Student Handbook
Academic Year 2020-2021

Master of Sciences in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (MSSLHS)
Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.)
Doctor of Philosophy in Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences (Ph.D. in SLHS)
Welcome

We welcome you to the Department of Speech Language and Hearing Sciences. Our faculty and staff are committed to helping you to achieve your educational and professional goals in a positive, supportive atmosphere. The Graduate Office is designed to facilitate that effort; we can answer questions and help solve problems related to your graduate school experience. Please do not hesitate to call on us for assistance. WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

This guide is intended to help you in planning and completing your degree. The Guide summarizes information from several sources, including The Graduate School Catalog, The Graduate Guide (published by the Council of Graduate Students), and established policies and procedures of the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. While we are, of course, happy to help out, ultimately YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND ENROLLING IN COURSES THAT FIT YOUR DEGREE PROGRAM.

You are also responsible for knowing University regulations concerning the standard of work required for continuance in the Graduate School and for employment as a Teaching Assistant or Assistant Instructor. All information is available at www.utexas.edu

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THE GRADUATE OFFICE

The Graduate Office serves as a liaison between the graduate students, the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC), and the Graduate School of the University. The Graduate Adviser is a member of the GSC who is appointed by the Department Chair and the Dean for Graduate Studies. The Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator collaborate in their roles. Visit the Graduate Office Canvas Page to find general information on program requirements and university resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Program Coordinator</th>
<th>Graduate Adviser</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assist with graduate students’ registration for courses and acts on adds and drops</td>
<td>Represent the Graduate School of the University and the department’s Graduate Studies Committee in all matters pertaining to the advising of graduate students taking major work in SLHS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain a record of each student’s work for previous degrees and copies of registration and grades in work at the University of Texas at Austin</td>
<td>Assist the GSC in selecting students for admission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer students to the Dean of the Graduate School for matters requiring his/her action</td>
<td>Inform students and prospective students about graduate work and refers students in appropriate instances to faculty members for advice</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Act as the representative of the Dean of the Graduate School in all matters that may be assigned.</td>
<td>Act as the representative of the Dean of the Graduate School in all matters that may be assigned.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide information to those who inquire about graduate programs in SLHS</td>
<td>Counsel students who are having academic problems.</td>
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<td>Assist students in applying for admission.</td>
<td>Assist the GSC in its evaluation of student progress after each semester.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist students in applying for Funding (fellowships, research and professional development awards, etc.).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist the orientation of new graduate students.</td>
<td>Assist the orientation of new graduate students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain files of candidacy examination questions and answers, copies of thesis and dissertation, proposals, employment record of Ph.D. graduates, and other such documents.</td>
<td>Assists in providing guidance regarding milestones of PhD program, thesis and research in Audiology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report periodically to the Graduate Dean and to the GSC of the Department about graduate programs, their size, the academic characteristics of students, and other data as needed.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Provide students and faculty with information about the policies and procedures of the University, Graduate School, and Department that govern graduate programs.</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Advising

MSSLHS and AuD students are advised by the Graduate Adviser and clinical faculty of respective their area, in collaboration with the Graduate Program Coordinator. Ph.D. students are to seek the guidance of their Primary Mentor in their area of interest and consult with the Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator.

Master's Thesis Committee

Thesis committees are composed of a supervising professor and at least one other member ("reader"). Supervisors must be members of the SLHS Graduate Studies Committee, while readers or co-supervisors may be from the clinical faculty, or members of other departments or, with advance permission, non-university-affiliated. The Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator will be happy to provide more information on the process of working with these committees.

The thesis is prepared under the direction of a supervisor, who is chair of the supervising committee. It is subject to the approval of the committee and ultimately of the graduate dean. Six semester hours of credit are granted for researching and writing the thesis. Course 698A (research project) must precede course 698B (writing period); 698A may not be repeated for credit. Both 698A and 698B must be taken on the credit/no credit basis. The student must register for 698B the semester he or she intends to graduate. In the event that a student completes and submits their Master's thesis while enrolled in 698A, the student will be allowed to add 698B in the same semester in order to graduate. The thesis cannot be accepted before the semester in which the student applies for graduation.

The thesis is typically written in English. Requests for permission to write in another language pertinent to the research will be granted when there are circumstances warranting an exception. An insufficient command of English is not justification for an exception. The petition from the Graduate Adviser should include assurance that faculty members competent both in the language and in the field are available and willing to serve on the thesis committee. The request must be approved by the Graduate Dean before the student is admitted to candidacy. The abstract and a substantial summary and conclusions section in English must be submitted with the thesis.

The student must submit the thesis in approved electronic format to the Office of Graduate Studies. The thesis will be retained by the University Libraries and will be made available to the public through the Texas Digital Library. Information about format requirements is available in the Office of Graduate Studies.

The Graduate Studies Committee

The Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) includes all tenure-track assistant, associate, and full professors who are active in the program. Committee members review applicants' credentials and make admission recommendations, and serve on Master's thesis and Ph.D. dissertation committees. In addition, doctoral students' progress is reviewed annually by the GSC, and students' work programs and thesis/dissertation proposals are subject to the GSC's approval. MA and AuD students' progress is reviewed by academic and clinical faculty.

Although membership on the GSC is limited to the tenure track assistant, associate, and full professors who are active participants in the graduate program, clinical faculty are active in partners in graduate education for the MA and AUD programs. In addition lecturers, visiting faculty members, or scholars who hold non-faculty positions such as research scientist/engineer may participate in the graduate program. These individuals may teach graduate courses and serve on thesis or dissertation committees. With the approval of the Dean for Graduate Studies, these individuals may serve as a co-chair of a doctoral dissertation committee. The GSC also may invite such persons to attend its meetings as non-voting participants.
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH, LANGUAGE AND HEARING SCIENCES

The Graduate School expects you will be knowledgeable of the many policies, rules, and regulations you are subject to; ignorance of the rules is not considered a satisfactory excuse should difficulties arise. The catalog of the University is the document of authority for all students. Any academic unit may issue additional or more specific information that is consistent with approved policy. The information in the catalog supersedes that issued by any other unit if there is a conflict between the two. The University reserves the right to change the requirements given in the catalog at any time. To access the catalog: https://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/graduate.

The Graduate Adviser for your program and Graduate Program Coordinator are your best points of contact in these matters.

Master of Science in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences Degree Plan

The SLHS Master’s students’ degree plan is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills both in breadth and depth as it relates to the scope of practice in speech-language pathology. The degree plan meets the Department-specific curricular requirements, the University’s Graduate School minimum requirements for the MSSLHS, as well as ASHA certification and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation requirements.

