PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

Programme name	Speech and Language Science
Award	BSc (Hons)
School	School of Health Sciences
Department or equivalent	Division of Language and Communication Science
UCAS Code	B621
Programme code	USSPLS
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	360
Total ECTS	180

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The course focuses on speech and language science but does not include clinical training in Speech and Language Therapy. Instead it offers modules from Language and Communication Science and Psychology. These modules give you an opportunity to acquire a thorough understanding of core aspects of language and speech. The BSc in Speech and Language Science provides a foundation for a career in areas such as commerce, the public sector, advertising and the media and towards post-graduate qualifications like teaching, social work, audiology, speech and language therapy, human resources or law.

Each year of the course involves taking a number of 'modules' which add up to 120 credits, most of these modules are 'core' modules which all students on the course are required to take.

Aims

1. To provide, at an undergraduate level, education and skills which:

  - are underpinned by scholarship and research

  - use a variety of teaching and learning methods including self-directed learning

  - integrate the development of theoretical knowledge with practical skills in speech and hearing sciences.

2. To develop your learning and academic skills over three years thereby promoting continuing professional development and lifelong learning.

3. To provide you with comprehensive, detailed and in-depth understanding of speech, language and hearing and how they may be impaired.

4. To provide you with written and spoken language and communication skills.

5. To provide you with the knowledge and skills to observe and analyse human communication and behaviour.

6. To train you to use a range of analytical methods, both qualitative and quantitative, in the field of speech and language science.

7. To enable you to develop the ability to comprehend, interpret and apply information in various forms to produce coherent, well-structured written work.

8. To develop a critical awareness and enable you to review and appraise research.

9. To enable you to plan and undertake research at an appropriate level

10. Develop a range of subject-specific and transferable skills to prepare graduates for employment in a wide range of jobs and/or postgraduate studies.

If you exit the programme at Programme Stage One (Certificate in Speech and Language Science) you will be able to discuss and interpret underlying concepts and principles associated with speech, language and communication.

If you exit the programme at Programme Stage Two (Diploma in in Speech and Language Science) you will build on your previous knowledge. You will develop skills of enquiry in your subject and develop different approaches to problem-solving as well as identify the limitations of your knowledge.

For all of you completing the BSc in Speech and Language Science you will further develop a coherent systematic, detailed knowledge of your subject. You will be able to develop arguments and theories drawing on research and scholarship.

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 linguistics and its application to normal and impaired communication, including: normal processing at sublexical, lexical, grammatical, discourse/text and conversational levels; relevant aspects of linguistics, acoustic & articulatory phonetics and

- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge & understanding of phonology; sociolinguistics; 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 knowledge of the major theories, research findings and current psychological understanding of human development through infancy, childhood, adolescence and old age.

- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge, understanding and application of research, including: research methods & statistics informing the knowledge base of speech & language sciences

- Demonstrate a reflective understanding of your own communication in the context of personal and professional life.

- Demonstrate knowledge of material (psychology/sociology/language & communication) from optional modules commensurate with duration and level of study.

Skills:

- Communicate using multiple media; including verbal, written, presentation, word processing and internet based communication. Be able to write in an academic style, apply correct referencing and communicate ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Demonstrate the ability to observe, report and comment on human behaviour as it relates to communication.
- Study independently using a variety of media including the internet.
- Demonstrate effective use of written and oral modalities to discuss, describe and evaluate concepts, theories and information in the subject area.
- Manage workload, prioritising as appropriate, within a time frame.
- Critically evaluate evidence from literature.
- Synthesise information from a range of sources and utilise for a given purpose.
- Pursue independent learning for the advancement of knowledge and skills.
- Interact with others in a manner that reflects a knowledge and understanding of speech and language science and an awareness of communication disorders.
- Work collaboratively with others and within a team.
- Ask scientific questions, formulate hypotheses and develop research.
- Use feedback to change learning and approach.
- Take responsibility and execute duties in a mature manner.

Values and attitudes:

- Demonstrate awareness of and sensitivity to human diversity, including differences of culture, ethnicity, language, disability, socio-economic status, etc.
- Recognise the need for continuing personal and professional development.

Registration Period

The normal period of registration for this programme is 3 years

The maximum period of registration for this programme is 5 years.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

During the first two years of the course most of your modules involve scheduled contact (i.e. lectures, tutorials, labs etc.) on a weekly basis. This will take place during the autumn and spring terms and will involve approximately 20 to 30 contact hours per 15 credits. This should be supplemented by self directed study hours to a total of 150 hours (including contact hours) per 15 credits. Self directed study will be supported by web-based resources, reading materials, etc (see below).

