



**Nursing &
Health Sciences**

COMMUNICATION SCIENCES & DISORDERS

***WELCOME
CLASS OF 2026!***

Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

Faculty:

Monica Hough, Chair and Professor

Alliete Alfano, Associate Professor

Melissa Edrich, Clinical Associate Professor

Mariateresa (Teri) Muñoz, Clinical Associate Professor

Stacey Pavelko, Associate Professor

Chelsea Sommer, Assistant Professor

Joseph Zelenke, Clinical Assistant Professor

Adjunct Faculty:

Michele Aurignac

Cindy Simon

Barry Freeman

Jeani Mead

Angela Medina

Office Staff:

Nancy Bradbury, Program Coordinator

Nuria Rodriguez, Program Coordinator

Dania Garcia-Roves, Office Assistant

Masters' Projects & Theses

Masters' Project: PLEASE READ THE SYLLABUS!!!

- Provide students with opportunity to synthesize academic and clinical experiences and participate in completion of a DATA-BASED research project within group of 4-6 students with CSD faculty mentor.
- Research project topics based on expertise and interest of the faculty mentors.
- Groups have been selected based on interest in research project topics and availability.
- Each group and their faculty mentor work on project for 3 semesters from beginning to completion.

Masters Projects/Theses

- Theses: **PLEASE READ THE SYLLABUS!** (ASK Dr. Hough for it if you haven't received it.)
- Meet with your thesis director if you haven't as yet and identify your thesis committee

Conducting Research

- All Masters SLP students conducting Research must complete:
- CITI TRAINING
 - Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative
 - <https://www.citiprogram.org>
 - If not completed, must complete no later than September 30, 2025
 - Please make sure your CITI certificate does NOT expire before August 1, 2026; also, your certificate must be from FIU
- IRB (Institutional Review Board): Documentation specific to your individual/group study. Implemented by the Faculty Director of your project

Counseling & Psychological Services

- Student Health Center (SHC) 270
- 305-348-2277(CAPS);
<http://www.caps.fiu.edu>
- Disability Resource Center

Civility and Respect

- Civility is an essential component of FIU core values and includes all meetings and classroom behavior.
- When both faculty and students model civility, it contributes to the growth of individuals.
- Students are encouraged to comment, question, or critique *ideas*, but never attack a faculty member or another student; respect is pivotal to all interactions.
- Students are discouraged from checking text messages, social media, playing games on a computer/phone, or carrying on conversations while instructors are lecturing or classmates are presenting.

General Education Prerequisites

NEED to make sure you have these courses in addition to undergraduate/post-baccalaureate CSD prerequisites:

- **1 Physical Science (Chemistry or Physics ONLY)**
- **1 Biological Science (Biology, General Anatomy and Physiology, Animal Biology, Marine Biology)**
- **2 Behavioral Science (Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work)**
- **1 Statistics**

CAA Accreditation Status

Council on Academic
Accreditation for
Audiology and Speech-
Language Pathology (CAA)
of the American Speech-
Language-Hearing
Association

- Accrediting body for SLP and AuD clinical graduate programs throughout USA
- FIU Masters' SLP is an accredited program.
- The program had an outstanding re-accreditation site visit last September.
- The Masters SLP program is currently accredited through 11/30/2032

PRAXIS/PRAXIS PREPARATION

PRAXIS (Certification) examination: register to take exam next-to-last or last semester in program

- Goal is to pass the examination the first time you take it
- You must pass the praxis examination to graduate; no exceptions

PRAXIS/PRAXIS PREPARATION

- When registering to take the PRAXIS exam, you need to make sure you have your PRAXIS scores sent to three entities:
- 1) CSD Department at FIU (we need a record of you taking the exam for you to graduate;
- 2) American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (enables you to become a certified SLP); and
- 3) Florida Dept. of Health (licensed SLP in State of Florida).

PRAXIS PREPARATION MATERIALS

1) Praxisprep.com

- Has numerous tests for practice.
- Sign up to get up-to-date information.

2) Therapy Ed

- National Speech-Language Pathology Examination Review & Study Guide (Lof and Johnson)
- study guide in CSD office

3) EZ PRAXIS Preparation Tutors

- [praxis slp - praxis 5331 - praxis speech language pathology - praxis slp tutors](#)

Online Tutoring Provider for the PRAXIS in Speech-Language Pathology.

PRAXIS PREPARATION MATERIALS

- 4) National SLP Praxis Review guides
-in the department office
- 5) ETS The Praxis Study Companion Speech-Language Pathology; -ETS.org
- 6) FRIPTY
<https://fripty.com/courses/fripty-slp-praxis-study-bundle/>

Graduation

- Apply for graduation during semester before graduation (separate application for commencement)
 - You must be enrolled for at least 1 credit in the semester that you plan to graduate
 - All general education prerequisites must be completed to apply for ASHA certification
 - Dr. Hough will be unable to digitally sign ASHA certification paperwork upon posting of your degree if:
 - You have not completed all general education courses
 - You do not meet (virtually is fine) with her to close your academic file.

Financial Aid Summer 2026

FOR STUDENTS DEPENDENT UPON FINANCIAL AID:

- You must be registered for 5 credits to receive federal financial aid during the summer
- However, those of you who have done early clinic and are Masters Project students will be registered for only 4 credits during Summer 2026.
- **SO: IF YOU REQUIRE FINANCIAL AID, THIS IS WHAT WE DO:**
 - You will not register for Masters Project during Spring 2026 and instead register for two credits of Masters Project for Summer 2026
 - Thus, you will then have 5 credits to register for during the summer.
- **IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU INFORM ME THAT YOU ARE DOING THIS BEFORE THE SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS**

General Program Information

- Working During the Second Year of Masters' SLP Program
- CSD website
- Graduate Student Handbook
- Summer 2026 classes
 - If you haven't taken Aural Rehabilitation in undergraduate or in Graduate Certificate program (SPA 6322), you **MUST** take this course
 - If you have taken Aural Rehabilitation, you can choose between the two elective courses, SPA 6254 Adult Cognition and Communication and SPA 6559 AAC.
 - It is possible that SPA 6554 Counseling in Communication Disorders may be offered as an elective in Summer 2026. **MORE TO COME.**
- There will be caps on enrollment for these classes.

