Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSDO)

The Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders is offered by the Department of Clinical Health Sciences. The degree is clinically oriented and is designed to prepare students to be Speech Language Pathologists working in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and schools. The program meets the clinical requirements for state licensure as a Speech Language Pathologist and for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech Language Pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The program is fully accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Students who wish to enroll in the Graduate Program in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSDO) must present evidence of completion of an undergraduate major in Speech-Language Pathology or completion of all undergraduate courses required of an undergraduate major in Speech-Language Pathology. Also, a basic course in statistics, chemistry or physics, math, psychology, and biology are required. The GRE score and overall GPA and CSDO GPA are part of the evaluation for admission to the graduate program.

Students may be required to obtain a Criminal Background Check (CBC) either as part of the admissions process or prior to placement in certain externship sites. Students should also be advised that the Texas Department of Licensing may deny a license to an applicant because of conviction for a felony or misdemeanor if the crime directly relates to the professional duties of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist.

Social Work (SCWK)

The Master of Social Work (MSW) with a concentration in Clinical/Activist Social Work is offered by the Social Work program in the Department of Clinical Health Sciences. The MSW degree program requires 60 credits (regular track) for those without a BSW. degree accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, and 30 credits (advanced standing) for those with a BSW degree accredited by the Council on Social Work Education. Regular track students take the foundation year of content, followed by the Clinical/Activist concentration year, where they join their advanced standing colleagues who only take the concentration year of content in Clinical/Activist Social Work.

The MSW degree in Social Work with a concentration in Clinical/Activist Social Work is offered as a non-thesis option. A minimum of 900 clock hours of field education (supervised practice) is required. The MSW degree program will prepare students to function in a variety of Social Work and/or Social Service settings. Students will be required to obtain a Criminal Background Check prior to placement in a practicum site. The MSW degree program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville is in candidacy for accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education. Upon graduation, students are eligible to sit for the master's level social work examination in Texas; however, students should be advised that it is their responsibility to check with their particular state concerning their eligibility to sit for the master’s level licensing examination, as such requirements may vary by state.

Students who wish to enroll in the MSW program with a concentration in Clinical/Activist Social Work must present evidence of successful completion of undergraduate courses or their equivalent in human biology (3 credits), introduction to psychology (3 credits), introduction to sociology (3 credits), and statistics (3 credits). The BSW degree or credits in social work is not required to pursue graduate study in social work for the two year program; but is required for the Advanced Standing program. All admitted students are given full admission with stipulations; they must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in their first semester of study to gain full admission without any stipulations.

Faculty

Graduate Faculty

Oller, Stephen Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.S., University of Louisiana at Lafayette; Ph.D., University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Swartz, Eric Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.S., University of Nebraska; M.A., University of Northern Colorado; Ph.D., Bowling Green State University.

Associate Member

Faulkner, Samuel Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.A., Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; M.S., Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; M.S.S.W., University of Texas at Arlington; Ph.D., University of Texas at Arlington.

Fiestas, Christine Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.A., The University of Vermont; M.A., The University of Texas at Austin; Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin.
Hernandez-Perez, Lydia Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.S., Texas A&I University; M.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Krestar, Maura Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.A., Mercyhurst University; M.A., Cleveland State University; Ph.D., Cleveland State University.

Villa, Robert Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.A., New Mexico Highlands University; Ph.D., University of Utah.

Young, Teresa Assistant Professor, Department of Clinical Health Sciences; B.S.W., The University of North Alabama; M.S.W., The University of Alabama; Ph.D., The University of Alabama.

Courses

Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSDO)

CSDO 5301 Res in Comm Sci and Disorders 3 SCH (3-0)
Major methods of research used in the various areas of communication sciences and disorders. Each student is responsible for the successful completion of a research project. Prerequisite: PSYC 3381; permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5302 Orofacial Pathologies 3 SCH (3-0)
The study of cleft palate and other orofacial anomalies and pathologies of speech, language, voice and hearing disorders. Diagnosis and treatment of disorders of speech due to deviations in the dental, skeletal and muscular systems. Dysphagia issues will also be addressed. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5303 Motor Speech Disorders 3 SCH (3-0)
Disorders of speech with a neuromuscular basis found in children and adults, including motor-based articulation disorders, stuttering, voice disorders, the dysarthria and cerebral palsy. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5304 Voice Disorders 3 SCH (3-0)
The study of the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of voice disorders and alaryngeal speech. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5305 Graduate Research Project 3 SCH (3)
Designed for project option students and requires completion of research project. Prerequisite: departmental approval. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 semester hours.