During the third year of the course, a larger proportion of your study will become self directed, mainly as a result of the fact that you will be carrying out a substantial research study in your third year.

Learning and teaching methods across the course include:

- Large scale lectures;
- Tutorial groups for small group discussion, collaborative problem solving and enquiry;
- Lab based learning;
- Web-based learning;
- Workshops for group based learning and the integration of theory & practical skills.
- One to one meetings with supervisor (for research project)

Supporting materials include:

- Web based handouts that provide information beyond the scope of the related lecture course;
- PowerPoint and text handouts or booklets that provide a record of lecture content for review outside timetabled sessions;
- Video presentations
- CD-ROMs for independent study, skills practice and virtual learning;
- Computer and web based exercises for developing internet and technical skills.
- Worksheets that encourage students to review the content of a lecture by application

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Diverse assessment methods are used, including:

- Written assignments (e.g. essay; case-based project; literature review, etc).
- Poster presentations;
- Lab assignments;
- Work sheets;
- Class tests;
- Multiple choice questionnaires;
- Written examinations;

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. 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.

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 in order to progress to the following Programme Stage.

Your overall degree classification will be weighted as follows: 20% based on your marks awarded to you in your first year; 40% based on your marks awarded to you in your second year; 40% based on your marks awarded to you in your third year.

The Pass mark for each module is 40%. Some modules (including ones provided by other Schools/Departments) may require a minimum mark in different assessment components in order to achieve a pass overall. This will be specified in each individual module specification.

If you fail an assessment component or a module you will 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.

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:

- The student has failed no more than one assessment.
- For BSc Speech and Language Science/BSc Speech and Language Therapy programmes, an overall average of at least 50% in Programme Stages 1, 2 and 3 excluding the failed assessment must have been achieved
- A second resit cannot be offered for any practical failed assessment (either placement or in-house clinical).

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 to the next Programme Stage and the Assessment Board will require you to be withdrawn from the Programme.

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

If the assessment is practice based and there are only outstanding signatures, the module is not 'failed' and students can re-submit their portfolio. The outstanding signatures, and thus the fail, will not be counted when calculating the average grade over the programme or programme stage. A second resit cannot be offered for any practical failed assessment (either placement or in-house clinical).

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

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WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
1	4	120	20		I	70
2	5	120	40		II upper division	60
3	5	30			II lower division	50
	6	90	40			
					III	40

Ordinary Degree:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
1	4	120	20		With Distinction	70
2	5	120	40		With Merit	60
3	5	30			Without Classification	40
	6	30	40			

Diploma of Higher Education:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	35
2	5	120	65

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

Certificate of Higher Education:

Programme Stage	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
Without Classification	40

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The programme is 360 credits, 120 at HE4, 150 at HE5 and 90 at HE6 level, requiring approximately 3600 notional learning hours. The number of modules per Programme Stage and the credits associated with each module varies according to the Programme Stage. The modules within each Programme Stage have been determined because of the academic and professional homogeneity of discrete components.

Credits have been assigned to individual modules according to the hours of study and the weighting of the subjects in that Programme Stage. The number of modules decreases as the student progresses through the Programme Stages, with a corresponding increase to the credit value assigned to each module. The Programme Stages are distinguished by the change in delivery mode as the programme progresses, with an early emphasis on didactic teaching methods in Programme Stage 1 and a greater emphasis on student directed study in Programme Stage 3, particularly with regards to the research project.

Each year is made up of several modules.

Programme Stage 1 comprises five compulsory modules of 15 credits, one compulsory module of 30 credits and one elective module of 15 credits.

Programme Stage 2 comprises six compulsory modules of 15 and one of 30 credits.

Programme Stage 3 comprises four compulsory modules of 15 and one of 60 credits.

Programme Stage 1

Programme Stage 1 comprises 5 core modules of 15 credits and one of 30 credits. In addition, there will be one 15 credit elective module. Compulsory modules are listed below and elective

modules can be chosen from a list which will be communicated to students before the start of each academic year. All elective modules available in Programme Stage 1, will be at HE level 4. The elective modules will be in the subject area of Psychology (e.g. "History and Theory of Psychology" – PS1004), which are offered within the School of Arts and Social Sciences.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compen-sated?	Level
Articulatory phonetics, Phonology and Speech Development	SL1011	30	C	N	4
Bio-medical sciences 1: Anatomy and Physiology	SL1016	15	C	N	4
Life span studies	SL1013	15	C	N	4
Language and Medium	HC1002	15	C	N	4
Acoustic Phonetics & Audiology	HC1003	15	C	N	4
Speech Disorders, Dysfluency and AAC	HC1004	15	C	N	4

To progress from Programme Stage 1 to Programme Stage 2 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Science, the student must have acquired 120 credits and satisfied all Programme Stage 1 requirements. Students who choose to exit at this level, may be awarded a CertHE in Speech and Language Science.