INTERNSHIPS/PLACEMENTS

- **Materials for check-out**
- **Mentor-Mentee**
- **CALIPSO**
- **Scrubs**

Student Advising and their Advisors

Advising Roster 2025-2026

KEY: **BOLD** = Second Year students Regular= First year Students

Acosta	Sophia	ALFANO	Bencosme	Ismayri	SOMMER
Amador	Madison	ALFANO	Blondin	Elizabeth	SOMMER
Appleton	Nadia	ALFANO	Capote	Alexa	SOMMER
Areces	Isabelle	ALFANO	Cedeno	Genesis	SOMMER
Arif	Aksa	ALFANO	Cisneros	Krysthel	SOMMER
Badell	Cassandra	ALFANO	Cruz	Britney	SOMMER
Acosta	Danielle	ALFANO	Escobedo-Nagy	Mariana	SOMMER
Albear	Marissa	ALFANO	Falcon	Alyssa	SOMMER
Armenteros	Nathalie	ALFANO	Conway	Sarah	SOMMER
Arocho	Samantha	ALFANO	Coronel	Gabriella	SOMMER
Badillo	Nicole	ALFANO	Cortez	Domenica	SOMMER
Barrios	Claudia	ALFANO	De Leon	Ariana	SOMMER
Cabrera	Emily	ALFANO	De Torres	Vanessa	SOMMER
Cimentada	Ashley	ALFANO	Fernandez	Melody	SOMMER
			Garcia	Carolina	SOMMER
Falls	Natalie	EDRICH	Lobaina	Yesenia	ZELENKE
Fanous	Isabella	EDRICH	Macias	Alyssa	ZELENKE
Fernandez	Anelly	EDRICH	Marmanillo	Cristina	ZELENKE
Fumero	Julie	EDRICH	Marrero	Melissa	ZELENKE
Gil	Kylie	EDRICH	Menendez	Angie	ZELENKE
Infanzon	Georgina	EDRICH	Mishie	Talie	ZELENKE
Jimenez	Alys	EDRICH	Negroni-Martinez	Katia	ZELENKE
Treadwell	Abigail	EDRICH	Nisbett	Brittney	ZELENKE
Zapata	Maria	EDRICH	Pitta	Alexandra	ZELENKE
Neira	Mario	EDRICH	Plaza	Elamarie	ZELENKE
Neret	Daniel	EDRICH	Polanco	Aide Rose	ZELENKE
Olsen	Terah	EDRICH	Quinteros	Amy	ZELENKE
Ortiz	Annette	EDRICH	Rodriguez	Gabrielle	ZELENKE
Paniagua	Jose	EDRICH	Rodriguez De La No	Ana	ZELENKE

Olude	Asia-Marie	HOUGH	Le	Mimi	MUNOZ
Jose Herrera	Marcel	HOUGH	Olmedo	Olivia	MUNOZ
Gomez	Emily	HOUGH	Peralta	Darielis	MUNOZ
Squalls	Deonna	HOUGH	Perez	Emily	MUNOZ
Glasser	Lauren	HOUGH	Ramsingh	Kellsea	MUNOZ
Gomez	Jessica	HOUGH	Reffaie	Jenna	MUNOZ
Gonzalez	Hailey	HOUGH	Regata Molero	Danae	MUNOZ
Hammil	Brooke	HOUGH	Roig	Maria	MUNOZ
Heredia Silva	Mariajose	HOUGH	Rosales	Andrea	MUNOZ
Jurado	Glenda	HOUGH	Rothman	Lindsey	MUNOZ
Kraus	Arielle	HOUGH	Sanchez	Isabel	MUNOZ
Marinuchi	Gabriel	HOUGH	Sarmiento	Paula	MUNOZ
Martinez-Fort	Alanna	HOUGH	Scalese	Isabella	MUNOZ
Meronard	Styr- Destiny	HOUGH	White	Arianna	MUNOZ
Michaelson	Emmy	HOUGH	Regueira	Yasmine	PAVELKO
Molina	Tiffany	HOUGH	Sanchez	cassandra	PAVELKO
Gravier	Sophia	HOUGH	Sprouse	Hannah	PAVELKO
			Taberna	Valeria	PAVELKO
			Todinc	Emanuela	PAVELKO
			Toledo Felipe	Brenda	PAVELKO
			Tolman	Katie	PAVELKO
			Torres	Kristyn	PAVELKO
			Trezza	Ali	PAVELKO
			Valerdi	Brianna	PAVELKO
			Vanderhorst	Ashley	PAVELKO
			Vanegas	Michelle	PAVELKO
			Tidd	Eileen	PAVELKO
			Rodriguez	Megan Ashley	PAVELKO

NSSHLA: National Student Speech- Language- Hearing Association FIU Chapter

FIU Officers

- President: Jessica Gomez
(email: jgome382@fiu.edu)
- Co-Vice Presidents: Gabriel Marinuchi
and Sarah Conway
- Social Media Coordinator: Styr-Destiny
Meronard
- Treasurer: Mariajose Silva Heredia
- CSO Representative: Ashley Vanderhorst
- Secretary: Michelle Vanegas

Departmental Advisor: Dr. Alliete Alfano





THANK YOU
HAVE A WONDERFUL YEAR!