Please note that department requirements are subject to change for each academic catalog (published every year). However, the requirements in effect at the time of a student’s initial enrollment in the Graduate School will comprise the official degree program for that student, regardless of any subsequent changes in the Master’s program.

ASHA Certification

ASHA certification requires that students enroll in clinical practicum training across the duration of the program. You will be eligible for ASHA certification once you have completed all required coursework. This usually requires five to six full semesters (including one summer session).

Graduate School Degree Requirements

Students seeking professional certification in speech/language pathology or audiology must meet coursework and clinical requirements specific to the specialization or area of study. Information about certification requirements is available from the Graduate Adviser. To be counted toward the degree, all coursework in the major must be at the graduate or upper division level. Individual study programs must be arranged in consultation with the Graduate Adviser.

The Master of Science in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences is offered with a thesis or no-thesis option.

The Master of Science provides graduate training in the following specializations.

SPEECH/LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY. Students in speech/language pathology complete required coursework and clinical practicum experiences. Students may also choose from a set of electives based upon their specific interests.

The Master of Science without thesis: Students selecting this option must complete the required coursework (57 to 60 credit hours) outlined in the table below. Note that of the at least 6 semester credit hours of electives, 3 must be in the area of research design and statistics.

The Master of Science with thesis: Students selecting this option must complete the required coursework (57 to 60 credit hours) outlined in the table below. Given their enrollment in thesis, they will have met the research requirement for the 3 of the 6 credit hours noted in the guideline above for the Master of Science without thesis. Students in the MS/PHD program should enroll in thesis.
AUDIOLOGY. All students in audiology complete the same set of core courses and basic clinical practicum. Students may choose from a set of electives based upon their specific interests. It is important to note that this program of study does not lead to professional certification. Students who are interested in professional certification in audiology should consider the Doctor of Audiology degree.

The Master of Science with thesis: Students selecting this option must complete at least 27 semester hours in core courses and at least 6 hours of thesis. Students can select this option as part of their MS/PHD program.

MSSLHS Curriculum
The Graduate School regulations represent the minimum requirements established for all Master's degrees awarded by the University. As noted above, our programs are designed to meet standards for ASHA certification, and as a result they exceed the University's requirements. The total number of credit hours is 57 to 60.

Electives are intended to provide additional depth and dimension to your degree program, and thus must be related to your area of study. Electives must be graduate or upper-division undergraduate courses in SLHS or departments other than SLHS. SLHS coursework must be taken with a letter grade – ONLY outside electives, and no more than 3 credits may be taken as Credit/No Credit.

All advanced electives must be approved and cleared through the Graduate Adviser. All SLHS courses must be graded at a B or higher. B- or lower in any course will require a remediation plan.

Course Sequence (*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall (15-18 credits)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393D</td>
<td>Dysphagia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393P</td>
<td>Preschool Language Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393G</td>
<td>Developmental Speech Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 385F</td>
<td>Knowledge and Skills in Clinical Science I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 386F</td>
<td>Fundamental Principles in Clinical Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring (15-18 credits)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393S</td>
<td>School-Age Language Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393M</td>
<td>Acquired Cognitive Communication Disorders 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393V</td>
<td>Voice Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective (optional)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 385S</td>
<td>Knowledge and Skills in Clinical Science II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 386F</td>
<td>Fundamental Principles in Clinical Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer (3-9 credits)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 386F</td>
<td>Fundamental Principles in Clinical Practicum <strong>OR</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 386S</td>
<td>Advanced Applications in Clinical Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective (optional)</td>
<td><strong>OR</strong> Thesis (SLH 698A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SECOND YEAR</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall (12-18 credits)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SLH 393J</td>
<td>Acquired Cognitive Communication Disorders 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393Q</td>
<td>Acquired Speech Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 393F</td>
<td>Stuttering, Cluttering and Typical Disfluency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 386S</td>
<td>Advanced Applications in Clinical Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective (optional)</td>
<td><strong>OR</strong> Thesis (SLH 698A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring (9-12 credits)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SLH 986S</td>
<td>Advanced Applications in Clinical Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLH 698B</td>
<td>Thesis (optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note: Students should consult the course schedule to determine which courses and topics will be offered during a particular semester or summer session. Course offerings are dependent on faculty availability.

Bilingual/Multicultural Certificate

SLHS offers a Bilingual/Multicultural certificate (with an emphasis on Spanish/English bilingual populations) to students at the MSSLHS level in Speech Language Pathology to foster the development of the competencies required to serve bilingual individuals with communication disorders. Anyone accepted into the MSSLHS program can elect the Bilingual/Multicultural certificate option. The level of involvement in provision of services in other languages is provided at a level that is appropriate to the trainee’s language proficiency. Academic support to acquire knowledge of bilingual language development, manifestation of disorders in bilingual and multicultural populations, and culturally and linguistically appropriate service provision is provided through specialized coursework.

The specialization requirements are:
1. Declare your interest (during New Graduate Student Orientation) to the Graduate Adviser.
2. Six credits of specialized coursework selected from the following
   a. SLH 391C Cultural and Linguistic Diversity
   b. Outside upper division or graduate elective with multicultural or bilingual focus
3. 125 hours of clinical experience with a bilingual or multicultural focus (depending on certificate sought). These may include: formal courses (clinical practicums, externships) as well as clinical research rotations or volunteering under the supervision of a qualified SLP.
4. Passing score on an oral proficiency test (at the advanced mid-level) Students desiring the Multicultural certificate need not take the oral proficiency test. Students who do not achieve a passing score at the advanced professional level but completing all other requirements are eligible for the Multicultural certificate.

Students in the MSSLHS thesis track who want to complete the Bilingual/Multicultural certificate might have to take an additional three credits to satisfy the certificate requirements, depending on rotation of course offerings. The second course may come from the department.

For more information, contact Dr. Mirza Lugo Neri
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY

The Graduate School expects that you will be knowledgeable of the many policies, rules, and regulations you are subject to; ignorance of the rules is not considered a satisfactory excuse should difficulties arise. This material is contained in the Graduate Catalog at https://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/graduate. The Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator of your program are your best sources of assistance in these matters, of course, and you should never hesitate to reach out to the SLHS Graduate Office with any questions you may have.

