PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name</th>
<th>Speech and Language Therapy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma / MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>School of Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department or equivalent</td>
<td>Division of Language and Communication Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme code</td>
<td>PSSLTY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of study</td>
<td>Full Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total UK credits</td>
<td>180 / 240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ECTS</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The Postgraduate Diploma in Speech and Language Therapy programme will provide you with an education and clinical/professional training in speech and language therapy which is underpinned by scholarship, research and clinical practice. It uses a variety of teaching and learning methods including self-directed learning and the programme integrates the development of theoretical knowledge with clinical skills across a wide range of client service groups. You will develop academic skills over two years thereby promoting your continuing professional development and lifelong learning skills. On completion of the programme you will be capable of applying theoretical knowledge to the diagnostic, therapeutic, educative and technical roles of the Speech and Language Therapist within the healthcare, educational and social welfare sectors. The programme will develop your professional knowledge and clinical skills across a wide range of client groups and presenting communication difficulties. By the end of the programme you will be eligible to apply for Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration.

MSc conversion: once you have completed your PG Diploma in Speech and Language Therapy you can convert it to an MSc in Speech and Language Therapy by conducting a research project, normally over 12 months. You will be eligible to convert your PG Diploma to an MSc in Speech and Language Therapy if you apply to carry out the conversion within two years of being awarded the PG Diploma in Speech and Language Therapy.

A fast track MSc programme is available to Non-EU/UK students who require an MSc to practise in their home country. Students on this route complete their MSc dissertation by the October of their second year of study and are directly awarded an MSc in Speech and Language Therapy. N.B. Students on the fast track route are not awarded a PG Diploma in Speech and Language Therapy unless they choose to exit the programme at the PG Diploma level without completing their MSc research dissertation.

Aims

1. To provide, at a postgraduate level, education and clinical/professional training which:
   - is underpinned by scholarship, research and clinical practice
uses a variety of teaching and learning methods including self-directed learning
- integrates the development of theoretical knowledge with clinical skills across
  a wide range of client service groups

2. To provide an intensive postgraduate programme structure which develops the
  professional competencies necessary to be a Speech and Language Therapist over
two years and promotes continuing professional development.

3. To enable students to meet the requirements of the relevant professional and
  statutory bodies.

4. To foster the development of professional knowledge and clinical skills across a wide
  range of client groups and presenting communication difficulties.

5. To provide opportunities for self-monitoring and personal development for the
  formation of reflective practitioners.

6. To produce practitioners who are capable of applying theoretical knowledge to the
  diagnostic, therapeutic, educative and technical roles of the Speech and Language
  Therapist within the healthcare, educational and social welfare sectors.

7. To provide clinical placements that meet the requirements of the Health and Care
  Professions Council (HCPC) and Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
  (RCSLT) - the profession's approving and certificating bodies.

8. MSc Conversion: To support students to conduct and write up a research project to
  include a review of the literature, data collection, analysis & interpretation, discussion
  and critique of research.

If you complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Language and Communication Science
(Non-clinical) you will be able to discuss underlying concepts and principles associated
with speech and language therapy.

By completing the Postgraduate Diploma in Speech and Language Therapy you will build
on your previous knowledge and experience and develop a coherent systematic, detailed
knowledge of your discipline. You will be able to develop techniques for practice drawing
on research and scholarship demonstrating your role as a reflective practitioner.

If you complete the MSc in Speech and Language Therapy you will further develop your
research skills and gain a deeper understanding of the existing research literature as well
as some useful experience for carrying out clinical research in the future.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge, understanding and critical evaluation, of
  communication disabilities and swallowing disorders including: developmental
  speech, language and communication disabilities; acquired speech, language &
  communication disabilities; voice disorders and laryngectomy; disorders of
  fluency; disorders of swallowing; developmental and acquired cognitive disorders
• Demonstrate in-depth and systematic knowledge and understanding of linguistics and its application to normal and impaired communication, including: normal processing at sub-lexical, lexical, grammatical, discourse/text and conversational levels; relevant aspects of linguistics - acoustic and articulatory phonetics and phonology; socio-linguistics; psycholinguistics - normal development and processes in the perception, comprehension and production of spoken, written and gestured messages in both monolingual and multi-lingual communication.

