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Communication Disorders
Department of Health Professions

Speech-language pathologists provide habilitation and rehabilitation services to individuals across the life span who demonstrate disorders in communication. These disorders may include language, articulation, phonology, voice, motor, memory, fluency, swallowing, attention and/or hearing deficits.

There’s a growing need for speech and language services. With more young children and seniors in need of services, the demand for speech-language pathologists is great. Mercy College’s Master’s Degree in Communication Disorders is a premier program in the metropolitan New York area. The 59-credit program fosters ethical, competent, autonomous practice.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Careers in communication disorders include: speech-language pathologist, audiologist, speech and hearing scientist, language scientist and NYS Education Department Teacher of Students with Speech-Language Disabilities (TSSLD). (Note: This certification requires a master’s degree in communication disorders and additional academic and clinical experience, workshop attendance in education and completion of a student teaching experience, prior to application to the New York State Education Department.)

COURSES OF INTEREST:

Communication Disorders students study a wide array of courses, including: Language Disorders in Children, Neuroanatomy of Human Communication, Speech Sound Disorders and Dysphasia to name a few.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our students have a 100 percent success rate in finding employment after graduation and have a three-year average of a 100 percent pass rate on the Praxis Examination.

CAMPUS:

Dobbs Ferry

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FINANCIAL AID:
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the graduate program in Communication Disorders at Mercy College a fully accredited program?
Yes, the Master of Science program in Communication Disorders at Mercy College is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, 2200 Research Boulevard, #310, Rockville, MD 20850, 800-498-2071 or 301-296-5700.

What do I have to do to apply to the Communication Disorders (CD) Master’s program?
Students must excel at the undergraduate level overall with a GPA of 3.2 or a 3.2 in the last two years; and in the seven pre-requisite courses with a minimum of a 3.20 GPA. To ensure currency/relevancy, all CD major or prerequisite coursework must have been completed within 10 years of application.

What is the clinical component of the Master’s program?
It includes both in-house and externship practicum experiences in over 150 metropolitan area facilities. Students evaluate and treat people of varying ages and cultural/linguistic backgrounds who display a variety of communication disorders including articulation, phonology, oral motor, voice, fluency, hearing, and language disorders. A total of 375 direct contact hours is required by ASHA for certification (a maximum of 50 hours can be accrued on the undergraduate level). The first, in-house practicum takes place in the Mercy College Speech and Hearing Center, where students are supervised by faculty and supervisory staff who are NYS licensed and ASHA certified speech-language pathologists and audiologists. Clinical externships are completed in a college-affiliated site in the New York metropolitan area, including New York City, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, New Jersey and Connecticut. The age and disorder of the population that is served varies from site to site.

How does Mercy stand out from other graduate CD programs?
Mercy’s model of graduate education includes that all faculty supervise in the on-site speech and hearing center. All students engage in a group capstone research project which is mentored by the full-time faculty.
THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND NATURAL SCIENCES

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Nursing/Nursing Administration
Department of Health Professions

The Master of Science Nursing/Nursing Administration Program prepares nurses for administrative positions and for interprofessional practice in today’s complex, changing and dynamic health care environment. Application of advanced nursing management principles is applied in the final practicum course.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
Graduates of the nursing administration program obtain leadership and management positions at hospitals and health care agencies including Montefiore Medical Center, Westchester Medical Center, Visiting Nurse Service among others.

COURSES OF INTEREST:
Nursing Administration students study a wide array of courses, including: Health Policy, Philosophical Foundations of Nursing and Computer Technology and to name a few.

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CAMPUS:
Dobbs Ferry and online

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long does it take to complete the graduate program?
Usually takes two years.

Is there additional financial aid available?
In addition to state and federal financial aid, the program has traineeship money available as well as faculty loan monies. Additional financial aid information can be found at the following link: http://www.n-e-f.org/

Is this program available part time?
Yes, students may complete this program as full-time or part-time students.
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Nursing/Nursing Education
Department of Health Professions

Nurse educators are prepared for faculty positions in associate and baccalaureate degree programs, and for staff development positions in health care organizations. Students are prepared to use state-of-the-art technology in the planning, implementing and delivery of educational programs. Application of advanced nursing education principles is applied in the final practicum course.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Nursing education graduates are teaching in associate and baccalaureate degree nursing schools and working as clinical educators in various health care agencies.

