Audiology - Doctor of Audiology (AuD)

The AuD is the entry-level degree in clinical audiology that emphasizes both clinical competency development and evidence-based practice. Students in the AuD program complete a four-year curriculum that includes academic course work, clinical practicum and a capstone project. Students take advanced seminars in hearing science, clinical audiology and research methods.

Students have the opportunity to pursue clinical research in both laboratory and clinical settings, with faculty in a wide range of areas including electrophysiology, psychological acoustics, physiological acoustics, diagnostic evaluation and intervention procedures for newborns through geriatrics, advanced amplification, speech perception in noise, assistive technologies, cochlear implants, vestibular assessment techniques and aural habilitation and rehabilitation of individuals with hearing loss. Furthermore, students undertake clinical practica to develop competency across the scope of practice consistent with national clinical certification and/or licensure in audiology. They will have the opportunity to complete clinical rotations in several different settings including full use of laboratories and suites in the Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences. Clinical rotations occur at sites such as University of Colorado Hospital (UCH) in Denver and the UCH outpatient Boulder clinic, Children’s Hospital Colorado, local school districts, and other clinical settings throughout the metro Boulder and Denver area. Students complete fourth-year externships in Denver hospitals or clinical settings throughout the nation.

Dual Degree Program

AuD/PhD in Audiology and Speech, Language and Hearing Science

The department offers students the opportunity to pursue an integrated program of study leading to dual doctorate degrees in the fields of audiology and hearing science. The PhD/AuD dual degree program trains students in both clinical research and clinical practice in audiology. Students in the program gain training that will prepare them to become independent scholars, teach in higher education, conduct research, become certified clinical audiologists and gain leadership skills. The dual degree program allows students to pursue both their clinical training and their research training in a rigorous, intensive and streamlined program.

Requirements

Prerequisite Course Work

The AuD faculty recommends that students complete undergraduate courses covering the following six topics prior to beginning the graduate program in SLHS:

- audiological evaluation
- hearing science
- language development
- phonetics
- speech disorders
- language disorders

Courses covering speech science and audiological rehabilitation are also recommended, but are optional. That said, some students come in with non-SLHS backgrounds in which they have had some but not all of the background knowledge necessary for the program. Students can work with faculty to test out of courses by successfully taking the exams from the undergraduate course work and demonstrating at least an 80 percent competency. This evaluation option is suggested only when students have already had significant work or educational experiences that have provided them with significant background options in specific areas.

See the department’s website (https://www.colorado.edu/slhs/graduate/dual-doctorate-audiology) for a list of prerequisites and course schedule.