

SUNY Buffalo State
DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
GRADUATE ADVISEMENT POLICY

Academic and Course Advising

Students admitted to the graduate program are advised by the Graduate Program Director (GPD). The Graduate Program Director reviews the student's official undergraduate transcript and prepares a Graduate Course Sequence/Plan of Study. The Course Sequence lists all courses required for the M.S. Ed. It is sent to the student and to the Clinic Director prior to the start of the graduate program. During the first week of the fall semester, new graduate students are required to meet with the GPD to review the course sequence roadmap and to discuss the knowledge and skills required for completing the program. At that time, students review and sign the department's policy on *Progression, Remediation and Dismissal*. Students also meet with the Clinic Director at regular intervals to discuss and review their clinical program, including overall clock hour requirements and on-campus clinic and off-campus placements.

The Graduate Program Director holds weekly office hours and meets with students at least once during each semester to monitor performance and advise on courses, graduation requirements and credentials. In 2021, an online *Professional Issues* badge was created that provides additional information and links surrounding issues of employment, interviewing, and credentialing. All students are currently required to complete this badge during the first semester of their second graduate year.

Academic and Personal Support

Academic success is important for all students. In the Department of Speech-Language Pathology, student performance is monitored by all academic and clinical faculty members. Each instructor monitors student performance in his or her course, following a formative and summative assessment model. At mid-semester, the Department Chair and GPD request from the faculty the names of graduate students performing at or below a B- level. During the midterm

advisement session, the GPD discusses academic or clinical difficulties with the student(s) thus identified and, where needed, devises a proactive remediation plan, with input from others (including the student). Students are informed of services available at the BSC Counseling Center for issues pertaining to personal adjustment and mental health. Students who struggle with course content or time management may be referred to the campus Tutoring Center or Writing Center for help in these areas. Students who require academic accommodations because of a previously identified or suspected disability are referred to the Student Accessibility Office. These recommendations are entered into Degree Works by the GPD.