

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Speech and Language Therapy
Award	BSc (Hons)
School	School of Health Sciences
Department or equivalent	Division of Language and Communication Science
UCAS Code	B620
Programme code	USSLT
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	480
Total ECTS	240

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This 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. The programme integrates the development of theoretical knowledge with clinical skills across a wide range of client service groups.

Aims

You will develop academic skills over four 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.

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 a comprehensive knowledge & understanding of communication disabilities and swallowing disorders, and the ability to critically evaluate relevant information, including: developmental speech, language & communication disabilities; acquired speech, language & communication disabilities; voice disorders & laryngectomy; disorders of fluency; disorders of swallowing; developmental & acquired cognitive disorders.
- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge & 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 & 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 a comprehensive knowledge & understanding of human biological sciences, including: the anatomy & physiology of the body systems relevant to the development & maintenance of communication and swallowing; disruptions to these systems.
- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge & 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 a comprehensive knowledge, understanding and application of research, including: research methods & statistics; evidence-based practice informing the knowledge base of speech & language therapy.

Skills:

- Design and deliver client-centred intervention of an acceptable quality.
- Study independently using a variety of media including the internet.
- Communicate using multiple media, including verbal, written, presentation, word processing and internet based communication.
- Manage workload, prioritising as appropriate, within a time frame.
- Draw on knowledge and skills in order to make professionally-reasoned judgements and apply within the scope of the individual's practice.
- Critically evaluate evidence to support clinical practice.
- Pursue independent learning for the advancement of knowledge and skills.
- Communicate effectively with clients, significant others and other relevant parties.
- Synthesise information from a range of sources and utilise for a given purpose.
- Ask clinical questions, formulate hypotheses and develop research.
- Work collaboratively with others and within a team.
- Address wider service issues including aspects of administration, case management and quality assurance.
- Reflect on own professional practice and to use supervision and other learning opportunities to advance professional development.
- Take responsibility and execute duties in a professional manner.
- Use feedback to change learning and practice.

Values and attitudes:

- Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to human diversity, including differences of culture, ethnicity, language, disability, socio-economic status, etc.
- Maintain the principles and practices of client confidentiality.
- Maintain the principles of the professional and statutory regulatory bodies.
- Demonstrate adherence 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.

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Speech and Language.

Registration Period

The normal period of registration for this programme is 4 years

The maximum period of registration for this programme is 6 years.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

You will learn through a variety of teaching and learning methods including self-directed learning, lectures, tutorials and clinical placements.

The teaching, learning and assessment (TLA) strategy of the undergraduate programme in speech & language therapy is defined according to the following criteria:

1. The curriculum is delivered through a variety of fora 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 undergraduate rate of learning in the study programme.
3. Teaching, learning and assessment methods are responsive to developments in information technology (IT) and all modules are supported by learning resources on Moodle, City's virtual learning environment.
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.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

You will be assessed via a range of methods including exams, tests and coursework at University. 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

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. You also need to pass each Programme Stage of your Programme (see weighing for each Programme Stage further below) in order to progress to the following Programme Stage.

The pass mark for each module is 40%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Resit: you will normally be offered one resit attempt. If you did not participate in the first assessment you will be offered a resit, whether or not you have extenuating circumstances.

If you are successful in the resit, you shall be awarded the credit for that module. The mark used for the purpose of calculation towards your Award shall be calculated from the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt and the minimum pass mark for the component(s) for which you took a resit.

If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Programme Stage and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy uses the following criteria on which to base the use of discretion by an Assessment Board to consider offering a third and final attempt at an assessment to students on an individual basis (see Senate Assessment Regulations S19).

The criteria to be used to allow an Assessment Board to exercise this discretion should be made on the basis that a student must have achieved an overall average of at least 50% (undergraduate, across the taught elements of the programme.). Also, only one assessment should have been failed.

When making a decision on whether an Assessment Board should exercise discretion in awarding a third and final attempt the average across all previous programme stages will be considered but the failed module will not be taken into account when looking at the average.

The Assessment Board will not consider a discretionary third sit for any practical assessment failed (either placement or in-house practical).

All modules will be weighted equally in this process so a 15 credit module would be given equal consideration as a 45 credit module.

Unsafe practice will be considered at the 50% average for consistency.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage, but satisfy the requirements for the previous Programme Stage, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Programme Stage and are not eligible for the award of a lower level qualification, the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

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?

Bachelor's Degree with Honours in Speech and Language Therapy:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
1	4	120	10		I	70
2	5	120	20		II upper division	60
3	6	120	35		II lower division	50
4	6	120	35		III	40

EXIT AWARDS:

You will not be eligible to register with the Health and Care Professions Council or work as a speech and language therapist with any of the awards below.

