of Literacy for Speech-language Pathologists	2
	Select Two Electives (TBA; 2 credits each)	4
	COMD 711: Seminar in Speech Pathology (Neuro-track)	(2)
	COMD 761: Habilitation of Children with Cochlear Implants (AV-track)	(3)
	COMD 799: Thesis ¹	(3)
	COMD 772: Practicum in Speech Pathology & Audiology* *Hours adjusted to reach a total of 14 hrs. in Spring 2	1-5
Take Summative Assessment Exam as scheduled		
Re-take PRAXIS (if you did not receive a passing score in the fall)		

¹Thesis students who are also in one of the tracks will take at least 1 credit hour of COMD 772 in Spring 2, so their total number of credit hours comes to 15 (Neuro) or 16 (AV).

Summer 2	COMD 774: Internship (graduate in August)	12
Re-take PRAXIS if you did not receive a passing score in the spring)		

Total Semester Hours (min): 79
 Semester Hours Academic Coursework (min): 52
 Semester Hours Practicum in Speech Pathology & Audiology: 23-7

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program	Core Courses Modified
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA

New Courses

List and provide course descriptions for new courses. **NA**

Similar Programs in South Carolina offered by Public and Independent Institutions

Identify the similar programs offered and describe the similarities and differences for each program.

Program Name and Designation	Total Credit Hours	Institution	Similarities	Differences
Speech Pathology and Audiology (MA)	30-36	South Carolina State University	Content/course areas (note: all speech-language pathology programs in the US must be accredited; thus, the content of the coursework is highly similar)	Less credits and clinical experiences
Speech-Language Pathology (MSLP)	63	Francis Marion University (this program is in its first year of existence)	Content/course areas (note: all speech-language pathology programs in the US must be accredited; thus, the content of the coursework is highly similar)	Less credits and clinical experiences

Faculty

State whether new faculty, staff or administrative personnel are needed to implement the program modification; if so, discuss the plan and timeline for hiring the personnel. Provide a brief explanation of any personnel reassignment as a result of the proposed program modification.

No new faculty or staff are required for this program modification. This is simply a change in degree designation from MSP to MS.

Resources

Identify new library, instructional equipment and facilities needed to support the modified program.

Library Resources: NA

Equipment: NA

Facilities: NA

Library resources, equipment and facilities are currently appropriate for the MSP and will continue to be appropriate for the MS degree.

Impact on Existing Programs

Will the proposed program impact existing degree programs or services at the institution (e.g., course offerings or enrollment)? If yes, explain

Yes

No

Financial Support

Name of Program:	Communication Sciences and Disorders					
Name of College:	Arnold School of Public Health					
Financial Support - PROGRAM MODIFICATION						
Sources of Financing for the Program by Year						
Category	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Total
Tuition Funding	\$ 924,219	\$ 924,219	\$ 924,219	\$ 924,219	\$ 924,219	\$ 4,621,094
Program-Specific Fees	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 92,000	\$ 460,000
Special State Appropriation/General	\$ 1,784,183	\$ 1,802,025	\$ 1,820,045	\$ 1,838,246	\$ 1,856,628	\$ 9,101,126
Reallocation of Existing Funds						\$ -
Federal, Grant, or Other Funding						\$ -
Total	\$ 2,800,402	\$ 2,818,244	\$ 2,836,264	\$ 2,854,464	\$ 2,872,847	\$ 14,182,220
Estimated Costs Associated with Implementing the Program by Year						
Category	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Total
Program Administration and Faculty/Staff Salaries/Student/Fringe	\$ 2,312,524	\$ 2,330,366	\$ 2,348,386	\$ 2,366,586	\$ 2,384,968	\$ 11,742,830
Facilities, Equipment, Supplies, and Materials	\$ 280,853	\$ 280,853	\$ 280,853	\$ 280,853	\$ 280,853	\$ 1,404,265
Library Resources						
Service Support (estimated at 8.5%)	\$ 78,559	\$ 78,559	\$ 78,559	\$ 78,559	\$ 78,559	\$ 392,793
Other (specify)						
Total	\$ 2,671,936	\$ 2,689,777	\$ 2,707,798	\$ 2,725,998	\$ 2,744,380	\$ 13,539,888
Net Total (Sources of Financing Minus Estimated Costs)	\$ 128,466	\$ 128,466	\$ 128,466	\$ 128,467	\$ 128,467	\$ 642,332

Budget Justification

Provide a brief explanation for all new costs and sources of financing identified in the Financial Support table.

This is an existing degree. The budget provided above is based on the department’s current enrollment, financial support and costs. The degree program remains strong and the college and department expect the degree program to continue with excellent enrollment.

Evaluation and Assessment

Program Objectives	Student Learning Outcomes Aligned to Program Objectives	Methods of Assessment
Promote and advance knowledge of the nature, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of communicative disorders.	Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic human communication and swallowing processes across the life span.	Course assignments Clinical performance Second year, summative assessment
	Students will demonstrate knowledge of human communication and swallowing disorders and differences across the life span.	Course assignments Clinical performance Second year, summative assessment
	Students will collaborate with other professionals in case management and provide counseling regarding communication and swallowing disorders to clients/patients, family, caregivers, and relevant others. They will adhere to the ASHA Code of Ethics and behave professionally, meeting additional departmental standards for professional responsibility, interactions, and attitude.	PUBH 678: Transforming Healthcare Clinical performance
	Students will demonstrate knowledge of processes used in research and of the integration of research principles into evidence-based clinical practice.	Course assignments Clinical performance Second year, summative assessment

Will any the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed? If yes, explain.

- Yes
- No

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation? If yes, explain; and, if the modification will result in the program seeking program-specific accreditation, provide the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline. (The MSP is already accredited and the MS degree will continue to be accredited.)

- Yes
- No

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification? If yes, identify the licensure or certification.

- Yes
- No

Explain how the program will prepare students for this licensure or certification.

If the program is an Educator Preparation Program, does the proposed certification area require national recognition from a Specialized Professional Association (SPA)? If yes, describe the institution's plans to seek national recognition, including the expected timeline.

- Yes
- No