COURSES OF INTEREST:

Nursing education program students study a wide array of courses, including: Computer Technology, Health Policy, Diversity: Family as Lens and Philosophical Foundations of Nursing to name a few.

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CAMPUS:

Dobbs Ferry and online

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Doctor of Physical Therapy
Department of Health Professions

The Physical Therapy Doctoral program at Mercy College is committed to providing a unique opportunity for students with diverse backgrounds and social situations to pursue a doctoral degree in physical therapy. The Program is delivered in a weekend format and provides a setting for the motivated, self-directed student to utilize critical thinking and problem solving to incorporate theoretical knowledge into a variety of clinical and research applications.

Physical Therapists (PTs) diagnose and treat people of all ages with medical problems or health-related conditions that limit their ability to perform functional activities in their daily lives. PTs also help to prevent conditions associated with loss of mobility through fitness and wellness programs designed to promote healthy and active lifestyles. PTs provide care in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, schools and sports facilities.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Career opportunities for graduates of the Doctor of Physical Therapy at Mercy College include working in private outpatient clinics, acute care and rehabilitation hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, school systems, home care, health and wellness facilities, industry and research centers and private practice. Graduates of Mercy College are currently in supervisory positions, owners of private practices and academic faculty.

COURSES OF INTEREST:

Physical Therapy students study a wide array of courses, including: Physiology, Rehabilitation Research, Kinesiology, Patient Client Management and Pathology for Rehabilitation to name a few.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Physical Therapy Program at Mercy College is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), 1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

CAMPUS:
Dobbs Ferry and online

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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Are all courses held at Mercy College in Main Hall on the Dobbs Ferry Campus?**
No. Occasionally classes are held at Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, White Plains, NY; Blythedale Children’s Hospital, Valhalla, NY (less than 12 miles from Dobbs Ferry); and Helen Hayes Hospital, West Haverstraw, NY (20 miles from Dobbs Ferry). Use of these facilities allows students to utilize state-of-the-art equipment. Students are responsible for travel to and from the facilities.

**Where can I obtain information about the program?**
The Admissions Office of Mercy College provides general information about the Physical Therapy program, admission requirements and graduate catalogs. They can be reached at 877-MERCY-GO.

**Are any additional prerequisite courses required?**
Yes. Any student accepted into the program who is not a licensed physical therapist assistant is required to take Practicum in Physical Therapy the summer prior to starting the program. You can only register for this course once you are accepted into the DPT Program.

**What are the other requirements?**
You must have a minimum of 90 credits before entering the program. Students without a BS or BA degree must complete 60 credits in general education, a minor consisting of 15 core credits, and the prerequisite courses listed below. You must also complete Junior Seminar (offered in class or online) and required core course for Health Science at Mercy College. No more than 75 credits may be transferred from two-year institutions. Students holding a Bachelor’s degree must complete the following prerequisite courses: Anatomy and Physiology I and II, Biology I (and Biology II starting in 2017), Chemistry I and II, Physics I and II, Statistics and Developmental Psychology. Seven science prerequisite courses must be completed at the time of application.

**Is the GRE required?**
Yes. The Mercy College GRE Physical Therapy Code is 0656.
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Master of Science
Occupational Therapy
Department of Health Professions
The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy prepares students for an endlessly rewarding career in occupational therapy. The program incorporates discussions, group problem solving and problem-based learning to give students a variety of learning methods and encompasses Mercy’s “learning by doing” philosophy.

The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). Graduates of the Occupational Therapy program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the occupational therapist administered by the National Board of Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
Occupational therapists work in a variety of different settings such as: hospitals, rehabilitation centers, regional schools and elsewhere where they help clients transform their lives. Occupational therapists help people with spinal cord injuries, cancer, strokes, autism, cerebral palsy or developmental problems and many other conditions and illnesses.

COURSES OF INTEREST:
Occupational Therapy study a wide array of courses, including: Child and Occupational Therapy Practice, Applied Research, Models of Occupational Therapy Practice, and Occupational Therapy Assessment and Treatment to name a few.

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Dobbs Ferry

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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**What type of student is well suited for a weekend program?**
The adult learner who is motivated, self-directed and takes charge of his/her own learning.