Doctor of Audiology Degree Plan

It is useful to distinguish the three sets of requirements involved in Au.D. students’ degree plans:

- the SLHS Department’s academic requirements;
- the University’s Graduate School minimum requirements for the Au.D.;
- ASHA certification requirements;

The University of Texas at Austin offers an interdisciplinary Doctor of Audiology (AuD). The degree program focuses on academic and clinical education for those entering the profession of audiology. It will prepare graduates to practice audiology in a rapidly changing, technologically advanced era. The program includes state-of-the-art teaching and clinical experiences covering the scientific, clinical, and professional bases of hearing and balance and disorders of the auditory system. Graduates of the program will be highly competitive at the state and national levels and will be competent to provide audiology services across the life span in medical, educational and industrial environments that include both diagnosis and treatment of hearing disorders.

Students seeking the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-A) engage in supervised practicum in Audiology as part of the requirements for the AuD. Clinical practicum is arranged so students can learn and practice skills needed to meet the competencies required both for ASHA and for Texas licensure. Opportunities on and off-campus involve work with all ages performing audiometric assessment, hearing aid selection and fitting, aural rehabilitation groups, electrophysiological, vestibular and central auditory processing assessment. Interactions with private practitioners, hospitals and schools provide a broad-based exposure to the varied facets of Audiology today.

Practicum is offered each semester, and is performed first at the UT Speech and Hearing Center, then at various off-site locations. Completion of the Knowledge and Skill Acquisition (KASA) is expected by the end of the AuD program. Prerequisites for enrollment in clinical practicum include SLHS 378 and passing of the clinic handbook test and the acquisition of liability insurance.

All SLHS courses must be graded at a B or higher. B- or lower in any course will require a remediation plan.

Graduate School Degree Requirements

The Doctor of Audiology provides academic and clinical training for those who plan to enter the profession of audiology. The degree program involves preparation for the diagnosis and nonmedical treatment of hearing and balance disorders; it is designed to prepare audiologists to meet the standards for Texas state licensure in audiology.

The program requires a minimum of ninety-nine semester hours of coursework and is designed to be completed in four years. All preprofessional students in audiology complete the same set of core courses and basic clinical practicum. Students may choose from a set of electives based on their specific interests. Research experiences are part of the curriculum, but a dissertation is not required.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIRST YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>SLH 394P</td>
<td>Amplifying Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 391Q</td>
<td>Anatomy &amp; Physiology of Auditory System</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396P</td>
<td>Signals Systems in Hearing and Speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLHS 386N</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 388P</td>
<td>Basic Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>SLH 395D</td>
<td>Audiology, Culturally Deaf Individuals, and Education (even years)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396K</td>
<td>Current Trends in Audiology (oneven years)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396Q</td>
<td>Advanced Amplifying Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 395Q</td>
<td>Pediatric Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 395K</td>
<td>Psychoacoustics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 388P</td>
<td>Basic Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td>SLH 388P</td>
<td>Basic Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SECOND YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>SLH 394G</td>
<td>Auditory Electrophysiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 394S</td>
<td>Medical Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 394Q</td>
<td>Hearing Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 389P</td>
<td>Intermediate Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>SLH 395D</td>
<td>Audiology, Culturally Deaf Individuals, and Education (even years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396K</td>
<td>Current Trends in Audiology (oneven years)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>SLH 392P</td>
<td>Speech Perception</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SLH 394K</td>
<td>Aural Habilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396R</td>
<td>Advanced Auditory Electrophysiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 389P</td>
<td>Intermediate Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td>SLH 389P</td>
<td>Intermediate Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THIRD YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>SLH 392Q</td>
<td>Counseling</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>SLH 390Q</td>
<td>Business Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 396R</td>
<td>Advanced Research Design and Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 389P</td>
<td>Intermediate Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>SLH 383P</td>
<td>Surgically Implanted Auditory Prostheses</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 398Q</td>
<td>Research Project in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 381P</td>
<td>Auditory Processing Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLH 389P</td>
<td>Intermediate Clinical Practicum in Audiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td>SLH w3/697</td>
<td>Clinical Externship (whole session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOURTH YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>SLH 997*</td>
<td>Clinical Externship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>SLH 997*</td>
<td>Clinical Externship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

It is important for you to be familiar with the University rules governing graduate study. In fact, the Graduate School expects that you will be knowledgeable of the many policies, rules, and regulations you are subject to; ignorance of the rules is not considered a satisfactory excuse should difficulties arise. This material is contained in the Graduate Catalog at https://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/graduate. The Graduate Adviser for your program and Graduate Program Coordinator are your best sources of assistance in these matters, of course, and you should never hesitate to call on us to learn more about how the rules work in some situation or other. If in doubt it is better to ask than to guess. Later in this document, we provide summaries of some key regulations. To get you started, though, let us turn to the rules governing degree plans.

Ph.D. Degree Plan

Ph.D. degree programs are highly individualized. Doctoral students prepare a Ph.D. portfolio work program document in collaboration with their individual advisory committees.

Course requirements:
1. Program specialization (a minimum of 12 semester hours of organized courses and seminars)
2. Research Tools (a minimum of 12 semester hours in research design and data analysis)
3. Related area (a minimum of 9 semester hours of graduate credit in a field of study outside program specialization)
4. Required Teaching Course (successful completion of SLHS 398T or its equivalent in any other department at UT Austin)
5. Attendance in Scholarly Talks (Attendance in SLHS seminars, colloquia, outside department seminars)

For more in depth information about the curriculum, please see our PhD Program Guide.

Graduate School Degree Requirements

Doctoral students are required to review the degree plans for their program, along with information about specific degree requirements and estimated timelines to reach various benchmark. After your affirm your review of the program’s Milestones (to be done at the beginning of your program), you will be able to log in to the Graduate Degree Planner at any time to check your progress to degree completion.

Milestones – Timeline illustration for PhD students in SLHS

The Doctor of Philosophy is a research degree designed to prepare students to discover, integrate, and apply knowledge as well as to communicate and disseminate it. The degree emphasizes development of the capacity to make significant original contributions to knowledge within the context of free inquiry and expression. The student pursuing this degree is expected to develop the ability to understand and to evaluate the literature of his or her field and to apply appropriate principles and procedures to the recognition, evaluation, interpretation, and understanding of issues at the frontiers of knowledge.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree must have a minimum of 36 semester hours of advanced coursework, including dissertation hours. All the completed coursework that is included in a degree program at the time of admission to candidacy for a doctoral degree must have been taken within the preceding six years (exclusive of a maximum of three years of United States military service). All doctoral work is subject to review by the graduate dean.

