Nurturing future speech-language pathologists

Professor William Choi, FPsys
Admissions Tutor of BSc (SLP) [6157]
How does BSc (SLP) nurture our students to become:

1. A competent speech-language pathologist
2. The future leaders in the field
Strong communication skills

Key ingredients to be a competent SLP

- Good listening and observation skills
- Strong analytical mind
- Enjoy working with people
- Have a helping heart
Recap of the “Key ingredients to be a competent speech-language pathologist”
## Curriculum structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Human Development, Anatomy &amp; Physiology for SHS, Clinical Linguistics, Introduction to Communication Disorders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Speech &amp; Language Development and Disorders, Voice disorders, Audiology &amp; Aural Rehabilitation, Pediatric Complex Cases Management, Pediatric Clinical Practicum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aphasia, Motor Speech Disorders, Swallowing Disorders, Fluency, Laryngectomy &amp; Craniofacial Disorders, Adult Complex Cases Management, Adult Clinical Practicum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Inter-professional Practice, Multilingualism. Two capstone courses: 1) Research in Human Development &amp; Communication Disorders, 2) Advanced Clinical Practicum.</td>
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## Curriculum structure

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course Content</th>
<th>Delivery Methods</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Human Development, Anatomy &amp; Physiology for SHS, Clinical Linguistics, Introduction to Communication Disorders.</td>
<td><strong>Foundation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Speech Science, Neurology &amp; Neuroscience, Cognition and Language Processing, Evidence-based Practice, Research Methods &amp; Statistics, Introduction to Clinical Practice.</td>
<td><strong>Foundation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Speech &amp; Language Development and Disorders, Voice disorders, Audiology &amp; Aural Rehabilitation, Pediatric Complex Cases Management, Pediatric Clinical Practicum.</td>
<td><strong>Pediatric</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aphasia, Motor Speech Disorders, Swallowing Disorders, Fluency, Laryngectomy &amp; Craniofacial Disorders, Adult Complex Cases Management, Adult Clinical Practicum.</td>
<td><strong>Adult</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Inter-professional Practice, Multilingualism. Two capstone courses: 1) Research in Human Development &amp; Communication Disorders, 2) Advanced Clinical Practicum.</td>
<td>Inter-professional</td>
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How do we nurture our students?

Strong theoretical knowledge

- Reinforce your theoretical knowledge across years through spiral learning.

Clinical practicum

- Complete more than 300 hours of direct clinical contact under the supervision of an experienced clinical educator.
- In a variety of settings, including internal clinic (KTC), external sites and hospitals.
- Put strong emphasis on evidence-based and scientific practice.
Our internal clinic:

Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic at Kennedy Town Centre (KTC)
Clinical placements at external sites

- Pre-school centers, kindergartens
- Schools (mainstream, special)
- Non-governmental organizations
- Nursing homes / Old-age homes
- Rehabilitation centers
- Hospitals
- Government organizations

Some examples:
How do we nurture our students?

Experiential learning

- Embedded in coursework.
- Events (e.g., School Fun Day, World Voice Day, World Swallowing Day).
- Visits at external organizations and clinics (e.g., Gerontechnology centre).
- Experiential learning service trip to Wuhan.
Visiting the gerontechnology center
Initiatives in curriculum development

Inter-professional education

Cases on:
dementia (adult)
developmental delay (pediatric)
The SLP (top-right corner) is conducting a communication treatment for the patient. She is showing flash cards to teach the patient how to pronounce words.
Initiatives in clinical education

Simulation clinic

Speech Therapists x ActoR Teachers (START)
Partnership in Clinical Education
How do we nurture our students?

Research opportunities

- Research project in year 5.
- Research laboratories.
- University-level research fellowships. (Laidlaw Research & Leadership Programme)
  (University Research Fellowship Programme)
Innovations and awards

Our student is the 1st runner-up of the AI Future Tense: Pitching InnoTech Solutions competition

Faculty of Education students win the Pitching Contest for Engineering Undergraduates and InnoHub members 2022

Education student receives award as a Top 10 Outstanding Tertiary Student of Hong Kong 2022
Admissions Requirements
& Application Procedures
Admissions

- 48 places (for 2024-25 intake).
- No fixed quota for JUPAS and non-JUPAS applicants.
- Must attend an interview.
- Only consider applicants who put B.Sc.(SLP) in their:
  - Band A choices [JUPAS]
  - First choice [non-JUPAS]

Interview dates:
SNDAS (Jan to Feb)
Non-JUPAS (mid-Dec)
JUPAS (mid-Jun; late July)
# Admissions scores (2023 intake)

## JUPAS

- **Best 5 subjects** in Category A (including M1/M2).
- English: Level 4 or above.
- All subjects counted equally.
- 2023 JUPAS admissions scores:
  - Lower quartile: 36 (best six)
  - Median: 38 (best six)
  - Upper quartile: 39 (best six)

Biology is NOT a required subject.

Conversion of levels into scores:

- $5^{**}=8.5, 5^{*}=7, 5=5.5, 4=4, 3=3, 2=2, 1=1, \text{ others}=0.$

Interview Tips

Group interview (JUPAS)

We look for students with:
- Strong communication skills.
- Strong analytical mind.
- Logical thinking.
- Good listening & observation skills.
- Ability to work with people.

Avoid doing these:
- Non-engagement.
- Dominating.
- Aggressive/confrontational.
- Not following instructions.
- Dismiss others' opinions.
How to prepare yourself?

• Study the information we provide.
  o BSc.(SLP) website, HKU
    https://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/bsslpc_6157
  o Follow our IG
    @HKU_SPEECH
QUESTIONS
& ANSWERS

Email: bscslp@hku.hk