In order to become a speech language pathologist, you need a master's degree. This is required for licensure and certification. The master's program is 2 or 3 years for students with an undergraduate degree in speech and hearing science. Since you have already earned a bachelor’s degree in another field, you would need to first complete a year of deficiency coursework in speech and hearing science before beginning the masters program. This coursework is fundamental in understanding the concepts of disorders and therapy in graduate school. Therefore it would take you at least 3 years to earn a master's of science in communication disorders.

Please note that successful completion of the deficiency coursework does NOT constitute an undergraduate degree in Speech & Hearing Science nor does it guarantee admission to the M.S. degree program.

The enclosed handout details the three different options you have as far as registering to take the deficiency courses. The back side of the handout lists all the deficiency courses and which semesters they are offered. **In addition to these deficiency courses, you will also need to make sure you have had a biological science, a physical science, and a math course at the college algebra level or higher.** These additional courses are required by the American Speech Language & Hearing Association for certification. If you have not already had these courses within your bachelor’s degree, you will need to take them before you finish your Masters degree in Speech Pathology. The following pre-requisite courses are highly recommended:

- **BIO 201** (Human Anatomy and Physiology with a lab)
- **PHY 101** (Introduction to Physics with a lab)
- **MAT 170** (pre-calculus)
- **PGS 101** (Introduction to Psychology)
- **PSY 230** (Introduction to Statistics)

Completion of the courses listed above will help to ensure your success in the required deficiency courses. While these courses are not mandatory, they will help to build the strong background in science and math that is integral to your success if you are admitted into the Master’s program.