In addition to courses and research in a field of specialization, additional work is taken to broaden or supplement the field. This supporting work may consist of coursework in one area or several; it may be in conference, laboratory, or problems courses; or it may be a supervised activity off campus relevant to the major interest. Normally, some or all of the supporting work is outside the major area, unless that area covers more than one department; at least three courses or the equivalent from outside the major area are generally proposed.
PROCEDURES

Advising & Registration

MSSLHS students are advised each semester by the Graduate Adviser, in collaboration with the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Au.D. students are advised each semester by the Graduate Adviser, in collaboration with the faculty and the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Ph.D. students start out working with a single faculty adviser (or mentor) in their area of interest. Together with their mentor, they can seek advice as needed from the Graduate Adviser for matters such as course selection and practicum.

Registration for each semester takes place mid-way through the preceding semester, and is accomplished online through the Registrar’s Web page. You cannot register unless you have your “advising bar” cleared by the SLHS Graduate Office. To obtain clearance you must meet your academic adviser and discuss your upcoming semester and current semester progress.

Steps for registration:

1. ATTEND the group advising meeting or meet individually with your academic adviser and clinical adviser. (Visit the Registrar’s Web page and check the course schedule, noting "unique numbers" (5-digit code) for courses you wish to take.

2. If you are signing up for INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION – fill out the form Restriction to register for the course will be lifted once documents are received by the SLHS Graduate Office. The following courses are considered individual instruction: SLHS -80E (Conference Course in SLHS), SLHS -81L (Clinical Practicum), SLHS 698A-B (Thesis), SLHS -99W (Dissertation).

3. ACCESS your Registration Information Sheet which will list your access times, advising information, financial and non-financial bars. You can also access this at MyUT

4. REGISTER: https://registrar.utexas.edu/students/registration

5. FILL OUT the Graduate Student Registration card and upload to your student folder

6. PAY your tuition bill.
   If you have a zero balance: you must still confirm your registration! You must see ** Your registration is complete and your courses are secured. **
   If you do not see that, your courses will be zapped when tuition and fees are due.

Please call or stop by the SLHS Graduate Office for registration assistance at any time!

Register on time! You are subject to substantial late fees (as much as $25-$200!) for LATE registration.
Full-Time Student Status & Course Load

Nine semester hours of work constitute the minimum requirement for full-time status in long-session semesters; during the twelve-week summer session (or in any combination of six- or nine-week terms) three semester hours of work constitute the minimum requirement.

The maximum course load for a graduate student is fifteen semester hours in a long-session semester, twelve semester hours in a twelve-week summer session, or six semester hours in a first or second term of the summer session. A heavier course load must have the recommendation of the Graduate Adviser and approval of the Graduate Dean. Please see the SLHS Graduate Office if you plan to enroll for more than 15 semester hours in a long session semester or 12 semester hours in the twelve-week summer session.

Continuous registration

All graduate students must be “continuously registered” for all long semesters (Fall and Spring) until completion of the degree. You must obtain advance authorization from the Graduate Adviser for a leave of absence. In addition, Ph.D. students in candidacy must also obtain authorization from the Graduate Dean.

Failure to secure a leave of absence in advance of the semester for which you will be on leave means that you: (1) Will not be guaranteed readmission, and (2) will be subject to a $40 application for readmission fee.

If a new student registers and withdraws before the 12th class day of the first semester, she or he must reapply for admission to the Graduate School or have her/his original admission extended by petition from the Graduate Adviser to the Dean of the Graduate School.

Graduation

During your last semester as a graduate student, you must apply to graduate with the Graduate School, in addition to completing other Departmental required steps. You must file for graduation by submitting a Master’s or Doctoral Graduation Application Form with the Office of Graduate Studies of The University. This is important, because failure to file for graduation properly can lead to your removal from the graduation list. The Graduate program coordinator will inform you of deadlines ahead of time during the semester you are planning to graduate.

More information about Deadlines and Submission Instructions.

Convocation

Yearly, the Graduate School Convocation takes place in May. The Office of Graduate Studies will distribute information regarding participation, registration, tickets, regalia, and more. You can find more info here.

Official Verification of Degrees

The Office of the Registrar is responsible for official verification of degrees awarded. The registrar mails diplomas about six weeks after graduation. The diploma will bear your name, graduation date and degree earned, along with the university’s seal and signatures. Make sure your address is up to date in UT Direct.

Key Dates

Key dates for graduate students can be found here. Refer to the AcademicCalendar and Course Schedule produced by the Office of the Registrar for official registration and payment deadline information.
RULES & POLICIES

As a graduate student at The University of Texas at Austin, it is important that you conduct yourself and your studies in a manner that aligns with the University’s Honor Code and its standard of academic integrity.

In addition, you must comply with university policy as defined here and in the Graduate and General Information catalogs, the Handbook of Operating Procedures, and elsewhere.

Academic Integrity

A fundamental principle for any educational institution, academic integrity is highly valued and seriously regarded at The University of Texas at Austin. More specifically, you and other students are expected to maintain absolute integrity and a high standard of individual honor in scholastic work undertaken at the University. This is a fundamental expectation that is further reinforced by the University's Honor Code. At a minimum, you should complete any assignments, exams, and other scholastic endeavors with the utmost honesty, which requires you to:

- Acknowledge the contributions of other sources to your scholastic efforts;
- Complete your assignments independently unless expressly authorized to seek or obtain Assistance in preparing them;
- Follow instructions for assignments and exams, and observe the standards of your academic discipline; and
- Avoid engaging in any form of academic dishonesty on behalf of yourself or another student.

For the official policies on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty, please refer to Chapter 11 of the Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities.

Why is Academic Integrity so important

One significant reason concerns the University's educational mission. Quite simply, educational objectives cannot be meaningfully fulfilled without strict adherence to the standard of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty not only undermine the learning process and disadvantage students who earn credit honestly, but also subvert key responsibilities of the academic enterprise, such as the assessment and certification of students' scholastic progress and claimed educational achievements. Too costly to ignore, these and other consequences of academic dishonesty clearly underscore the importance of academic integrity.

Academic integrity is just too valuable for academic dishonesty to be tolerated at the University! Upholding this standard of conduct is also a minimal requirement for "a university of the first class," the honored distinction envisioned for our institution by the authors of the Texas Constitution of 1876. Many impressive accomplishments have earned that status over time and continue to do so, such as the University's distinguished efforts in developing and advancing knowledge. All participants - including students - must rigorously and consistently observe an exemplary standard of academic integrity in their contributions to this complex, interdependent process that cannot function effectively in the absence of honesty.

