The curriculum examines the physical, biological, and behavioral foundations of human communication. Courses focus on the study of variation in speech, language, and hearing processes, and seek to apply that knowledge to identifying, preventing, and managing disordered speech, language, and hearing.

The College of Liberal Arts Advantage: More Than a Major

When you study Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at the University of Minnesota, you gain the added advantage of a College of Liberal Arts education. At CLA, the liberal arts mean you get more than just a degree in one major or another; it means you will be exposed to different areas of study, to different ways of thinking and learning. In fact, the liberal arts teach you how to learn—how to ask the right questions, how to problem solve, and how to innovate. The liberal arts prepare students for the complexities of our world, because here at CLA you will study not just, say, politics or art but also where politics and art intersect, where science and ethics intersect, where economics and the environment intersect.
As graduation nears for many students, the last semester is a time to reflect on memories at the University. Graduating senior Kaitlin Trefethen looks back on the skills and experiences she gained through speech-language-hearing sciences and how she can take that knowledge into the future.

Read more about Kaitlin's story, and learn more about our undergraduate program.

Student Experiences

Learning Abroad: Prepare to Lead in a Global Economy

“See the world to learn about yourself in order to better serve others.”
—Kathryn Kohnert, Professor Emeritus, Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences

Learn more about study abroad for Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences majors.

Undergraduate Research: Turn Curiosity into New Knowledge

SLHS offers undergraduate students research opportunities with SLHS faculty members or University-wide faculty. Students can gain valuable research experience as undergraduates by participating in the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), and honors students can pursue faculty-directed research as part of their honors thesis. Discover your research opportunities within our department.

Student Organizations: Find Friends and Grow as a Leader

• National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA)
• Student Academy of Audiology (SAA)
Meet Our Faculty

Difficulties in language development can cause children to fall behind academically and socially. Through her research with early language intervention and children with neurodevelopmental disorders, Dr. Liza Finestack is working to improve clinical practices and keep children from this population on track.

Read more about Professor Finestack's work.

Meet Our Alumni

"My whole college experience changed because of one email." Sarah Rosen, a recent graduate of the speech-language hearing sciences department, fell in love with the world of speech-language-hearing sciences by taking a risk. That one email gave her the experience she needed to begin a career with passion.

Read more about Sarah's story.
CLA Graduates: Successful Careers and Purposeful Lives

CLA graduates succeed in many different careers — law, health care, medicine, business, government, teaching, advertising, arts and entertainment, international relations, and more — precisely because they understand how to navigate a complex and interconnected world. As our alumni explain below, “Being a good employee means being curious, and continuing to evolve, and learn, and educate yourself, and I can think of no stronger foundation for doing that than a liberal arts education.

“An education in the liberal arts is a springboard to lifelong career success”
-- Dean John Coleman

You might also explore

Biology, Society, and Environment
Biology
Communication Studies
Neuroscience
Technical Writing and Communication

Associated Careers

Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Respiratory Therapists, Special Education Teachers, Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, Speech-
Admission Information

FRESHMAN: Admission information

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Requirements for the College of Liberal Arts

Beyond admission, if you have questions about transferring, the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) has transfer advisors to help. Please feel free to contact them about any of the topics below:

• Course plans before transferring
• Estimated time to graduation
• Career preparation in CLA
• Getting ready for orientation, if admitted
• Connecting with major/minor departments