

Applying to Graduate Programs in AUDI / SLP


Info Session for Speech Sciences Undergraduate Students

AGENDA

1. Master of Science (AUDI / SLP): the UBC process
2. Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies: the UBC process
3. Review of submitted questions
4. Discussion / Q & A

Know these websites:

- **School of Audiology and Speech Sciences**
- M.Sc. - Home page - <http://www.audiospeech.ubc.ca/>
- M.Sc. – Why study with us (SLP)- <http://www.audiospeech.ubc.ca/why-study-with-us/msc-speech-language/>
- M.Sc. – Why study with us (AUDI) - <http://www.audiospeech.ubc.ca/why-study-with-us/m-sc-audiology/>
 - **1)** Admission Criteria **2)** Admisssion deadlines **3)** Admission checklist
- **Faculty of Graduate and Post Doctoral Studies**
- Online application - <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/apply-online>




Does the School of Audiology & Speech Sciences require an honours degree?

- ▶ An honours degree is preferred, but not required
- ▶ Minimum requirements are: a four-year undergraduate degree from an accredited university in any department/discipline, and completion of the required prerequisites



Can I apply without having completed the prerequisites?

- ▶ You may be currently registered for some prerequisites or planning to take some over the summer
- ▶ If admission is offered on the basis of coursework not yet completed, your offer may be made contingent on completion of these courses



How many M.Sc. students are accepted into the program each year?

- ▶ September 2015 - 42 students
 - 12 in Audiology and 30 in Speech-Language Pathology
- ▶ September 2016 – 48 students
 - 12 in Audiology and 36 in Speech-Language Pathology



How many applications are received each year?

- ▶ 150 – 200 applications for 42 spaces
 - Approximately 1 of 5 applicants (20%) are accepted



What is the expected GPA average?

- ▶ Successful program applicants generally have a GPA of at least 82%.
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Should I repeat a course I've done poorly in?

Realistic scenario

- Repeating a course in which you achieved 80% requires a grade of 86% on the retake to achieve an average of 83%

Not so realistic scenario

- Repeating a course in which you achieved 70% requires a grade of 96% on the retake to achieve an average of 83%



Should I repeat courses to raise my overall gpa or take different courses?

- ▶ GPA is a weighted average

Example:

Student has an average of 80% on 30 credits

- Takes one more 3-credit course earn 85% - gpa increases to 80.5%
- Takes one more 3-credit course earn 90% - gpa increases to 81%




Do you have tips on asking professors for reference letters?

► **Academic References:**

- Full-time faculty who taught you in the last two years of your university work
- Individuals who have supervised you as a research assistant or research volunteer

► **Non-academic References:**


- Clinicians who have supervised you as a volunteer
- from their clients with whom you may have worked as a volunteer
- Employers in other settings



Do intended speech pathology majors have to observe audiologists as well as SLPs?


➤ YES

- The professions of speech-language pathology and audiology are closely related. Both address different aspects of human communication
- During your master's program, you will be taking coursework and gaining clinical experience in one profession as your major area of study and in the other profession as your minor area of study



How many speech pathologist and audiologist do we need to observe/meet with? Is there an average number?

- ▶ A minimum of one audiologist and one speech-language pathologist, more is better

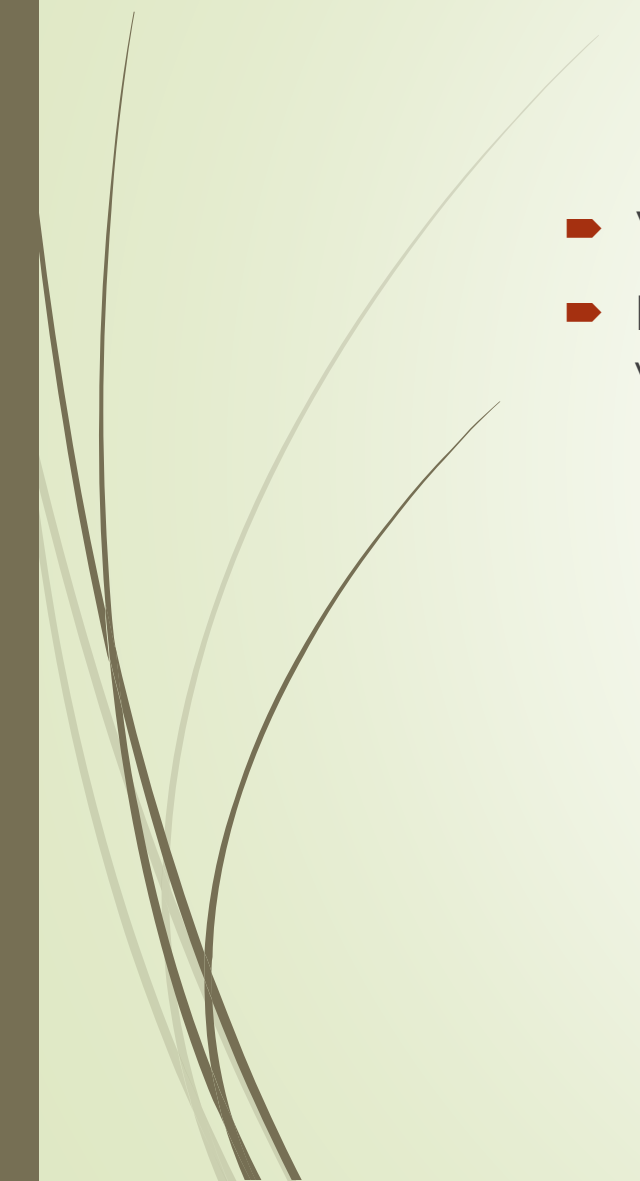


How do we find audiologists and SLPs that will let us observe them or agree to a meeting?

- ▶ BC Association of Speech/Language Pathologists and Audiologists (BCASLPA) provides a contact list on their website – “Find a Professional”
- ▶ Personal contacts (networking)
- ▶ Undergraduate Advisor



Is volunteer experienced required?

- ▶ Volunteer experience is not required
 - ▶ However, an increasing number of applicants are bringing volunteer and work experience in clinics and research labs
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How can we can get experience volunteering with SLPs/audiologists?

- ▶ Vancouver Coastal Health (Get Involved) www.vch.ca
- ▶ Department website <http://linguistics.ubc.ca/undergrad/current-students/volunteering-and-paid-employment-opportunities/>
 - Undergraduate
 - Current Students
 - Volunteering & Paid Employment
- ▶ Personal contacts (networking)



The bottom line:

- ▶ GPA of at least 80-85% on the prerequisite courses
 - ▶ Strong letters of reference
 - ▶ Clearly articulated personal and professional goals in their letter of intent
 - ▶ Observed or met with several audiologists and speech-language pathologists
 - ▶ Although it is not required, an increasing number of applicants also bring volunteer or work experience in clinics and research labs
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