**What is the admission decision based on?**
Your grade point average, interview, recommendation forms and written essays. All acceptances are provisional and require successful completion of prerequisites at Mercy College with a grade of C or better and a minimum GPA of 3.0. All prerequisite courses must be completed prior to entering the program.

**May I speak to students in the program to gain their perspective?**
Yes. Many of our current students and alumni have volunteered to speak to prospective students about our program. Please contact the Occupational Therapy program at 914-674-7815 or otprogram@mercy.edu for the student contact sheet.

**What are the weekends like?**
Challenging and rewarding. The amount of information covered in one weekend is equivalent to four to five classes in a traditional program. There are lectures, discussions, small group problem solving and active hands on practice.
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Master of Science
Physician Assistant Studies
Department of Health Professions
The Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies is a full-time program designed to prepare students for an exciting, growing and rewarding career. In fact, careers as a physician assistant are expected to rise by 30 percent through 2024*, that’s much faster than the average for all careers. By graduation, students will be knowledgeable in many areas of medicine. This wide range of expertise will assist graduates in providing complete patient care, both preventive and curative, while collaborating as a necessary and important component of the health care team.

The Physician Assistant Program at Mercy College embodies the principles of primary care medicine. Physician assistant students learn to incorporate knowledge from biologic science, while integrating psychological and social factors with population/community-based medicine in order to deliver comprehensive primary health care to best serve the community. Graduates of the program obtain positions in a wide-range of medical specialties.

*According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
Physician Assistants can be found in general medical and surgical hospitals, public or private practices, outpatient care centers, health maintenance organizations, government agencies, colleges and universities and professional schools.

Graduates of the Mercy College PA Program are employed in some of the best hospital centers in and around the tri-state area within the following medical specialties:
► Outpatient Medicine or Primary Care
► Emergency Medicine
► Orthopedic Surgery
► General Surgery
► OB/GYN
► Neonatology

Others are employed in hospital-based medicine, critical care, urology, pain management, rehabilitation medicine, breast surgery, oncology, pediatrics, addictive medicine, dermatology.

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Courses of Interest:
Communication Disorders students study a wide array of courses, including: Multicultural Issues in Communication Disorders, Anatomy and Physiology of Speech and Hearing Mechanisms, Phonetics and Aural Rehabilitation to name a few.

Did You Know?
Asked why they chose Mercy’s PA program, students eagerly praise Mercy’s mission statement which is a commitment to underserved communities local and abroad. Other reasons that the students noted as primary reasons that they chose Mercy PA program was the mobile health vehicle which provides outreach while encouraging student involvement and interaction with the people and cultures of the Bronx and Mercy’s medical missions to foreign countries that round out the PA master’s program experience.

Campus:
Dobbs Ferry

Financial Aid:
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Frequently Asked Questions

What are your policies about student employment while enrolled in the program?
Each term contains a full course load, so working full-time or part-time is not advised.

Is the GRE required?
Standardized tests are not required.

When does the Mercy College Physician Assistant Program begin?
The Mercy College PA Program begins the first week in June. All prerequisite requirements must be completed by that time.

When will interviews be conducted?
Generally, interviews are held 3-4 times per year.

What are the selection criteria?
All applicants will be screened according to their CASPA-designated science GPA, as well as their overall GPA. If you do not have a baccalaureate degree, you must have completed 90 credits, including all general education requirements. Please note that no more than 75 credits can be from a two-year college. Applicants who pass the first phase of review will be contacted to schedule an interview. The second phase of the review will be based on a combination of the interview, letters of recommendation, medical/community experience, personal statement and an essay completed at the time of the interview.

Can prerequisite courses be taken at a community college?
We will accept prerequisite course from community colleges, but an application is strongest when these courses are completed at a four-year institution. Please note that at least two of the following courses (human physiology, microbiology, biochemistry) MUST be completed at a four-year institution. The advanced human biologic course MUST be completed at a four-year institution.

Is prior health experience a requirement?
Yes. A minimum of 500 hours of direct patient care (volunteer or work) experience in a health care setting, along with proper verification forms, are required for the PA Program. Additionally, 250 hours of the 500 hours must be completed in a primary care setting, e.g., outpatient internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics or OB/GYN.