

Associate in Speech Pathology

Specialization in Faith-Based Disability Services

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 75 hours (including 15 minor credit hours)

Program Description

The Associate in Speech Pathology program with a Specialization in Faith-Based Disability Services equips students to serve individuals with communication disorders through both clinical knowledge and compassionate, faith-informed care. The program introduces key concepts in speech-language pathology, developmental communication, and disability inclusion within ministry and healthcare contexts.

Students will develop foundational skills in speech assessment, language development, therapeutic practices, and assistive technologies. Emphasis is placed on understanding disability through a biblical worldview—fostering dignity, equity, and healing through Christ-centered service and communication support.

Graduates may assist in therapy clinics, schools, churches, disability ministries, or continue into bachelor's and graduate-level speech-language pathology or special education programs.

General Education Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
GEN 101	English Composition I	3
GEN 102	English Composition II	3
GEN 103	College Algebra	3
GEN 104	Introduction to Psychology	3
GEN 105	Introduction to Sociology	3

Core Speech Pathology Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
SLP 201	Introduction to Communication Sciences	3

SLP 202	Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing	3
SLP 203	Language Development Across the Lifespan	3
SLP 204	Introduction to Phonetics and Articulation Disorders	3
SLP 205	Language and Literacy in Special Populations	3
SLP 206	Assistive Technology and AAC	3
SLP 207	Voice and Fluency Disorders	3
SLP 208	Therapeutic Approaches in Communication Disorders	3
SLP 209	Disability Inclusion in Faith-Based Settings	3
SLP 210	Capstone in Speech Pathology	3

Elective Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
SLP 301	Christian Ethics in Disability Support	3
SLP 302	Introduction to Audiology and Hearing Health	3
SLP 303	Family and Caregiver Support in Communication Needs	3
SLP 304	Communication Strategies in Diverse Cultures	3
SLP 305	Advocacy for Individuals with Disabilities	3

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

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FDS 401	Theology of Disability and Healing	3
FDS 402	Inclusive Ministry and Accessibility	3
FDS 403	Pastoral Care for Individuals with Disabilities	3
FDS 404	Creating Sensory-Friendly Worship and Programs	3
FDS 405	Disability Awareness and Advocacy in Faith Communities	3

Capstone Project (3 Credit Hours)

The Capstone in Faith-Based Disability Services allows students to design a communication-based initiative to serve individuals with disabilities. Sample projects include:

- Developing a speech support curriculum for a church-based inclusion program.
- Leading disability sensitivity training for faith leaders.
- Partnering with a therapy clinic to present a community inclusion outreach.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

- Understand foundational speech and language development concepts.
- Provide care and support through biblically grounded, inclusive communication practices.
- Promote disability awareness and inclusion in educational and ministry environments.
- Assist in therapeutic programs with cultural and faith-based sensitivity.
- Pursue further study in communication sciences, special education, or disability ministry.

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
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Speech-Language Pathology Assistant	\$42,000 - \$56,000
Communication Aide in Faith-Based Schools	\$40,000 - \$54,000
Disability Ministry Program Coordinator	\$44,000 - \$58,000
Assistive Communication Support Specialist	\$43,000 - \$57,000
Church or Camp Inclusion Facilitator	\$42,000 - \$55,000