BSc in Speech & Hearing Sciences

JUPAS code: BSc (SPEECH) 6157

Updated in October 2020
Outline

• The profession of speech-language therapy

• The curriculum of speech and hearing sciences at HKU

• The requirements and procedures to apply to the programme
The profession of speech-language Pathology
What do speech-language therapists do?

- Speech
- Language
- Hearing
- Reading & Writing
- Voice
- Swallowing

Clients, Family, Health professionals, Teachers.
What populations do we serve?

• People across the life span
• Different clinical populations
  • Autism Spectrum Disorder
  • Down syndrome
  • Intellectual disabilities
  • Stroke
• Cancer ...
Work settings

- Government organisations
- Pre-school centers
- Schools and universities
- Non-government organisations
- Nursing homes
- Hospitals
- Private clinics

2019
97% employed
3% further studies
## Employment sectors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sectors</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-governmental organisations</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational institutions</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private practice</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil service / Hospital authority</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (further studies)</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from Careers Education and Placement Center & BSc programme of Speech & Hearing Sciences, HKU
# Basic monthly salary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean</strong></td>
<td>31,370</td>
<td>29,549</td>
<td>29,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Median</strong></td>
<td>31,685</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Min.</strong></td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Max.</strong></td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>32,470</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Data from Careers Education and Placement Center, HKU
How to become a speech-language therapist?
BSC. IN SPEECH & HEARING SCIENCES

5 years, full-time
The curriculum
Translational learning

Goals

• Become independent and critical thinkers

• Able to integrate and apply their knowledge and skills to provide evidence-based and person-centered services

• Have the abilities to pursue life-long learning
## Curriculum structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course Contents</th>
<th>Delivery Methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | **Human Development, Clinical Linguistics, Introduction to Communication Disorders, Anatomy & Physiology**  
**Common Core Curriculum, University English**                                                                                                                      | Classrooms                           |
**Introduction to Clinical Practice,**                                                                                                                      | Clinical observations                |
| 3    | **Speech & Language Development and Disorders, Audiology, Voice disorders, Complex Cases, Fluency, Laryngectomy & Craniofacial Disorders**  
**Pediatric Clinical Practicum**                                                                                                                                   | Classrooms                           |
| 4    | **Adult Communication & Swallowing Disorders, Complex Cases, Adult Clinical Practicum**                                                                                                                    | Clinical placements                  |
| 5    | **Inter-professional Practice, Multilingualism Research in Human Development & Communication Disorders**  
**Advanced Clinical Practicum**                                                                                                                                    | Classrooms                           |
|      | **Capstone experience: Dissertation + Clinical placements**                                                                                                                                               |                                       |
Clinical practica

• Supervised

• In a variety of settings, including the internal clinic, external sites and hospitals

• Emphasize evidence-based and scientific practice
Our clinic

- Internal clinic at the Kennedy Town Centre
Final year research project

• Complete a research project
• Submit a proposal and a research report
• Give a presentation
Professional recognition

• The programme is fully endorsed by the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists

• Graduates are qualified speech therapists upon graduation.

• They are eligible to apply to be Member of Register of Speech Therapists accredited by the Department of Health
Admissions requirements and application procedures
Admissions requirements

- 48 places
- No fixed quota for JUPAS and non-JUPAS applicants
- Must attend an interview
- Include a personal statement in the application
JUPAS admissions requirements

• Only consider applicants who have put our programme in their Band A choices

• Best 6 subjects
  ✓ Level 4 or above in English*
  ✓ Level 3 or above in HKDSE Biology / Combined Science with a Biology component
  ✓ Check our JUPAS website for updated information on the DSE admissions scores in the past years.

• Must attend an interview (June, 2021)
JUPAS admissions interviews

- In June 2021
- Compulsory
- A half-day event
- Individual interviews and group activities
Non-JUPAS admissions requirements

• Mainly consider applicants who have listed us as their First Choice

• Proficient in English and Cantonese, written Chinese

• Must have a Biology component

• Case-by-case basis

• Interviews for short-listed candidates (Dec 2020)
How to prepare yourself?

• Online search for information
  • BSc. in Speech and Hearing Sciences, HKU
  • JUPAS admissions at HKU
  • Hong Kong Association of Speech Therapists
  • Video and information on communication disorders and different clinical populations (e.g., https://www.youtube.com/clashku)

• Volunteer opportunities at related organisations

• Talk with current SHS students or speech therapists
  o Facebook of Speechians’ Action – A service group run by students in our programme
If you have any questions, please email bscshs@hku.hk