So, as vital members of the University community, you and other students share a vested interest in striving to achieve and maintain a prevailing norm of academic integrity on this campus.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty

You may see or hear of other students engaging in some form of academic dishonesty. If so, do not assume that this misconduct is tolerated. Such violations are, in fact, regarded very seriously, often resulting in severe consequences. Consequences for engaging in Academic Dishonesty include:

- A Grade Related Sanction
- A Punitive Sanction (Academic Integrity Probation, Deferred Suspension, Suspension etc.)
- An Educational Sanction (Complete reflective assignment, attend a workshop, mentoring opportunity etc.)
• Engaging in dishonest behavior is simply not worth the risks of jeopardizing your academic career and gambling with your future!

The value of a University of Texas degree is also inherently connected to the prestige of this institution and its academic units - colleges and schools, departments and individual degree programs. So the accrued costs of any damage to their earned reputations can adversely affect you and other students who someday will compete for jobs and/or admission into graduate programs or professional schools.

Altogether, these and other concerns reinforce and assure the University's serious interest in confronting academic dishonesty and holding students accountable for any such violations.

Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

This section provides important general tips to assist you in avoiding scholastic dishonesty.

Seek clarification from your instructors regarding class policies; do not rely on other students for such information.

Carefully read your course syllabus and follow instructions for completing assignments and ask your instructors to clarify the guidelines. For example, to what extent is working together on an assignment allowed, if at all? Know exactly where the line is and do not cross over it.

Always assume that you are expected to complete assignments independently unless your instructors indicate otherwise.

Plan ahead so that you will be more adequately prepared. If you think that you may need tutoring in a particular course, arrange for that assistance early in the semester. Several helpful academic assistance programs on campus include the Sanger Learning and Career Center, the Graduate Student Writing Service, and the Undergraduate Writing Center (UWC).

Because desperation clouds judgment and often leads to poor decision making, avoid waiting until the last minute to study for exams or complete assignments. Allow sufficient time to review your drafted assignments before completing and submitting them, and be sure to credit the sources of any borrowed material properly, using the types of citations specified by your instructors.

Remember, perceived "shortcuts" can actually be forms of scholastic dishonesty!

More info on the website of the Office of the Dean of Students

GPA Requirement

Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher (B or higher). These requirements differ from the university standard of a grade of C or better. Students who receive a grade of B- or lower in the academic and/or clinical coursework will meet with the Academic and/or Clinical Faculty member of relevance regarding a remediation plan for assistance. The Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator are informed of the student’s remediation status and the plan for assistance.

Residency requirement for graduate degrees

Please refer to the Office of Graduate Admissions website for details regarding residency at: http://www.utexas.edu/student/admissions/residency/

Credit/No Credit Courses

No more than 20% of the courses counted towards the degree may be taken on a credit/no credit basis. This requirement applies to outside electives only. All SLHS courses must be taken for a letter grade, with the following exceptions:

a) Courses offered on a CR/NC basis only, and
b) With permission of the faculty adviser and Graduate Adviser, you may take one SLHS course on a credit/no credit basis, provided the course is “elective” in nature; that is, the course is not required for ASHA certification, the area of study, or for the Master’s degree itself.

A student who wishes to take a course or courses for Credit/No Credit may elect this option at the time of registration. Between the first and fourth class day in a long term, or the first and second day in a summer term, students may change the grade status of a course online. Between the fifth and 12th class day in a long term, or the third and fourth day in a summer term, students may change the grade status of a course in the department offering the course. Changes in grade status between the 13th class day and the published deadline in a long term, or the fifth day and the published deadline in a summer term, require a completed Graduate Add/Drop form signed by the graduate adviser.

See the Graduate Program Coordinator for more details.

Transfer of Graduate Credit

A maximum of 6 graduate hours of work from other institutions may be approved for use on the program of work. A master’s student seeking to use coursework completed at another institution must provide the Graduate Studies Committee with an official transcript, the official explanation of the institution’s course numbering system and grading system, and the course description from the catalog of the institution.

Upper division coursework from UT Austin is permitted on the program of work (maximum of 6 hours). Upper division coursework from another institution is not.

Along with these documents, the Petition to Transfer a Graduate Course From Another Institution form should be submitted by the graduate adviser for approval by the graduate dean. This form must be submitted before 12 hours of graduate coursework are completed at UT Austin.

Auditing Graduate Courses

Students should take caution in seeking auditing of courses as any courses that are audited are not credited toward their degree plan. In addition, students must seek approval for the auditing of any course from the instructor of record and are encouraged to seek input from the Graduate Adviser and Graduate Program Coordinator when considering auditing a course. Permission to audit a course entitles the student to attend class but not to hand in papers, take part in discussion, or receive evaluations. An auditor does not receive University credit for the course audited. A University student who wishes to audit a course should obtain a Class Auditor Permit from the Office of the Registrar and secure the consent of the course instructor and the student’s dean. A nonstudent must obtain the Class Auditor Permit and the consent of the instructor. Nonstudents under the age of 65 are charged an audit fee of $20 a course. Auditors are permitted only when space is available. An instructor or dean may refuse any request to audit a course. Nothing in these rules prohibits an instructor from permitting guests and visitors in a class.

Adding & Dropping Courses

Procedures for dropping and adding courses are outlined in the Course Schedule. You may not drop a course after the final examination period has begun. See the Graduate Adviser or Graduate Program Coordinator if you have questions about dropping and adding courses. For more information: https://gradschool.utexas.edu/academics/policies/adding-and-dropping-courses

Incomplete, or X grades

If a student does not complete all the assignments in a course before the end of the course, the instructor may report work incomplete (X) to the Office of the Registrar in place of a grade.
The student must then complete the course requirements by the last class day in his or her next long-
session semester of enrollment.

The instructor must report a final grade by the end of the grade-reporting period in that semester. If these
deadlines are not met, the X is converted to an I—permanent incomplete. If the student is not enrolled
during a long-session semester for 24 months following the end of the semester in which the X is reported
and the instructor does not report a final grade, then the symbol X is converted to the symbol I.

The symbol I cannot be converted to a grade. When the symbol I is recorded, the symbol X also remains
on the student’s record.

The period for completion of course requirements may be extended only under unusual circumstances
beyond the student’s control and only upon the recommendation of the instructor and the approval of the
Dean of Graduate Studies. Requests for an extension of X must be made to the Dean of Graduate Studies
through submission by the instructor of record of a completed Update to Student Academic Record
form. This request must provide reasons the student was unable to complete the coursework by the last
class day in his or her next long-session semester of enrollment after receiving the X.

