

Ph.D. in Speech Pathology, Minor in Faith-Based Disability Services

HBI University

Course Duration: 3 years

Credit Hours: 105 (including minor)



Program Description

The Ph.D. in Speech Pathology at HBIU University offers advanced training and research opportunities in the diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of speech and language disorders. This program provides a comprehensive understanding of cognitive-linguistic development, language acquisition, speech therapy techniques, and rehabilitation science. Students will engage with cutting-edge research in areas such as neurogenic speech disorders, language disorders in children and adults, cognitive rehabilitation, and augmentative communication methods. Graduates will be well-prepared for leadership roles in clinical practice, research institutions, healthcare settings, and educational environments, driving innovations in speech therapy and interventions for diverse populations.

The Minor in Faith-Based Disability Services integrates faith-based perspectives into the fields of disability services, inclusion, and therapy. This specialization examines how religious communities can provide support and advocacy for individuals with disabilities, including those with speech and language impairments. Students will explore topics such as the ethical and spiritual dimensions of therapy, promoting accessibility and inclusion in faith-based settings, and the role of churches and faith organizations in offering services to individuals with special education needs. The minor prepares students to design and implement therapy strategies that align with faith-driven values, advocating for the well-being and dignity of individuals with disabilities.

Admissions Requirements

- Master's degree in a relevant field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- GRE scores (if applicable)
- Statement of Purpose (1,000-1,500 words) outlining research interests

- Three letters of recommendation
- Academic writing sample
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume
- Interview with faculty (if required)

General Education Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
SPTH 701	Advanced Phonetics and Phonology	3
SPTH 702	Neuroanatomy for Speech-Language Pathologists	3
SPTH 703	Speech Sound Disorders	3
SPTH 704	Language Development and Assessment	3
SPTH 705	Cognitive-Communication Disorders	3
SPTH 706	Motor Speech Disorders	3
SPTH 707	Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)	3
SPTH 708	Multicultural Considerations in Speech Therapy	3
SPTH 709	Voice Disorders and Rehabilitation	3
SPTH 710	Research Methods in Speech Pathology	3

Core Foundational Courses (23 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
SPTH 801	Stuttering and Fluency Disorders	3
SPTH 802	Pediatric Speech and Language Therapy	3
SPTH 803	Acquired Brain Injury and Speech Therapy	3
SPTH 804	Dysphagia and Swallowing Disorders	3
SPTH 805	Auditory Processing and Hearing Loss	3
SPTH 806	Speech Therapy in Early Childhood	3
SPTH 807	Assistive Technology in Communication	3
SPTH 808	Language Intervention in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
SPTH 809	Geriatric Speech Pathology	3
SPTH 810	Ethics and Professional Issues in Speech Therapy	3

SPTH 811	The Role of Faith in Communication Healing	3
SPTH 812	Community-Based Speech Therapy	3
SPTH 813	Family Involvement in Speech and Language Therapy	3
SPTH 814	Public Health and Speech Pathology	3
SPTH 815	Faith-Based Support for Speech Disorders	3

Minor in Faith-Based Disability Services (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FBDS 901	Theological Perspectives on Disability	3
FBDS 902	Faith-Based Advocacy for Speech and Hearing Impairments	3
FBDS 903	Disability Inclusion in Religious Communities	3
FBDS 904	Communication Strategies for Ministry and Therapy	3
FBDS 905	Spiritual and Emotional Healing in Speech Therapy	3

Dissertation Research & Defense (15 Credit Hours)

Students must complete a doctoral dissertation related to Speech Pathology and Faith-Based Disability Services. This includes:

- Developing a research proposal focused on speech-language pathology, faith-based therapy models, or accessibility advocacy.
- Conducting original research on speech disorders and intervention methods.
- Writing a dissertation that explores evidence-based treatments or community-based therapy programs.
- Successfully defending the dissertation before a faculty committee.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

- Gain expertise in speech-language pathology, therapy interventions, and clinical research.
- Integrate faith-based perspectives into disability services and communication therapy.
- Apply assistive technology and therapeutic strategies to improve speech and communication abilities.
- Conduct research on holistic, patient-centered approaches in speech therapy.
- Develop inclusive community programs for speech and language rehabilitation.

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
Clinical Speech-Language Pathologist	\$80,000 - \$140,000

Communication Disorder Researcher	\$85,000 - \$145,000
Disability Services Director	\$75,000 - \$135,000
Faith-Based Therapy Counselor	\$65,000 - \$120,000
Special Education Consultant	\$80,000 - \$150,000