

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Dr. Kimberly Green, Department Chair

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The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) offers an undergraduate major in Communication Disorders, a graduate degree in Speech-Language Pathology, a minor in American Sign Language, and a Deaf Studies Certificate. Additionally, the pre-SLP program consists of a series of courses that prepare students without an undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders to apply to graduate programs in Speech-Language Pathology.

The undergraduate Communication Disorders program provides broad-based instruction to prepare students for graduate study in speech-language pathology, audiology, and related fields. Students who complete the undergraduate program receive a Bachelor's of Science in Communication Disorders and must complete a master's degree to practice speech-language pathology and a Doctorate of Audiology (AuD) to practice audiology.

The graduate degree program in Speech-Language Pathology prepares students for the clinical practice of speech-language pathology. A certified speech-language pathologist works with both children and adults to evaluate and diagnose disorders associated with speech, language, cognition, communication, and swallowing. The Speech-Language Pathology graduate program has two cohorts, one offered on the Bowling Green Campus and one distance-learning cohort that is primarily offered online but with one required summer clinical experience on the Bowling Green Campus.

The minor in American Sign Language provides students with communication competency in a visual language and an understanding of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing culture. A Deaf Studies Certificate will broaden a student's knowledge of Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, with an emphasis on Deaf Culture. The Deaf Studies Certificate will not qualify students to become licensed interpreters.

Students in the pre-SLP program must have an undergraduate degree from a field other than communication disorders at the time they begin taking courses in the pre-SLP program. The pre-SLP program is a fully online distance-learning program.

Students considering a major in Communication Disorders, a graduate program in Speech-Language Pathology, a minor in American Sign Language, a Deaf Studies Certificate, or the pre-SLP program, should contact the appropriate program director for admission timelines, requirements, and advisement.

## Degree

- Communication Disorders, Bachelor of Science (595P, 595) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/communication-sciences-disorders/communication-disorders-bs/>)

## Minor

- American Sign Language Studies, Minor (307) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/communication-sciences-disorders/american-sign-language-studies-minor/>)

## Certificate

- Deaf Studies, Certificate (1738) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/undergraduate/health-human-services/communication-sciences-disorders/deaf-studies-certificate/>)

## Faculty

### Associate Professor

Kimberly J. Green EdD (Educational Leadership, Postsecondary Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2015

### Assistant Professor

Jenny M. Burton PhD (Communication Disorders and Sciences), University of Cincinnati Main Campus, 2019

Amy E. Engelhoven PhD (Communication Disorders and Sciences), University of Arkansas Main Campus, 2016

Myra Jean F. Huffman PhD (Experimental Psychology), University of Louisville, 2019

Kyla B. Mitchell PhD (Educational Administration), University of Southern Mississippi, 2024

### Clinical Assistant Professor

Sara R. Poynter MS (Communication Disorders), Western Kentucky University, 2013

Kaitlyn S. Rippy AUD (Audiology), Vanderbilt University, 2021

Brittney R. Vickous MS (Communication Disorders), Western Kentucky University, 2011

### Clinical Associate Professor

Leigh Anne Roden EdD (Educational Leadership, P-12 Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2011

### Pedagogical Professor

Ashley C. Fox PhD (Educational Leadership and Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2010

### Instructor II

Holly B. Bryant MAE (Counseling), Western Kentucky University, 2015