• Demonstrate in-depth and systematic knowledge and understanding of human biological sciences, including: the anatomy and physiology of the body systems relevant to the development and maintenance of communication and swallowing; disruptions to these systems

• Demonstrate in-depth and systematic knowledge and understanding of psychology and social context, including: the impact of communicative need on the psychological and social well-being of the person and his/her relationships; relevant aspects of psychology (developmental, health, social, cognitive, neuropsychology, clinical learning theory) and the application of such knowledge to normal and impaired communication; educational philosophy & practice, health, workplace and multi-cultural society

• Demonstrate in-depth and systematic knowledge, understanding and application of research, including: research methods and statistics; evidence-based practice

• MSc Conversion: demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the chosen area for research, the chosen methodology and validity and reliability issues.

Skills:

• Demonstrate an aptitude for independent study and originality in problem solving, acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level

• Communicate using multiple media, including verbal, written, presentation, word processing and internet based communication

• Design and deliver appropriate client-centred intervention

• Draw on knowledge and skills in order to make professionally-reasoned judgements within the scope of the individual's practice

• Synthesise information with critical awareness from a variety of sources, utilising knowledge or processes at the forefront of speech & language therapy
• Manage the workload within a time frame and to prioritise as appropriate
• Critically evaluate knowledge, research and evidence-based practice and construct academic argument
• Communicate effectively with clients, significant others and other relevant parties
• Sustain independent learning and develop personal and professional skills
• Formulate hypotheses and develop research
• Work collaboratively with others and within a team as a group member or leader
• Address wider service issues including aspects of administration, case management and quality assurance
• Self-reflect on professional practice and use supervision and other learning opportunities to advance professional development
• Use feedback to change learning and advance clinical practice
• Take responsibility and execute duties as appropriate
• MSc Conversion: design a piece of research and analyse, interpret and discuss findings with critical awareness.

Values and attitudes:

• Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to human diversity, including differences of culture, ethnicity, language, disability, socio-economic status, etc
• Maintain and uphold the principles and practices of client confidentiality
• Maintain the principles of the professional and statutory regulatory bodies
• Adhere to the professional code of conduct within the legal and ethical framework.
• Recognise the obligation to maintain fitness for practice and the need for continuing personal and professional development
• MSc research project: demonstrate awareness of issues of informed consent and ethical practice in conducting research.
This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Speech and Language Therapy.

Registration Period

For PG Dip/MSc students enrolled in 2017/18 and before, the normal period of registration for the award of Postgraduate Diploma is 2 years and the maximum period of registration is 4 years. The normal period of registration for the PG Dip with MSc conversion is 2.5 years and the maximum period of registration for the PG Dip with MSc conversion is 5 years.

From 2018/19 the normal period of registration of registration for the award of MSc Speech and Language Therapy is 2 years and the maximum period of registration is 4 years.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

You will learn through a variety of teaching and learning methods including lectures, tutorials, self-directed workshops, lab classes, web-based exercises and clinical placements.

The teaching, learning and assessment (TLA) strategy of the Postgraduate Diploma/MSc programme in Speech & Language Therapy is defined according to the following criteria:

1. The curriculum is delivered through a variety of formats that pay heed to the students' needs to be active learners and reflective practitioners.

2. Diverse teaching methods are employed that are responsive to the intensive rate of learning in the postgraduate programme.

3. Teaching, learning and assessment methods aim to be responsive to developments in information technology (IT) and employ web-based learning and City's virtual learning environment (Moodle).

4. Teaching and learning methods seek to go beyond the framework of the taught curriculum for the establishment of lifelong learning.

5. Student progress is continuously assessed in a variety of ways that reflect the academic, clinical and professional characteristics of the study programme.

6. The assessment schedule aims to support the development of key transferable, interpersonal, cognitive and professional skills through a variety of assignment types.

7. Fairness and appropriateness of assignment demands and the marking procedure is monitored by the staff team and relevant external examiner.
8. The active engagement of students in the learning process is supported by the provision of formative and summative feedback.

9. All students have equal access to learning opportunities of the study programmes and to reveal their knowledge and understanding regardless of any language or special learning needs.

10. Implementation of the TLA strategy is monitored continuously and adjustments made as appropriate to student feedback.

There are five modules per year on the Postgraduate Diploma Programme. Year 1 of the programme begins with a two to three week intensive induction course in September. During a typical week in term time you will spend three days at City, one day on placement and one day private study, although this can vary. You will also undertake intensive placement blocks in the summer.

