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

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. 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 Professions Council (HPC) registration.

MSc conversion: you will develop your research skills by conducting a research project.

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 Professions Council (HPC) 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.

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 laryngecctomy; 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 client-centred intervention of an acceptable quality
- 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 to construct of academic argument
- communicate effectively with clients, significant others and other relevant parties
- sustain independent learning and to develop personal and professional skills
- formulate hypotheses and to develop research
- work collaboratively with others and within a team as a group member of leader
- address wider service issues including aspects of administration, case management and quality assurance
- reflect on his or her own professional practice and to use supervision and other learning opportunities to advance professional development
- use feedback to change learning and advance clinical practice
- take responsibility and to 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 Conversion: 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.

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 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 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 the University’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 course begins with a three week intensive induction course in September. During a typical week in term time you will spend three days at University, one day on placement and one day private study. 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 the University 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 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.

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 course 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. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not be offered a resit.

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 and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, but satisfy the requirements for a lower-level Award, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If
you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme 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?

Postgraduate Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class | % required
--- | ---
With Distinction | 70
With Merit | 60
Without classification | 50

Postgraduate Certificate (Non-clinical)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class | % required
--- | ---
With Distinction | 70
With Merit | 60
Without classification | 50

MSc (Conversion)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HE Level</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class | % required
--- | ---
With Distinction | 70
With Merit | 60
Without classification | 50

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>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio-medical sciences</td>
<td>SLM002</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental studies</td>
<td>SLM003</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech, communication &amp; swallowing disabilities</td>
<td>SLM004</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</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 Professions Council (HPC) 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 clinic ‘Compass Centre’.
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, 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 Professions Council (HPC)

**Nature of Accreditation** Professional accreditation in speech & language therapy

**Registration to practise**

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

An Honours Degree of at least a II:i from a wide range of subject disciplines and from a University where the degree is taught in English is required to start the standard Postgraduate Diploma programme. Students whose first language is not English are required to obtain an IELTS score of 7.5 to be accepted on the course.

AP(E)L 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. AP(E)L is also available to students from the BSc in Human Communication at City.

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