CSDO 5306 Thesis 3 SCH (3)
Designed for thesis option students. The course requires completion of thesis research. Prerequisite: departmental approval. May be repeated for maximum of 6 semester hours.

CSDO 5307 Diagnostics 3 SCH (3-0)
Advanced study of diagnostic techniques and specific testing instruments utilized in the evaluation of communication disorders. Prerequisite: permission of instructor and completion of a minimum of 25 observation hours.

CSDO 5308 Neurogenic Lang & Cognitive 3 SCH (3-0)
Etiology, symptoms assessment and therapeutic techniques for effective treatment of neurologically based language and cognitive disorders including aphasia, right hemisphere disorders, and dementia.

CSDO 5309 Fluency Disorders 3 SCH (3-0)
The study of various theories, research findings, rationales and methodologies for evaluation and treatment of dysfluency in children and adults. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5311 Graduate Clinical Practicum 3 SCH (0-3)
Supervised clinical experience with individuals with communication impairments for novice clinicians who have 0-12 hours of graduate level clinical experience. Application of diagnostic, prescriptive and therapeutic techniques. Enrollment required for on-campus practicum. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing and completion of a minimum of 25 observation hours. Credit/Noncredit.
Fee: $5.00

CSDO 5312 Contemporary Issues 3 SCH (3-0)
Examination of current issues and trends. Topics to be announced on a semester basis. May be repeated for credit once if topic changes. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

CSDO 5314 Aural Rehab and Habilitation 3 SCH (3-0)
Effects of hearing impairment. Hearing aids and assistive devices as integrated into a treatment program including speech reading and auditory training. Prerequisite: CSDO 3313; permission of instructor.

CSDO 5315 Advanced Audiology 3 SCH (3-0)
Advanced audiological concepts and their applicability to instrumentation and educational procedures utilized in the habilitation and/or rehabilitation of the hearing impaired. Includes discussions of Central Auditory Processing Disorders, testing special populations, use and selection of assistive listening devices and advanced practicum techniques. Prerequisite: CSDO 5314; permission of instructor.
CSDO 5316  Dysphagia  3 SCH  (3-0)
The study of oral-pharyngeal swallowing disorders, including anatomical and physiological basis for swallowing disorders, assessment and treatment. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

CSDO 5317  Advanced Clinical Practicum  3 SCH  (0-3)
Supervised clinical experience with individuals with communication impairments for beginning clinicians that have 13-25 hours of graduate level clinical experience. Application of diagnostic, prescriptive and therapeutic techniques. Enrollment required for on-campus practicum. Prerequisites: permission of instructor/graduate standing, completion of a minimum of 25 observation hours, CSDO 5311. Credit/Noncredit. Fee: $5.00

CSDO 5318  Articulat and Phonolog Disordr  3 SCH  (3-0)
An advanced course in the study of phonology: the sound system of language, including pauses and stress. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

CSDO 5320  Child Language Disorders  3 SCH  (3-0)
Advanced study in the assessment of, and intervention for, childhood language disorders. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

CSDO 5322  Neuroscience in Comm Disorders  3 SCH  (3-0)
The study of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology and its relation to speech, language, hearing and their disorders. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

CSDO 5324  Ind Stu Com Sci and Disorders  1-3 SCH  (1-3)
Individual study of specific problems in speech-language pathology. Attention to individual needs of the student. This course is repeatable for credit and can be taught by different faculty covering different topics. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. Credit/Noncredit.

CSDO 5326  Advanced Clinical Methods  3 SCH  (0-3)
Clinical techniques and strategies for teaching appropriate communicative behaviors. Specific therapy techniques for a wide range of communication disorders.

CSDO 5328  Beginning Practicum Externship  1-3 SCH  (0-1-3)
Field Placement. Assessment and management of clients with speech, language and hearing disorders for graduate students with no previous externship experience. Location will be at an externship site under supervision of ASHA certified supervisors. Prerequisites: 3.0 graduate GPA, completion of 50 on-campus clinical contact hours and permission of instructor. Credit/Noncredit.

