



A career where you can make a difference

It's something we do every day. But for many people around the world, the simple act of communicating is the hardest thing to do. You can help make a difference.

University of Canterbury provides a range of programmes to help you enter the challenging and rewarding professions of speech-language therapy and audiology. Improve the quality of life for many people with hearing, speech, language and swallowing difficulties – study with us and make a difference.



Help people find their voice

All over the world there are people struggling to communicate. This can be for many reasons – stroke, injury, developmental delays, illness or even lack of confidence. Speech-language therapists and audiologists help people recover, regain confidence and reclaim their lives.

What is speech-language therapy?

Speech-language therapy is the treatment, support and care of people who have difficulties with communication or swallowing. This may include difficulties with speech, language and cognition (thought processes), or physical processes.

What is audiology?

Audiology is the scientific study of hearing, and hearing disorders. Audiologists are highly trained professionals dedicated to the assessment, diagnosis and non-medical management of hearing and balance function.

Who needs it?

Communication difficulties can affect all types of people of any age and background – from new-born babies to the elderly. Speech-language therapy and audiology benefit people with autism, stuttering, or those who have suffered hearing loss, stroke, brain injury, or cancer.

Is this career for me?

If you are caring, patient, and enjoy helping people, then the answer is yes, you would definitely make a good speech-language therapist or audiologist. It helps if you are also interested in medicine and understanding how the human body works.



Stroke is the major cause of disability globally

Around 30 percent of people suffer loss of language (aphasia) after a stroke. Speech therapy is the most common treatment for aphasia.

Over 5% of people worldwide have disabling hearing loss

Early identification and treatment can make a big difference to their quality of life.

A career with options

A speech-language or audiology qualification from UC is the beginning of a worthwhile and inspiring career in the healthcare sector.

Where can it take me?

Our graduates are in demand and highly employable both in New Zealand and overseas. They go on to work in hospitals, schools and private clinics. Some of our graduates now have their own private practices, while others are working in research labs, and designing and developing new speech-language or hearing technologies.

You could:

- work in hospitals, schools and private clinics
- own your own private practice
- develop new technologies
- undertake important research

Real-world experience

Study with us and gain first-hand experience in a real-world environment. You'll get to work directly with clients and alongside top clinicians and researchers at our on-site clinics and research centres, in schools, hospitals and more.

Our research centres and clinics:

- Swallowing Rehabilitation Research Laboratory
- Speech Production-Perception Lab
- Rose Centre for Stroke Recovery Research
- Child Language Centre – Te Reo o te Tamaiti
- University of Canterbury Speech and Hearing Clinic

We're also affiliated to the New Zealand Brain Research Institute and the New Zealand Institute of Language, Brain and Behaviour.

What we offer

We offer undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in speech-language pathology, and postgraduate degrees in audiology. Our degrees are very hands-on, with a good balance of theory and practical work.

During your studies you'll get to work with people of all ages at clinics in New Zealand or overseas. You'll graduate with skills and knowledge that can change lives.

Our degrees	Entry requirements include	Start date	Length of study	Level of study	Career options
Bachelor of Speech and Language Pathology with Honours*	University entrance or equivalent English proficiency	February	4 years	Undergraduate	Practise as a speech-language therapist
Master of Speech and Language Pathology*	Prior degree English proficiency	February	2 years	Postgraduate	Practise as a speech-language therapist
Master of Science in Speech and Language Sciences	Prior speech therapy/pathology degree English proficiency	February	1 year	Postgraduate	PhD and research pathways
Master of Audiology**	Prior degree English proficiency	February	2 years	Postgraduate	Practise as an audiologist or go on to a PhD
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	Prior degree English proficiency Research potential	Any	3 years	Postgraduate	Academic and research careers

*accredited by the New Zealand Speech-Language Therapists Association

**endorsed by the New Zealand Audiological Society

Find out more about our degree programmes and full entry details: www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/subjects/speech-and-language-pathology/

Leading the way

We strive for national and international excellence in research, clinical service, and education in human communication sciences and disorders.

Our Department of Communication Disorders hosts the longest running speech-language therapy programme in New Zealand and provides world-class clinical and research training in the field of audiology. We're proud to have educated most of New Zealand's speech and language professionals, and over 100 audiologists. Our students are challenged to excel in professional practice and disciplinary research to improve the lives of people with hearing, speech, language, and swallowing difficulties.

Why study with us?

Compact city and campus

Our campus is in the heart of Christchurch – a beautiful, friendly and vibrant city.

Learn from the best

You'll be taught by passionate people who are internationally recognised for their research and teaching in speech-language therapy or audiology.

Purpose-built facilities

We have eight on-site speech and hearing clinics, and four research laboratories with state-of-the-art electronic and assessment equipment.

Learn by doing

You'll have more practical and clinical learning experiences – in lectures, in the labs and on work experience.

Internationally recognised qualifications

Our speech-language therapy programmes are accredited by the New Zealand Speech-Language Therapists' Association and recognised by the professional associations of USA, UK, Ireland, Australia and Canada. Our audiology programme is endorsed by the New Zealand Audiological Society, and our graduates can work in many other countries including the UK, Ireland, Australia, and Canada.



Thinking about a career in speech-language therapy or audiology?

Get in touch today and find out how we can help you change lives. Learn about degree options, campus life, how to enrol, and more.

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www.canterbury.ac.nz/science/schools-and-departments/psyc-speech-hear