

## *MSLP Program Courses Description*

This section includes a current description of all the courses offered at the MSLP Program. Revised descriptions if they apply will be available through courses syllabus.

### **MSLP 500 Phonology (3 credits)**

Study and analysis of phonology. Topics include phonological analysis, distinctive features assessment, and manner, place, and voice analysis among other key elements for speech sample analysis. Linguistic treatment approaches as well as traditional approaches will be discussed. Issues related to students reading and writing performance will be presented and analyzed including phonological awareness theories and principles. Multidimensional analysis and interpretation of speech samples will be stressed as well as therapy stimulus selection.

### **MSLP 510 Language Disorders in Children (3 credits)**

This course discusses the nature of language disorders in children from a developmental perspective to achieve a functional definition of what constitutes language disorders. Related conditions such as Autism, mental retardation, attention deficit disorder and sensory impairments are discussed as they relate to language disorders in children. Assessment procedures are studied including formal and norm reference tests.

### **MSLP 520 Audiology for Speech- Language Pathologists (3 credits)**

Study of the standard and special audiometric procedures including the interpretation of audiograms, use of hearing aids, and diagnostic clinical audiometry. This course is directed toward audiology issues as they relate to the practice of Speech-Language Pathology.

### **MSLP 525 Seminar: Multicultural Issues in Speech- Language Pathology (2 credits)**

Study of bilingualism, second language acquisition, and its relation to normal language development. Study of minority groups difficulties in the access to appropriate clinical and health services in Puerto Rico and abroad, including the legal aspects involved.

### **MSLP 530 Fluency Disorders (3 credits)**

This course presents the theory, diagnosis and treatment of fluency disorders in children, adolescents, and adults. We will study the symptomatology of stuttering, survey theories of stuttering, and examine normal versus abnormal fluency development. It will focus on diagnosis of fluency disorders and differential diagnosis of stuttering and related disorders of fluency. A central focus will be placed on the design and application of appropriate treatment programs for young children, school-aged children and adults.

### **MSLP 535 Neuroscience Applied to Speech-Language Pathology (3 credits)**

Study of the nervous system across the lifespan in terms of the organization of the brain, descending motor and ascending sensory pathways, cranial nerves, and muscles. The neural mechanisms of language, learning and memory are described. Diagnostic techniques in the field of neurology are presented. The effects of specific localized disease processes and brain injury on human speech and communication such as aphasia, alexia, agnosia, apraxia, dysarthria, and dysphonia are discussed. Strategies for patient and family education are presented.

### **MSLP 540 Voice Disorders (3 credits)**

Study of the speech mechanism as it relates to voice production. Analysis of voice and voice problems in children and adults, such as phonotrauma, psychogenic voice problems, neurogenic disorders, laryngeal cancer, and problems of professional voice are addressed. Diagnostic procedures and clinical intervention, prevention and remediation of voice disorders are studied.

### **MSLP 545 Seminar: Contemporary Professional Issues in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology (2 credits)**

Study of the issues related to the profession of speech-language pathology, service delivery, ethics, and legal considerations, funding issues, program administration, credentialing, and professional issues. Content is in accordance with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Scope of Practice, Code of Ethics, Preferred Practice Patterns and guidelines for credentialing. The course also includes topics like certification standards, professional legislation, licensure, and liability. We will present information and resources that can be used for a professional lifetime. Professional activity, including advocacy for the profession and the clients/patients one serves, will be encouraged.

### **MSLP 550 Clinical Assessment Skills (3 credits)**

During this course the students will study the aspects related to Speech Language Assessment clinical skills. Principles of observation, interviewing, effective interpersonal communication, self-evaluations, and theories in Language Assessment will be study and analyzed. The students will be able to select and administer Speech and Language Test and criterion tasks in Speech and Language. The students will describe the assessment report format and the writing process. Clinically related academic activities and practical experiences with children and adults will be provided. Assessment principles in each area will be studied according to the guiding principles and the fundamental components of preferred practice patterns of the American Speech- Language and Hearing Association.

### **MSLP 555 Clinical Intervention Skills (3 credits)**

Study and analysis of the contemporary issues and techniques of treatment, observation, counseling, team-work in speech-language pathology. Current legal issues and aspects in the practice of intervention in speech-language pathology are discussed. Introduction to interdisciplinary treatment techniques are studied and exercised. Basic principles of speech

language intervention and information reporting systems are analyzed and discussed. Therapy strategies are described. Methods for effective parent and family counseling are modeled.

### **MSLP 559 Research in Speech-Language Pathology I (2 credits)**

This is the first course offered as part of the research track of the MSLP Program. Students will be introduced to all aspects and steps necessary to conduct responsible research. The course will take students from identifying a research problem and formulating research questions all the way through sampling methods, reviewing literature, and selecting the research design. Students will work with their research mentors in the development of their research proposal chapters I and II.