CSDO 5329  Advanced Practicum Externship  3 SCH  (0-3)
Advanced Field Placement for students with at least 150 hours of supervised clinical practice at the TAMUK clinic and at least one external practicum site affiliated with TAMUK. Students will plan and perform assessments and clinical management of patients or clients (site dependent) with communication disorders under the supervision of ASHA certified supervisors. Prerequisite: 3.0 graduate GPA, successful completion of CSDO 5328, completion of 150 clinical contact hours and permission of the instructor. Credit/Noncredit.

CSDO 5330  Bil and Bicult Issues in CSDO  3 SCH  (3-0)
Study of current theories of bilingual/bicultural speech-language acquisition, differences and disorders/deficits. Assessment techniques and intervention strategies for detection of disorders/deficits in bilingual/bicultural individuals. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

CSDO 5405  Aural Rehab & Adv Audiology  4 SCH  (4-0)
Effects of hearing impairment. Advanced audiological concepts and their applicability to instrumentation and educational procedures used in the rehabilitation of the hearing impaired. Discussions of central auditory processing disorders, testing special populations, use and selection of hearing aids and assistive listening devices, hearing aids, speech-reading, and auditory training.

CSDO 5410  Voice and Resonance Disorders  4 SCH  (4-0)
The study of the etiology, diagnosis and treatment of disorders of voice and resonance. Prerequisite: permission of instructor/graduate standing.

Social Work (SCWK)

SCWK 5215  Military/Veterans  2 SCH  (2-0)
This applied seminar requires students to critically assess and apply clinical intervention strategies focused on the alleviating stress associated with military service and veteran status. Aspects of the military culture essential to know in order to be able to develop a strong therapeutic relationship are presented. Crisis intervention, CBT and other appropriate therapies will be used to address issues of wartime deployment, economic issues, relocation related stress, PTSD, ethnicity, social class, gender orientation, family violence and substance abuse. A rurality paradigm and experiential learning is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better.

SCWK 5220  "Rurality" Social Work  2 SCH  (2-0)
Clinical/Activist Social Workers are prepared for competent practice with the diverse families, groups, organizations, and communities in rural South Texas. Students learn to conceptualize and apply the "Rurality" paradigm to emphasize a way of life that serves to build resiliencies based on spiritual, familial and/or community systems. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.
SCWK 5225 Intervention with Elders 2 SCH (2-0)
In this applied seminar a holistic spiritual life cycle and other developmental theories informing clinical practice with aging populations are presented. Students apply culturally competent methods for interviewing, assessing, diagnosing and intervening with older people, their families, and their informal networks through lectures, case studies/analysis, DSM V, and field research. Emphasis will be on the Mexican heritage elder and their family and the potential for misdiagnosis using the DSM V. A rurality paradigm and experiential learning is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better.

SCWK 5230 Leadership & Supervision 2 SCH (2-0)
This applied seminar uses experiential learning and requires students to apply theories and skills necessary for leadership in community agencies and the issues encountered in supervisory roles. A rurality paradigm is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles with agencies serving the Mexican heritage and rural population of South Texas border environments. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better.

SCWK 5235 Economic Policy & Development 2 SCH (2-0)
Students will apply knowledge and skills necessary for planning, developing and evaluation of sustainable programs. This course uses economic policy to stress the importance of understanding how the economy affects development and provision of social services. A rurality paradigm and experiential learning is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better.

SCWK 5240 Integrated Field Project 2 SCH (2-0)
The experiential format of this applied seminar focuses on application of critical thinking to the development of a case study using experiences, knowledge, attitudes and skills from field practicum to systematically plan and evaluate interpersonal practice and/or programs for the purpose of informing clinical and programmatic decision-making. Builds upon the foundation research, human behavior, and practice courses, and examines evidence-based methods for conducting assessments; identifying and implementing evidence-based interventions; and measuring and monitoring outcomes for clinical practice and program evaluation. A rurality paradigm and experiential learning is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better. Co-requisite: SCWK 5385.

SCWK 5310 Foundations of Social Work 3 SCH (3-0)
This course uses the history of social work and community agency-based case studies to explore connections the practice behaviors characteristic of social work and understanding of rurality as a paradigm of practice. Social justice issues in relation to racism/discrimination based on social class, gender, nationality, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation will be presented. Students will demonstrate orally and in writing their mastery of course content and critical thinking skills commensurate with graduate education. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.