There are approximately 1100 student learning hours per year with around 320 of these as face-to-face learning in City and a further 240 hours on placement.

If you choose to complete the MSc conversion, you will be expected to spend around 600 hours learning time on the project.

**WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

You will be assessed via a range of methods including exams, tests and coursework at City. You will also be assessed on your clinical placements.

**Assessment and Assessment Criteria**

Each assessment will have assessment criteria and grade related criteria.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured.

Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks.

Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

**Feedback on assessment**

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will
normally be provided within four weeks. The timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at: https://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/68921/assessment_and_feedback_policy.pdf.

You should also refer to the School Assessment Guidelines which you will find in your programme handbook and in the Virtual Learning Environment.

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits.

Year 1 and year 2 of the Postgraduate Diploma programme are weighted equally. You need to pass all year 1 assessments before progressing to year 2.

The pass mark for each module is 50%.

Resit: you will normally be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you withdraw from the Programme.

A student who has not met the pass requirements for a Module due to failure in a resit may, at the discretion of the Assessment Board, be offered a second resit subject to the following criteria:

- For postgraduate programmes, an overall average of at least 60% in the taught elements of the programme excluding the failed assessment must have been achieved.
- The student has failed no more than one assessment.
- A second resit cannot be offered for any practical failed assessment (either placement or in-house clinical).

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at: http://www.city.ac.uk/__data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc
WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Postgraduate Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme stage</th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
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Postgraduate Certificate (Non-clinical)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Programme stage</th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
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MSc (Fast track or Conversion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme stage</th>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>% required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>With Distinction</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>With Merit</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Without classification</td>
<td>50</td>
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WHAT WILL I STUDY?

PG Dip Speech and Language Therapy students complete all modules except SLM011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>SITS Code</th>
<th>Module Credits</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
<th>Can be Compensated?</th>
<th>Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speech &amp; Language Sciences</td>
<td>SLM001</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bio-medical sciences</td>
<td>SLM002</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developmental studies</td>
<td>SLM003</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech, communication &amp; swallowing disabilities</td>
<td>SLM004</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional studies (A)</td>
<td>SLM005</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research &amp; evidence-based practice (1)</td>
<td>SLM006</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing &amp; speech sciences</td>
<td>SLM007</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language sciences</td>
<td>SLM008</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language, cognition &amp; communication disabilities</td>
<td>SLM009</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional studies (B)</td>
<td>SLM010</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>SHS MSc Dissertation Module</td>
<td>APM002</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
You are normally required to complete all the taught modules successfully before progressing to the dissertation.

**TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?**

By the end of the programme you will be eligible to apply for Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration to work as a Speech and Language Therapist.

Speech and Language Therapists work with:
- Children with speech and language difficulties
- People who have had a stroke or other brain diseases
- People who stammer
- People with learning difficulties
- People with voice problems
- People with head and neck cancer
- Deaf people

Speech and Language Therapists work in a range of places: health centres, hospitals, schools, day centres, universities, charities, and independent practice. In addition, they often progress to a career in a specific clinical specialisation, in management, in research or education.

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: [http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates](http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates).

**WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?**

The division offers a post-course opportunity for a few SLT students to work in Cambodia for three months. If you would like more information, please contact the Programme Leader.

**WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

As part of the programme, you will complete clinical placements, which are assigned to you and which take place in various contexts such as hospitals, health centres, schools, specialist centres, and our on-site Speech and Language Therapy Clinic.

Clinical placements sit within the Professional Studies modules within each year. You will undertake weekly and block clinical placements under the supervision of speech and language therapists. During your placement you will be supported by a clinical tutor, practice educator/s, the relevant Professional Studies module leader and/or the Director of Professional Education.

For more information about clinical placements please see the clinical handbook.
## WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

**Accrediting Body:** The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
**Nature of Accreditation** Professional accreditation in speech & language therapy
Registration to practise

## HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Applicants should hold an upper second class honours degree or the equivalent from an international institution. Students whose first language is not English are required to obtain an IELTS score of 7.5 to be accepted on the programme.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance is also required.

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Requirements**
RPL is available to students from similar programmes elsewhere. In such cases a flexible programme of study will be devised to accommodate any differences between the two programmes. RPL is also available to students from the BSc in Speech and Language Science at City.