### **MSLP 569 Research in Speech-Language Pathology II (2 credits)**

This is the second course offered as part of the research track of the MSLP Program. In this course students will work with their mentors finishing the literature review and in the development of the methodology of their proposal. Human subjects in research, compliance, and SUAGM Institutional Review Board (IRB) requirements will be discussed.

### **MSLP 570 Augmentative and Alternative Communication (3 credits)**

This course aims to develop an understanding of the strategies available to compensate the functional communication needs of children and adults with moderate and severe speech-language impairments. Basic principles of assistive technology (AT) and augmentative alternative communication (AAC) will be introduced, in particular the components of an AAC system and symbolization skills and levels. The principles of evidence-based practice are the focus of both the assessment process as well as the intervention phase.

### **MSLP 580 Aural Rehabilitation (3 credits)**

Discussion of the effects of a hearing impairment on speech and language development. The theoretical and methodological aspects of remediation are studied. Visual and manual communication, auditory training, and assistive listening devices are discussed and studied.

### **MSLP 590 Neurogenic Speech and Language Disorders (3 credits)**

Study of neurologically-based disorders of speech and language in children. Differential diagnosis and treatment of speech-language disorders in children with cerebral palsy, dysarthria, apraxia of speech, and all other acquired neurogenic disorders are studied and analyzed.

### **MSLP 595 SLP Clinical Practicum Workshop (3 credits)**

An initial graduate clinical practicum experience supervised by Universidad del Turabo in-house supervisors and carefully selected external supervisors. The experience emphasizes planning and conducting an emergent literacy program, preparing and selecting therapy materials, taking case histories, conferring with parents, writing therapy notes and plans, and making recommendations. A weekly one hour staffing will be held with students. Intervention management, professional organization, and service delivery issues will be discussed.

**MSLP 600 Clinical Internship I (3 credits)**

Hands-on clinical experience including observation, interviewing, basic assessment, clinical diagnosis, and intervention experiences.

**MSLP 610 Clinical Internship II (3 credits)**

This course is the continuation of MSLP 600. Students will complete the required 400 supervised clinical practicum hours during this course. Diagnostic and identification techniques along with intervention strategies, therapy techniques, record keeping, and report writing will be stressed.

**MSLP 620 Oral Motor and Swallowing Disorders (3 credits)**

Analysis of the assessment and management of oromotor swallowing disorders in children and adults with an emphasis on a neurodevelopmental approach. Oral-motor development and swallowing physiological anatomy is described. Etiology and classification of dysphagia is studied. Medical and nonmedical management issues in dysphagia are addressed in children and adults.

**MSLP 630 Language Disorders in Adults (3 credits)**

Study of the theoretical bases of acquired language disorders in the adult population. Diagnostic tools and treatment approaches based on theories of the nature of aphasia, apraxia, dysarthria, and other adult language and cognitive disorders. Current trends in language and cognitive treatment in response to changes in the health care environment. Areas to be covered are acquired communication problems, traumatic brain injury, apraxia of speech, dysarthria and Alzheimer's disease among other language disorders. Adaptation of the environment, particularly home is studied.

**MSLP 669 Research in Speech-Language Pathology II I (2 credits)**

This is the third course offered as part of the research track of the MSLP Program. The course includes the development phase of a research project. Students will conduct their research along with their research mentors. At the end of the course students will prepare a publishable paper about the research and will conduct a research poster presentation.

**MSLP 680 Knowledge Integration in Speech-Language Pathology (3 credits)**

Integration, analysis, and application of all Master level Speech-Language Pathology courses (MSLP code courses). The course provides a means to guide students in their preparation for the Speech-Language Pathology local and national board exams.

**ELECTIVE COURSES DESCRIPTION****MSLP 505 Early intervention (3 credits)**

Assessment and intervention strategies for children birth to three with or at risk for specific language impairment are studied. The family-centered services model is studied and described. The early intervention team roles and responsibilities are discussed as well as current law mandates for early intervention.

### **MSLP 515 Seminar: Administration of School-Based SLP Programs (3 credits)**

This course will provide the students with the knowledge and skills necessary to plan, initiate, and maintain a collaborative program that enhances the student's communication skills in all educational related tiers. Legal, ethical and clinical components for functioning successfully in Puerto Rico and United States educational system will be discussed.

### **MSLP 517 Deaf Culture & Sign Language Foundations (3 credits)**

The course is designed for the health science student who does not have previous Sign Language experience or knowledge of Deaf culture. The purpose of the course is to develop primarily receptive skills as well as expressive skills guided to the development of basic dialogue instructed in a functional scenario. Students will also learn about the Deaf community and their culture. Legal aspects and related services will be discussed.