An X may properly be assigned for students who must miss the final due to illness or other imperative
nonacademic reasons. You may require a medical excuse if the reason for the request for a postponed final
is illness. If you would prefer to not deal with non-academic issues, you may refer the student to an
academic advisor in the Dean’s Office.

An X may also be given when the student has not been able to complete all the required assignments for
reasons other than lack of diligence but only if the student has a passing grade on the work completed.

Finally, an X may be assigned if the student qualifies for a reexamination and the instructor chooses to give
a reexamination.

In addition, an X should be assigned only if the student has been informed and the exact procedures by
which the student will make up the work are agreed upon. The assignment of an X constitutes a contract
between the student and the instructor. It is often helpful to have the arrangement in writing, specifying
what the student is expected to do to complete the course, including due dates.

Leaves of Absence

Graduate students at The University of Texas at Austin may apply for a leave of absence of no more than
two semesters.

A student on leave may not use any university facilities nor is the student entitled to receive advice from
any member of the faculty. A leave of absence does not alter the time limits for degrees or course work.
More information here.

Withdrawals

To withdraw from the Graduate School, the student must file a Withdrawal and Refund Request form, which
may be obtained from the Graduate School in Main 101, with the Dean of Graduate Studies. The form explains refund policies.

When a student is unable to complete a withdrawal on campus, a signed request to withdraw may be faxed
to the Graduate School at 512-475-8851. All requests for withdrawal must be accompanied by an
acknowledgement from the student’s graduate advisor.

A student may withdraw through the last class day of the semester, but academic appointments may not
extend beyond the effective date of a student’s withdrawal. More information here.

Evaluation of Student Progress
**Grades** In the Graduate School, graduate faculty may use the plus/minus grading system, but are not required. To remain in good standing and to graduate, you must maintain a 3.0 GPA. Thus, a grade of B- or lower or No Credit for a Credit/No Credit course would be considered not in good standing and would require remediation plan.

**Procedure for Evaluation** The Graduate Studies Committee reviews the progress of all students annually. You will be informed of the evaluation of progress annually in writing by the Graduate Adviser, and a copy of the letter will be placed in your student file, overseen by the SLHS Graduate Office on UTBox.

**Types of Recommendations** The types of recommendations made are that you:
1) be continued in your program
2) be placed in remediation status (The procedure for being removed from remediation is set forth in the remediation letter)
3) be terminated from the program. Clinical performance is considered in all evaluations where applicable.

More information on [Warning Status & Academic Dismissal](https://gradschool.utexas.edu/academics/policies/warning-status-academic-dismissal)

**Remediation**
An array of remediation options may be recommended for students placed on academic probation. Options for remediation as determined by the Graduate Studies Committee in consultation with appropriate faculty, may include but are not limited to:

- Individual tutoring with a program faculty member
- Auditing Courses
- Repeating courses or clinical experience
- Preparing a research paper or project
- Completing reading assignments pertinent to areas needing remediation
- Participating in faculty-directed group or individual study

All meetings with the students regarding remediation must be documented, to include the student’s understanding of the problem and willingness to comply with the plan. Routine follow-up counseling with the student is scheduled to assess and document the student’s progress and the outcome of the remediation plan. The student should be aware that some remediation plans can delay projected graduation.

**Warning Status and Academic Dismissal**
As per the UT Graduate School ([https://gradschool.utexas.edu/academics/policies/warning-status-academic-dismissal](https://gradschool.utexas.edu/academics/policies/warning-status-academic-dismissal)) “a student whose graduate grade-point average falls below 3.0 at the end of any semester or summer session will be warned by the Graduate School that his or her continuance in the Graduate School is in jeopardy. During the next semester or summer session for which the student is registered, he or she must attain a grade-point average of at least 3.0 or be subject to dismissal. During this period, the student may not drop any course or withdraw from the university without the approval of the graduate adviser and the graduate dean”.

**Knowledge and Skills Acquisition/Learning Outcomes**
In addition to satisfactory completion of coursework and clinical practica, students must demonstrate knowledge and skills necessary for entry-level independent practice of speech-language pathology as specified in the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Standards for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology. Learning outcomes are addressed in every didactic course and clinical practicum, and the instructor determines how those learning outcomes are measured. It is possible for a student to earn a grade of A or B in a course, yet not demonstrate one or more learning outcomes at a satisfactory level.

The program will not develop affiliation agreements for students who are not in good academic standing. If/when the student returns to good academic standing, her/his externship placement will be at a facility with an existing affiliation agreement.

**Remediation of learning outcomes**
If a student does not meet one or more learning outcomes of a course, the instructor will work with the student to develop a plan outlining the steps for acquiring the lacking knowledge and skills. The plan must include requirements to receive credit for the learning outcome(s), along with a date of completion. The program director will provide students with regular feedback regarding progress toward the degree and toward acquisition of the required knowledge and skills through Plan of Study meetings and individual counseling as needed.

**Grievances**

Graduate students at The University of Texas at Austin have the right to seek redress of any grievance related to academic or nonacademic matters.

**Grade Disputes**

Grade disputes are to be filed with the department offering the course in question, and the dean of the college or school offering the course makes the final decision on an appeal of the departmental ruling.

If your request to dispute a grade is denied by the instructor, you may prepare and submit a written appeal, within **30 calendar days** after the start of the following semester to the Graduate Adviser/Program Director of the graduate academic program in which the course originates. The academic programs will not accept any grade appeals, if not submitted within the 30 calendar days after the start of the following semester.

Every effort should be made to resolve grievances informally between the student and the faculty member involved or with the assistance of the graduate adviser, Graduate Studies Committee chair or department chair. If the grievance cannot be resolved informally, students have recourse to formal grievance procedures. More information [here](#) and here: [https://policies.utexas.edu/policies/graduate-school](https://policies.utexas.edu/policies/graduate-school)

**TIME LIMITS**

**MSSLHS and Au.D. Degree** All requirements for a master's degree must be completed within one six-year period. Work over six years can be reinstated only by special permission of the Graduate Dean, upon recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee. The Au.D. program is designed to be completed within one four-year period. The MSSLHS program is designed to be completing within 5-6 semesters period.

**Doctoral Degree** No official time limit has been imposed on earning the doctoral degree; however, all completed course work that is included in your degree program at the time of admission to candidacy must have been taken within the previous six years (exclusive of a maximum of three years of military service). In addition, all work is subject to review by the Dean of Graduate Studies. One year after your admission to candidacy, you should have completed a proposal for the dissertation. Three years after admission to candidacy you should have completed the final defense of the dissertation. If you have not completed the dissertation and final defense in that time frame, you may be required to take a departmental recertification of candidacy exam on the state of the field.