SCWK 5315 HBSE I 3 SCH (3-0)
A multidimensional approach to examining the behavior of individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, and society as a whole. The economic, social, political, and social forces that impact quality of life are examined. Theories and research of human behavior across the life span are critically evaluated as applications are made to rural social work practice. This is a social work theory course where students are introduced to ecosystems as applied to social work practice. Students demonstrate orally and in writing a critical understanding of and application of course materials. Rurality paradigm is used to emphasize the issues related to ethnicity, rural life-style, nationality, social class, gender identity, racism/discrimination, economic and political discrimination are presented with a special focus on Mexican heritage families. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Co-requisite SCWK 5310; SCWK 5320; SCWK 5326.

SCWK 5320 Social Policy 3 SCH (3-0)
Policy, social policy, welfare policy and child welfare policy form the foundation of this course. Issues of political ideology/values, social and economic justice and structural/environmental discrimination based on social class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic status, and nationality are examined. The role of advocate in rural environments is presented with a special emphasis on the rurality paradigm to assess the traditional help seeking behaviors and mutual aid strategies (language) use by the large Mexican heritage population of South Texas border environments. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Co-requisite: SCWK 5310; SCWK 5315; SCWK 5326.

SCWK 5326 Practice I 3 SCH (3-0)
This is an overview of theory and models of social work intervention with families. Students will learn the theoretical constructs of traditional and emerging models of SW practice with families and develop assessment and intervention skills based on a systems perspective of the family as the center of focus. The rurality paradigm will be used to emphasize the traditional help seeking behaviors and mutual aid approach to informal service used by rural families; especially the bilingual-bicultural Mexican heritage families living the South Texas border environments. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Co-requisite SCWK 5310, SCWK 5315, and SCWK 5320.

SCWK 5330 Populations at Risk 3 SCH (3-0)
This course focuses on issues of diversity, oppression and social justice. It is designed to prepare social work students to be knowledgeable of people's biases based on race, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, social and economic status, political ideology/values, disability and how these contribute to discrimination and oppression. Students will also learn about the influence of dominant culture on these diverse and marginalized (population at risk) groups. Naturally occurring self-help and therapeutic groups are the focus of this holistic skills based course. A critical study of environmnetal, social and economic justice issues that impinge of quality of life and well-being of diverse populations are presented. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.
SCWK 5335  Practice II  3 SCH (3-0)
As a course with foundation content in the Social Welfare Policy, this course focuses on providing an understanding of community as a major element in the rural social environment that influences an individual’s development, behavior and use of informal and formal social services. Traditional help seeking behaviors and mutual aid are presented within a rurality paradigm to provide a focus on the large Mexican heritage populations that inhabit the South Texas border environments. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Pre-requisite: SCWK 5310; SCWK 5315; SCWK 5320; SCWK 5326.

SCWK 5340  Applied Research  3 SCH (3-0)
Principles and methods of measurement, research design and program evaluation in social work. Emphasis is placed on applied methods and practice evaluation to improve practice (single-systems), policy, and social service delivery (process/outcome evaluation) with a focus on rural communities and services. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.

SCWK 5346  Capstone Seminar  3 SCH (3-0)
This Capstone course in social work, reinforcing students’ social work identity, life-long learning, and career development. A writing intensive course requires evidence of critical thinking and application of professional behaviors in relation to the nine CSWE competencies. A major APA format case study is required showing evidence of ability to link course learning to field practicum application. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Prerequisites SCWK 5310; SCWK 5315; SCWK 5320; SCWK 5326; SCWK 5340. Co-requisite: SCWK 5356.

SCWK 5350  Field Practicum I  3 SCH (3-0)
First in a sequence of two field practicums. Educationally directed and professionally supervised direct service activities providing practical experience in the application of social work values, knowledge, and skills acquired in social work foundation courses to practice with rural and/or Mexican heritage populations of rural South Texas border regions. A minimum of three hundred (300) clock hours of supervised field placement and a weekly one hour seminar are required. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Prerequisites: permission of the Social Work Program Director and Field Education Coordinator. Co-requisite: SCWK 5310; SCWK 5315; SCWK 5320; SCWK 5326.

SCWK 5356  Field Practicum II  3 SCH (0-3)
The second in a sequence of two field practicums. Educationally directed and professionally supervised direct service activities builds on skills and practical experience in the application of social work values, knowledge, and skills acquired in social work foundation courses. A minimum of three hundred (300) clock hours of supervised field placement including a one hour field seminar per week must be completed with a GPA of 3.2 or better. Prerequisites: SCWK 5350 and permission of the Social Work Field Education Coordinator.