Programme Stage 2

Programme Stage 2 comprises six compulsory modules of 15 credits and one of 30 credits at level HE5.

The emphasis is on the nature of speech and communication in children and adults and on research methods.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compen-sated?	Level
Hearing & speech sciences (2)	SL2011	15	C	N	5
Bio-medical sciences: ENT/ Neurology/Brain & Behaviour	SL2012	15	C	N	5
Developmental psychology & Research Methods	SL2013	15	C	N	5

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Language sciences: Linguistics and Language Development	SL2014	30	C	N	5
Instrumental Techniques**	HC2001	15	C	N	5
Forensic Phonetics**	HC2002	15	C	N	5
Language and Medium 2	HC2005	15	C	N	5

Year 2 and 3 students are jointly taught for modules HC2001, HC2002, HC2003 and HC2004. This means that modules HC2001 and HC2002 and modules HC2003 and HC2004 run in alternate years.

To progress from Programme Stage 2 to Programme Stage 3 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Science, the students 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 Speech and Language Science.

Programme Stage 3

Programme Stage 3 comprises four compulsory modules of 15 credits and one module of 60 credits. All modules are at level HE5 or HE6. Credit value for the project is set at 60 to reflect the changing pattern of study in the final year where there is a greater emphasis on independent study.

Programme Stage 3 final Award Regulations

To pass Programme Stage 3 of the honours degree in Speech and Language Science, the student must have acquired 120 credits and satisfied Part 3 requirements.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Acquired and Developmental Language Disorders	SL3013	15	C	N	6
Sociolinguistics**	HC2003	15	C	N	5
Language and Gender**	HC2004	15	C	N	5
Psychoacoustics	HC3002	15	C	N	6
Research Project	HC3001	60	C	N	6

Year 2 and 3 students are jointly taught for modules HC2001, HC2002, HC2003 and HC2004. This means that modules HC2001 and HC2002 and modules HC2003 and HC2004 run in alternate years.

TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?

Future career options can include law, social work, teaching, audiology, PR, advertising, human resources and speech and language therapy.

There are also opportunities for further research and study in speech and language therapy, audiology, forensic science and forensic phonetics.

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?

Opportunities to study abroad become available from time to time. Your Programme Director will inform you about these opportunities as and when they become available.

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

This programme does not involve specific placements as it is not a clinical Programme leading to a professional qualification.

WILL I GET ANY PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION?

No – if you are interested in a professional qualification, this programme may constitute a first step toward further studies which do lead to a professional qualification (e.g. audiology, speech and language therapy etc.)

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

Applications are considered from students with a wide range of backgrounds. Typical offers require one of the following:

- A Level: 120 UCAS tariff points. Typically gained from 'A' Level grades BBB.
- IB: 31 points.
- Access: Pass in a QAA recognised Access to HE Diploma in a health or science related subject achieving 60 credits overall with 45 at Level 3 (36 at Distinction and 9 at Merit). Applicants must hold GCSE English and Mathematics at grade C (4) or above.
- BTEC: Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care or Science related subject: DDD.
- Students from the BSc Speech and Language Therapy course at City, University of London can transfer up to 210 credits from the SLT to SLS course. In such cases, the programme of study is adapted in order to accommodate differences between the two programmes.

In addition, five GCSE passes must include English Language and Mathematics at grade C.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

RPL may be considered from applicants who have successfully completed appropriate overseas Speech and Language qualifications from countries which have a Mutual Recognition of Credentials Agreement with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

Programme Transfer

A student who has successfully completed Programme Stage 1 and 90 appropriate credits from Programme Stage 2 of the BSc Speech and Language Therapy programme may, with the approval of the Assessment Board, transfer to the BSc Speech and Language Science programme.

Students whose first language is not English are required to obtain an IELTS score of 6.5 to be accepted on the programme.

Overseas qualifications will be considered on a case by case basis.

An interview may be required to gain a place on the programme.