Speech and Hearing Sciences

The PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences prepares students for academic and research careers in the field. Established in 1947, the program is dedicated to fostering scientific inquiry in speech and hearing sciences and related disciplines. The program is administered jointly between the Graduate School and the Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences in the Washington University School of Medicine.

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Faculty

Chair

Heather Grantham (https://pacs.wustl.edu/people/heather-grantham-phd/)
Program Director and Associate Professor
PhD, Washington University in St. Louis

Amanda Ortmann (https://pacs.wustl.edu/people/amanda-j-ortmann-phd/)
Program Director and Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Pittsburgh

Faculty List

For our full faculty list, please visit our faculty webpage (http://pacs.wustl.edu/our-faculty/).

Degree Requirements

PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences

Curriculum

The curriculum combines interdisciplinary academic courses, teaching experiences and research, and it culminates in a dissertation. Each student’s experience can be tailored to their individual interests.

Generally, 24 units of graduate credit can be transferred toward the PhD from another institution; graduates of our Doctor of Audiology (AuD) and Master of Science in Deaf Education (MSDE) programs are provided with advanced standing and may transfer up to 48 or 36 credit units, respectively.

Teaching Experiences

Teaching experiences prepare students to become effective teachers and communicators of their discipline and their own research. All PhD students receive instruction in pedagogy and complete teaching experiences at the introductory and advanced levels under the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Research

Students immerse themselves in the world-class research environment of Washington University. As they conduct their own original research, which culminates in a dissertation, they participate in colloquia, Grand Rounds, brown bag seminars, research seminars, journal clubs and similar opportunities. The program fosters opportunities to publish and to participate in professional conferences. During the final year of the program, students present and defend their dissertations.

The Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences (PACS) is affiliated with the Department of Otolaryngology, which operates one of the nation’s largest hearing and deafness research programs. Topics include adult aural rehabilitation, biology of hearing and deafness, childhood deafness, cochlear implants, dizziness and balance, and hearing aids.