### **MSLP 655 Acoustics (3 credits)**

The course will contemplate sound as a physical phenomenon and will cover the basic principles of acoustics, especially those related to speech and hearing science. The course will address descriptions of sound, simple harmonic motion, pressure waves, decibels, complex waves, resonance, and sound transmission. Acoustics theories of speech production and perception, the relationship between articulation and acoustics, prosodic, and some speech technology will be discussed as fundament to evidence- based practice.

### **MSLP 565 Language, Reading, and Writing (3credits)**

Study of language development and its influence on the acquisition of literacy skills. Examines contextual influences on language and literacy development and growth, reading and writing as integrated processes, and models appropriate practices to foster language and literacy.

### **MSLP 575 Emergent Literacy (3 credits)**

This course focuses on the research based principles and practices for early literacy development of children aged birth to eight. Current law mandates related to the services of helping professionals such as Speech Language Pathologists on preventing reading and writing disabilities are described and analyzed. The use of appropriate materials and activities to promote early literacy skills on preschool children in collaboration with teachers and family are studied.

### **MSLP 585 Supervisory Process (3 credits)**

This course presents conceptual and empirical literature on supervision including models, approaches, techniques, relationship, and process issues as well as ethical and legal considerations. The course provides the student with knowledge and skills for successful supervision. Comprehensive models of clinical supervision, self-assessment and developmental assessment of supervisees are included as well as intervention techniques in the supervisory relationship. Guidelines for developing a supervision contract are also reviewed.

### **MSLP 615 Craniofacial Disorders (3 credits)**

Study of the anatomical, physiological, and psychosocial aspects of craniofacial disorders. Development, disorders, assessment, and intervention of speech, language, and hearing in patients with craniofacial disorders are analyzed. Basic anatomical information pertinent to craniofacial growth and development is described. Genetic and embryological information is studied. Specific protocol for observing orofacial structures are discussed.

### **MSLP 625 Related Conditions to Speech- Language and Hearing Disorders (3 credits)**

This course expose students to the range of genetic, developmental, social and psychological conditions associated with speech, language, hearing and communication impairments and their disabling consequences. Methods of speech and language assessment and interventions including the intervention of a multidisciplinary team will be discussed. Alongside, theoretical background and current research, practical and clinical aspects are considered.

### **MSLP 635 Qualitative Research in Speech- Language Pathology (3 credits)**

Study, analysis, and application of the qualitative research paradigm for conducting research in speech-language pathology. Several approaches within the qualitative research paradigm will be discussed. Basic data collection procedures, analysis, and presentation will be studied.

### **MSLP 640 Counseling Strategies for SLP (3 credits)**

Psychosocial and humanistic existential adapted theories such as psychoanalytic theories, cognitive-behavior and experiential approaches are studied to facilitate the development of intervention skills for the speech pathology student. Emphasis is placed on the models of Alfred Adler, Albert Ellis and Carl Rogers. Self-evaluation and understanding of the student's feelings and attitude which develop during the therapeutic process is analyzed. The role of counseling in treating children and adults with communication disorders is discussed and relevant strategies are described. Multicultural considerations in counseling communicative disordered persons and their families are also included. This course is a complement to the technical and professional knowledge of the speech pathology student.

### **MSLP 645 Computers in SLP (3 credits)**

All aspects of technological advancements have become increasingly present in the clinical applications of Speech-Language Pathologists. At present, computer and digital technology in general are tools that impact patient care in a very direct way both in the assessment and intervention processes; and this is a trend that will only increase in the future. Speech-Language Pathologists need to stay current in the skills needed to incorporate the technology that is increasingly available to improve the service delivery to patients.

### **MSLP 650 Traumatic Brain Injury (3 credits)**

Neurophysiological, cognitive, neuropsychological, and social/emotional issues associated with traumatic brain injury are studied. Demographic information describing occurrence patterns and at-risk populations is provided. Primary and secondary mechanisms of injury are described. Stages of recovery are studied and family adjustment issues are discussed. Principles of language and cognitive assessment and intervention are analyzed.

### **MSLP 675 Auditory Disorders for SLP (3 credits)**

Auditory disorders through the lifespan will be the focus of this course. The etiology and onset of genetic disorders will be discussed. The development of acquired disorders will also be explained. Audiological results including audiometric configuration and middle ear function test will be presented. The type of hearing loss and the main manifestations of the auditory problem will be described. Clinical intervention strategies as well as the most established methodologies used to treat the conditions in children as well as in adults will be addressed. Implications for the speech-language pathologist and the management of the communication disorders will also be presented.