SCWK 5360  C/A Practice I  3 SCH (3-0)
In this advanced clinical practice course, students learn principles and methods for assessment and intervention with children, youth, families, and groups. Competencies include establishing and maintaining a helping relationship, interviewing, contracting and goal setting, treatment planning and implementation. Students are able to apply appropriate interventions at various stages of the therapeutic relationship for various types of clients in a “Rurality” social context. In-class skill practice includes developing rapport, using strengths perspective, monitoring self-disclosure, reaching for feelings, containing affect, focusing and summarizing. Special attention is given on the use and/or misuse of the DSM V with Mexican heritage and the diverse populations of the South Texas border environments. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Co-requisite: SCWK 5364.

SCWK 5364  C/A Practice II  3 SCH (3-0)
Students will use the DSM V as a required textbook in this class to gain knowledge and skills in applying clinical skills for assessment and diagnosis of mental health issues. Critical assessment of the DSM V and the issues of its use or misuse with the ethnically diverse populations. Issues of language, culture, nationality, gender orientation, and social/economic status and the potential for misdiagnosis is emphasized. Clinical skills for working with Mexican heritage and other rural populations is the focus of this course. A rurality paradigm and experiential learning is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Students must complete this course with a 3.2 GPA or better.

SCWK 5370  C/A Practice III  3 SCH (3-0)
Assessing the community from a holistic rurality paradigm opens up possibilities for culturally competent clinical/activist interventions focused on resiliency, traditional help seeking behaviors, mutual aid groups and community services. This approach builds on the community-centered clinical multi-focused practice method that seeks to strengthen neighborhoods and community institutions while also addressing the personal and interpersonal issues facing members of the community (Austin, Coombs, & Barr 2005). Special focus is placed on Mexican heritage communities, familial help-seeking behaviors, mutual aid, informal support, and social justice issues. Students are required to apply knowledge, values, and skills acquired in class to a case study of a community including informal and formal services. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.

SCWK 5375  C/A Evaluation  3 SCH (3-0)
This course is designed to increase student’s knowledge, values, and skills to evaluate their own practice and field practicum agency. Single systems and program evaluation methodology is presented and students demonstrate orally and in writing their competency in the evaluation of their practice strategy using single systems design. As part of the case study design students will further evaluate their field agency using a process and outcome program evaluation design. Case study is graded on conceptual clarity, APA format, Grammar, and on data analysis and findings. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses.
SCWK 5380  Field Practicum III  3 SCH (3)
First in a sequence of two advance standing field practicums. Educationally directed and professionally supervised in an approved social work
setting where students are required to demonstrate orally and in writing their competency/practical experience based on the critical evaluation and
application of social work competencies (values, knowledge, and skills) acquired in clinical/activist social work courses. A rurality paradigm is used
to enhance cultural competent direct practice principles. A minimum of two hundred (200) clock hours of field placement including one hour field
seminar per week. Field coordinator and supervisor together with the student negotiate how field practicum hours; including employment settings will
be completed. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Prerequisite: permission from the Field Education
Coordinator.

SCWK 5385  Field Practicum IV  3 SCH (3-0)
Educationally directed and professionally supervised in-direct service activities providing advanced level of practical experience in the application of
social work values, knowledge, and skills acquired in social work courses. A minimum of 200 hundred (200) clock hours of field placement including
one hour field seminar per week. A rurality paradigm is used to enhance cultural competent practice principles. Field coordinator and supervisor
together with the student negotiate how field practicum hours; including employment settings will be completed. A GPA of 3.2 is required in order to
proceed to the next sequence of required courses. Pre-requisite: permission from the Field Education Coordinator.

Degree Requirements
Communication Sciences and Disorders, M.S.
The M.S. in Communication Sciences and Disorders is offered with a Thesis or Research Project option. A minimum of 375 clock hours of clinical
practice, 325 of which must be on the graduate level, and 25 hours of guided clinical observation are required. Prior to graduation, the student must
show evidence of a passing score on the national Praxis examination in Speech-Language Pathology.

Social Work, M.S.W. - Regular Track
Foundation Year

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<td>Practice I</td>
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Social Work, M.S.W. - Advanced Standing Track
- Year 2: Advanced Curriculum: Concentration in Clinical Activist Social Work Summer

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<td>SCWK 5215</td>
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