Bachelor's Degree with Honours in Language and Communication Science (Non-clinical):

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	10	I	70
2	5	120	30	II upper division	60
3	6	90	30	II lower division	50
4	6	60	30	III	40

Ordinary Degree in Language and Communication Science (Non-clinical):

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	15	With Distinction	70
2	5	120	35	With Merit	60
3	6	90	50	Without Classification	40

Diploma of Higher Education in Language & Communication Sciences (non-clinical):

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	35	With Distinction	70
2	5	120	65	With Merit	60
				Without Classification	40

Certificate of Higher Education in Language & Communication Sciences (non-clinical):

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
1	4	120	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60
				Without Classification	40

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Programme Stage 1

Programme Stage 1 comprises 6 core modules totalling 120 credits. Credit values are 15 or 30 depending on the study hours allocated to the module. There is an emphasis on the core academic disciplines that underpin the professional programme of study.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Hearing & speech sciences (1)	SL1001	30	C	No	4
Bio-medical sciences (1)	SL1002	15	C	No	4
Life span studies	SL1003	15	C	No	4
Social context	SL1004	15	C	No	4
Language sciences (1)	SL1005	30	C	No	4
Professional studies (1)	SL1006	15	C	No	4

To progress from Programme Stage 1 to Programme Stage 2 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Therapy, you must have acquired 120 credits and satisfied Programme Stage 1 requirements. Students who choose to exit at this level, may be awarded a CertHE in Language & Communication Sciences (non-clinical).

Programme Stage 2

Programme Stage 2 comprises 6 core modules totalling 120 credits. Credit values are 15 or 30 depending on the professional orientation of the module. There is an increasing emphasis on the clinical disciplines that underpin the professional programme of study

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Hearing & speech sciences (2)	SL2001	15	C	No	5
Bio-medical sciences (2)	SL2002	15	C	No	5
Developmental psychology	SL2003	15	C	No	5
Language sciences (2)	SL2004	15	C	No	5
Speech, communication & swallowing disabilities	SL2005	30	C	No	5
Professional studies (2)	SL2006	30	C	No	5

To progress from Programme Stage 2 to Programme Stage 3 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Therapy, you must have acquired 120 credits and satisfied Programme Stage 2 requirements. Students who choose to exit at Programme Stage 2 may be awarded a DipHE in Language & Communication Sciences (non-clinical).

Programme Stage 3

Programme Stage 3 comprises 4 core modules totalling 120 credits. Credit values are set at 30 to reflect the demands for private study associated with each module. The clinical disciplines that underpin the professional programme are maintained with a new emphasis on research methods.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Research & evidence-based practice (1)	SL3001	30	C	No	6
Language sciences (3)	SL3002	30	C	No	6
Language, cognition & communication disabilities	SL3003	30	C	No	6
Professional studies (3)	SL3004	30	C	No	6
Research & evidence-based practice (2)	SL3007	60	C	No	6
Professional studies (4)	SL3008	60	C	No	6

To progress from Programme Stage 3 to Programme Stage 4 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Therapy, you must have acquired 120 credits and satisfied Programme Stage 3 requirements. Students who choose to exit at Programme Stage 3 may be awarded a BSc (Ordinary) Language & Communication Sciences (non-clinical).

You must complete all 4 core modules to progress to Programme Stage 4 of the BSc (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy programme. Students who fail one module (but achieve 330 credits in total) may either exit with a BSc (Ordinary) Language and Communication Sciences (Non-Clinical) degree, or continue to Programme Stage 4 to try for a BSc (Hons) Language and Communication Sciences (Non-Clinical) degree. These students complete the Human Communication research project module HC3001 (60 credits at level 6).

Programme Stage 4

Programme Stage 4 comprises 2 modules of 60 credits. Credit values are set at 60 to reflect the study demands associated with each of these final modules.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Research and evidence-based practice (2)	SL3007	60	C	No	6
Professional studies (4)	SL3008	60	C	No	6

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

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>.

WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

The Division offers limited study abroad/ exchange opportunities (in recent years, with Australia). If you would like more information on these, please contact your Year 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 clinic 'Compass Centre'.

Clinical placements sit within the professional studies modules within each year. In the first year of the programme you will undertake placements in community settings. In subsequent years 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, a clinical supervisor, 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), Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

Nature of Accreditation

The programme is on the HCPC Register of Approved Courses

This programme is recognised by the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists for the purposes of newly qualified practitioner membership.

Non-clinical exit routes also exist (as described above) which do not receive any professional accreditation.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Applications are considered from students with a wide range of backgrounds. In general, applicants will require 380 UCAS tariff points typically gained from A*AA or AAB plus an

AS level at grade C. Students who have also gained a pass in an appropriate Access Course will also be considered. Five GCSE passes must include English Language and Mathematics at grade C.

Students whose first language is not English are required to obtain an IELTS score of 7.5 to be accepted on the programme.

Overseas qualifications will be considered on a case by case basis. Disclosure and Barring Service clearance is also required.

Recognition of Prior Learning Requirements

RP(E)L is not available other than for RPL students from other HCPC Accredited Speech and Language Therapy programmes elsewhere. Applications for RPL are considered on a case by case basis with reference to the RP(E)L Policy. Where an application for RPL is approved the programme of study is adapted in order to accommodate differences between the two programmes.

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