Focus Areas
There are two areas of focus available at the MA level:

1. MA leading to professional certification in speech-language pathology
2. research

Professional Certification Focus
The master's degree program leading to professional certification in speech-language pathology (MA-SLP) is designed to provide a theoretically and clinically rich path for students planning to work as speech-language pathologists in medical, educational, and private practice settings. Students in the MA-SLP program are provided with a strong foundation of theoretical and clinical knowledge through their course work and clinical experiences.

Students completing the MA-SLP program obtain a Master of Arts degree from the University of Colorado and are eligible to receive the Certificate of Clinical Competence in speech-language pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) upon successful completion of the clinical fellowship year and the national PRAXIS examination. Students can also apply for Colorado State Licensure to work in the public schools.

Research Focus
The master's program with a research focus allows students to design their own master's degree in SLHS in any topic related to speech, language or hearing sciences. This degree does not result in clinical certification. Working with an advisor, students design a plan of study, with course work within SLHS and from other departments. A master's thesis is required.

Requirements

Program Requirements
Professional Certification Focus
The master's program with a professional certification focus is a two-year (24-month) program that culminates in one or two internships and either successful passage of the comprehensive exam or completion of a thesis. The program consists of an initial summer intensive session beginning in early August and ends in late July two years later. Students are enrolled for August intensive, fall year 1, spring year 1, summer year 1, fall year 2, spring year 2, and summer year 2.

Within departmental and ASHA guidelines, master's students with a focus in speech-language pathology complete a core set of seminars and clinical assignments that assure at least minimal competence in the full scope of practice for speech-language pathologists. In addition, students complete at least three of six electives that provide the opportunity to develop greater knowledge and skills in areas of specific interest. Clinical assignments are initiated in the on-site Speech, Language and Hearing Center; later, student input is obtained in making off-campus clinical assignments in educational and medical settings.