**Graduation Under a Particular Catalog** General and specific requirements for degrees in the Graduate School are sometimes altered in successive catalogs. You are bound by the requirements of the catalog in force at the time of your first registration; you may choose, however, to fulfill the requirements of a subsequent catalog. If you do not fulfill your requirements within six years of your first enrollment in the Graduate School, you are then bound by the requirements of a subsequent catalog. You may choose the catalog in effect in any year in which you are enrolled in the Graduate School, within the six-year limit.
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT & FUNDING

Student Employment

Financial assistance through the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences is available in the form of teaching assistantships, assistant instructorships and research assistantships. Assistantships are available on a competitive basis and are dependent on available funding. **Reappointment is contingent upon satisfactory performance in the previous semester.**

Appointment as a teaching assistant or assistant instructor may involve assisting in academic or laboratory class preparation, in grading and lecture presentation, or in clinical supervision. Appointment as a graduate research assistant may involve research design, data collection and analysis, and manuscript preparation. The specific duties will be determined by the supervising faculty member based on your background and level of expertise. These assignments will partially meet the Ph.D. requirements for participation in teaching and research.

To be employed as a teaching assistant, assistant instructor, graduate research assistant, tutor, academic assistant or assistant, graduate students at The University of Texas at Austin must:

- Be making satisfactory progress toward a graduate degree without existing conditional admission requirements;
- Remain registered for at least nine semester hours of coursework in long semesters. (Enrollment in three semester hours of coursework is required for students holding summer appointments);
- Maintain at least a 3.0 grade-point average; and
- Must not have more than two grades of X, I, NC, D, or F in any combination.
- All international students must pass, or have a waiver for the International Teaching Assistant exam from the International office. More info available at https://world.utexas.edu/esl/students/intl-teaching-assistants

Students seeking an appointment as an assistant instructor must also meet the following requirements:

- Possess a master’s degree or an equivalent level of achievement in professional accomplishment and graduate study (30 hours, including 18 hours of credit in the subject to be taught); and
- Have credit for 398T plus one semester of employment as a teaching assistant; or
- Have one year of teaching experience at an accredited college or school. (A letter of verification from the former employer must be submitted to the Graduate School.)
- Assistant instructors are employed to meet instructional needs at the undergraduate level, primarily in lower-division areas. Approval for an assistant to teach an upper-division course may be requested by petition to the Associate Dean of the Graduate School and must be approved before the assistant is assigned to the upper-division course.

20/30 Hour Limit

Assignments in a student job title at the university, including academic as well as non-academic positions, may not exceed 20 hours per week during the first two long semesters (fall/spring) of graduate study at UT Austin, and no more than 30 hours per week during the subsequent semesters, including summer. The following exceptions apply: up to 40 hours per week during:

- Spring Break (5 weekdays, plus the Saturday and Sunday before and after);
- Summer (day after May graduation through day before August classes start, but no more than an average of 30 hours per week between 6/1 and 8/31; and
- Winter Break (day after December graduation through day before January classes start).
SLHS 398T

University regulations provide that all Assistant Instructors shall, in the course of their first academic year of appointment (normally in the first semester of that appointment), enroll in a regularly scheduled course on college teaching methodology and practices under the number 398T. With the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee, doctoral candidates may list in their official work program a 398T course which they have taken.

SLHS 398T must be taken on a credit/no credit basis and does not count toward the nine hour minimum course load requirement for employment as an Assistant Instructor or Teaching Assistant.

If a student can establish that she or he has met the objectives of SLHS 398T, either at an educational institution or through experience in recent full-time teaching, she or he may petition to have the requirement waived, using the following procedure:

1. a. If the student believes that she or he has met the objectives of 398T in a similar course, she or he submits to the Graduate Adviser the syllabus for that course.

   b. If the student believes that she or he has met the objectives of 398T through experience in recent full-time teaching, she or he describes that experience in a written statement and submits it to the Graduate Adviser. The description should include: 1) course(s) taught; 2) duration of appointment; 3) peer and student evaluation of teaching; 4) any other information thought to be relevant in establishing teaching competence.

2. A special committee consisting of the Graduate Adviser and Chair of the Department considers each request. The Graduate Adviser notifies the student in writing of the committee's decision. If the decision is to deny the request, the notification contains reasons for the denial.

Financial Assistance

Information on sources of financial assistance, can be find by visiting the Graduate School Website

Resident Tuition Entitlement – Eligibility on the Basis of Student Employment

Students who work for a publicly supported Texas institution of higher education are eligible for the waiver under certain conditions:

- The student must be employed at least one-half time (20 hours per week); and
- The beginning employment date must be on or before the 12th class day of a long semester or the fourth class day of a summer term and the ending employment date must be no earlier than the last official class day; and
- The job must be related to the student's degree program.
- Must be an eligible payroll job title

Only students appointed to positions requiring student status will be eligible to be certified as satisfying the requirements for resident tuition entitlement.

For more info, please visit the Graduate School Website.

Resident Tuition Entitlement – Eligibility on the Basis of a Competitive Scholarship

Nonresidents may be eligible for the waiver if they have been awarded competitive academic scholarships of $1,000 or more for the academic year or the summer session of enrollment. They must have competed with other students (including Texas residents) for the academic scholarship, and the scholarship must have been awarded by an officially recognized scholarship committee of The University of Texas at Austin. Since the number of nonresident tuition exemptions allotted to each college and school was strictly limited by 1989 legislation, award of a competitive academic scholarship does not automatically include such a waiver. For more info, please visit the Graduate School Website.
Tuition Reduction Benefit

Students employed as teaching assistants (TAs), assistant instructors (AIs), and graduate research assistants (GRAs) are eligible for a tax-exempt Tuition Reduction Benefit related to their student academic employment. The assistance amount varies based on the number of hours of the appointment and the availability of funding, and the benefit is not always available to GRAs. Check with your department for more information. For more info on rates, click here.

Fellowships

Recruitment Fellowships  Recruitment fellowships are prestigious awards funded by the Graduate School to attract top-quality graduate students to The University of Texas at Austin. Graduate advisers have the vital role of identifying and nominating eligible applicants. To be eligible, students may not be currently or previously enrolled in the Graduate School, and must rank within the top 10 percent of all students in their discipline. More Info here.

