The Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (SLHS) studies the normal development of speech, language and hearing as well as the understanding and clinical management of disorders of these processes. The undergraduate major in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Courses in the major offer students basic information about normal and disordered communication. This area of study may be attractive to the student who has a strong academic background and who is comfortable in learning how to apply information from the biological, physical, and social sciences to the assessment and management of individuals with language, speech, and hearing disorders.

What is a Speech Language Pathologist?
A speech language pathologist is trained to prevent, diagnose and treat communication disorders related to speech in children and adult populations. Some communication disorders may include dyslexia, stuttering and side effects suffered from a stroke.

What is an Audiologist?
An audiologist is trained to prevent, diagnose and treat communication disorders related to the auditory and balance systems. Some services include hearing aids and rehabilitation for the hearing impaired.

What is a Speech Language and/or Auditory Scientist?
A Speech Language and/or Auditory Scientist is dedicated to researching the mechanism of speech language production and sound processing.

Fast Facts
SLHS is a growing department with over 250 undergraduate majors and counting. Many SLHS students pursue a double major or minor during their studies. Common double majors include:
- Cognitive Science
- Physiology and Neurobiology
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Psychology
- Linguistics
- Spanish
- Molecular and Cell Biology

The SLHS department at UConn is comprised of academic and clinical faculty members who conduct research and provide clinical services in the following areas:
- Speech Perception/Bilingualism
- Central Auditory Processing Disorder
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Hearing Conservation
- Cognitive Science
- Hearing Aids & Cochlear Implants
- Specific Language Impairment
- Aural Rehabilitation
- Plasticity of Auditory System
- Knowledge & Skills Acquisition
A bachelor of arts degree in SLHS at UConn prepares students for graduate study in:
- the assessment, treatment and prevention of speech & language disorders
- the milestones of language development
- the anatomy and physiology of hearing and speech mechanism
- basic audiological assessment and rehabilitation processes
- the Individuals with Disabilities Act
- how to phonetically transcribe most languages using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

The undergraduate degree in SLHS is considered a pre-professional degree. Students who wish to become licensed professionals in audiology or speech language pathology are required to pursue a graduate degree in the field. In a select few instances related to speech language pathology, certain states may only require a BA degree. However, students with a BA in Speech, Language, and Hearing Science may also pursue careers as a/an:
- Speech Language Pathology Aide
- Audiology Technician
- Research Associate
- Public Health Associate
- Health Marketer
- Medical Sales Person
- Medical Publications Writer or Editor
- Health Care Administrator

According to the American Speech Language—Hearing Association (ASHA), audiology and speech language pathology is expected to grow faster than the average occupation!

Between 2010-2020:
Audiology is expected to see a 37% growth.

Speech language pathology is expected to see a 23% growth.
ON-SITE CLINIC

The UConn Speech and Hearing Clinic (UCSHC) is an on-site active clinic that provides a full range of evaluation and treatment services to both children and adults with speech, language, cognitive, swallowing, and/or hearing disorders.

Undergraduate students have opportunities to participate in direct observations within the clinic. This is particularly beneficial to students who wish to pursue graduate studies in speech language pathology, where a minimum of 25 documented observation hours is required.

Some of the services provided by the UCSCC are:

- Accent Modification
- Aphasia
- Articulation/Phonological Disorders
- Audiologic Evaluations
- Auditory Processing
- Cognition (memory & attention)
- Language
- Stuttering
- Swallowing
- Transgender Voice & Communication
- Voice Disorders

Suggested Sequence of SLHS Courses

To complete all degree requirements in four years, students must take 5 classes or 15 credits each semester. At least 25 total credits will be completed within the SLHS major. Students can complete their major specific courses in 3 – 5 semesters. Below are three sequences as to how the SLHS majors can be completed. In addition, students will need to complete at least one course each in Physical Sciences, Biology and Statistics.

### 5 Semester Sequence

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Areas of Distinction: UConn Specific Opportunities

The National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) is a national organization for graduate and undergraduate students interested in the study of normal and disordered human communication. NSSLHA has approximately 18,000 members with chapters in more than 285 colleges and universities.

The UConn Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) promotes the field of audiology through events, around campus and the community and introduces students to activities that promote and advance the profession of audiology.

Hear For You provides mentoring and support for children and adults with hearing disabilities and speech impairments through hands-on activities. This organization strives to raise awareness of the population through special events and fundraisers at UConn.

Language For All promotes awareness of linguistic development with a particular emphasis on underrepresented groups and language systems (signed languages). The organization advocates for language access through education and service.

The Honors Program represents the University of Connecticut's commitment to providing a superlative educational experience to highly-motivated students. Over 100 Honors classes – limited in size and taught by some of the most highly-regarded faculty – are offered each year. Honors students also experience the excitement of creation and discovery, and the personal mentorship of a dedicated faculty advisor while completing a research study and Honors Thesis, a requirement for graduation as an Honors Scholar.