Continuing Fellowships  Graduate School continuing fellowships are intended to support students who are currently enrolled in a graduate program at The University of Texas at Austin. For a student to be considered for one of these fellowships, their graduate adviser must submit a nomination to the Graduate School. Faculty review committees evaluate the applications based on major accomplishments since entering Graduate School, a well-defined program of research, a strong personal statement and letters of recommendation. Dates of each competition are posted. More info here.

Dean’s Prestigious Fellowship Supplement  These awards are for students who will hold large (typically $12,000 or more), competitive, prestigious external fellowships that recognize the student’s academic achievements. The award is $1,000 and may entitle the student to pay tuition at in-state rates during the coming academic year. More info here.

Decentralized Fellowships  Decentralized fellowships are administered by the Graduate School, but are defined—and awardees are selected—by the program. Graduate advisers have the vital role of identifying and nominating eligible students. Decentralized fellowships come as recruitment and continuing fellowships. Both types of fellowships consist out of a stipend, tuition payment and a one-time payment (to be used for health insurance). Other available decentralized fellowships:

- **Jesse H. Jones Fellowships**  The College of Communication annually awards a Fellowship to one graduate student in each of the College Departments. The fellowships are awarded to graduate students who possess exceptional ability. The fellowships are open to masters or doctoral students and are awarded each Spring for the following academic year. Dates of each competition are posted. Preference is given to candidates with a strong interdisciplinary track record.

- **Moody Doctoral and Provost Fellowships**  The Provost Fellowships are awarded to incoming doctoral students in the Amount of $5,000 for their first year only. This one-year fellowship would be followed with a Moody Doctoral Fellowship for the student's second, third and fourth year in the amount of $5,000 per year.

Professional Development Awards

Professional Development Awards provide support for students to attend major professional meetings at which they present an original paper based on their research. The Graduate School allocates travel funds to each program at the beginning of each academic year. The Graduate adviser and graduate coordinator can nominate students for these awards, which are approved and administered by the Graduate School. Amounts can vary, but the recommended range is $250-1,000, with it suggested that students be limited to one award per academic year. Students must be registered during the semester the funds are to be used. (Summer registration will be waived if the student was registered for the prior spring semester.) More info here.
Campus Visit Awards

Students offered a fellowship who are still deciding whether to attend the university may be eligible to receive a campus visit award to help offset the cost of visiting the Forty Acres.
To apply for an award, complete the appropriate form—and your visit—no later than April 15, and prior to making a decision about whether to accept your fellowship offer.
More info here.
STUDENT RESOURCES

MyUT Portal

MyUT: All of UT’s resources, all in one place. Download the official MyUT app from the App Stor or Google Play.

Student Resources offers details and information about:
- Academic Tools and Support
- Course Registration and Grades
- Costs and Financial Aid
- Technology Tools
- Health and Safety
- Student Services
- Campus Resources
- Getting Involved
- Student Jobs

Emergency Information

www.Emergency.utexas.edu serves as a resource for communications about The University of Texas at Austin in the event that there is an emergency. It is part of the university’s overall communications infrastructure for ensuring important information is available to the university community and the public in the event of a technical outage or emergency situation.

The website provides information on emergency preparedness at the university as well as additional resources for communications and information during a technical outage or university emergency. When the university’s main website is unavailable, updated information will be provided here.

Help & Services – UT Police Department

From crime prevention and safety programs to providing security for special events, UTPD stands ready to assist our faculty, staff, students, and visitors. If we can’t help, we probably know who can. Contact UTPD at 512-471-4441.

More info.

UT Counseling and Mental Health Center

Your CARE Counselor in the Moody College of Communication is Abby Simpson, LCSW. The CARE counselor is available to help with a variety of issues, such as stress, test anxiety, racing thoughts, feeling unmotivated and anything else that might be getting in your way. Abby is also available for consultation about student issues that arise in your role as a TA.

Contact info:
Abby Simpson, LCSW
Phone: 512-471-7642

More info about CMHC, click here.

Services for Students with Disabilities

SSD ensures students with disabilities have equal access to their academic experiences at the University of Texas at Austin by determining eligibility and approving reasonable accommodations. They also engage in outreach across campus in order to make campus a more inclusive, accessible and welcoming environment for people with disabilities.

SSD is part of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement and their office is located on the fourth floor of the Student Services Building. Take some time to browse through our website to find information on how to register with SSD, guidelines for documentation, and information about their accommodations and services. General resources for the UT community may be found on UT’s Disability Resource page.

Student Emergency Services
The Student Emergency Services office helps students and their families during difficult or emergency situations. Assistance includes outreach, advocacy, intervention, support, and referrals to relevant campus and community resources. Please note that this office does not provide counseling services.

Emergency situations include but are not limited to:
- Missing Student
- Family Emergency
- Fire or Natural Disaster
- Student Death (current or former)
- Medical or Mental Health Concern
- Academic difficulties due to crisis or emergency situations
- Interpersonal Violence (stalkling, harassment, physical and/or sexual assault)

512-471-5017 (Mon.-Fri., 8-4:30)
512-232-5050 (24/7) – Behavior Concerns Advice Line

University Ombuds Office
The University Ombuds Office is available to students, faculty and staff to listen to your concerns in a safe setting about life at the university and confidentially discuss interpersonal difficulties, university policies, university bureaucracy, and conflict resolution techniques. They help you identify options so you can seek resolution.

The Office of the Student Ombuds is always available as a resource.

University Health Services
University Health Services is committed to providing high-quality care to patients of all ages, races, ethnicities, physical abilities or attributes, religions, sexual orientations, or gender identities/expression.

Title IX
The Title IX Office is committed to supporting the University’s mission to create and maintain an educational and work environment free from all forms of sexual harassment, sexual discrimination, exploitation and intimidation in which all students, faculty and staff can learn, work and thrive.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (512-232-5050)
Are you worried about a student in your class, bothered that your roommate has been acting differently, or concerned about the behavior of a co-worker? If so, contact the Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL) at 512-232-5050 or submit your concerns using the online form.

BE SAFE
Be Safe website lists many resources and services available at your fingertips. These include but are not limited to SURE Ride, SURE Walk, Campus Text Alerts, Voices Against Violence (512-471-3515), and UTPD Resources.

LifeSafe App at UT Austin
Available in the App Store and Google Play. UTPD has launched a free mobile app called LiveSafe at UT Austin giving the UT community and guests immediate access to police dispatch via the communication tool most frequently used—text.

COVID-19 UTSHC Clinical Reentry Guidance
Student and Faculty Guidelines for Reentry to Clinical Care Activities - July 28, 2020