

COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS ASSISTANT

Program: CODA

Credential: Ontario College Graduate Certificate

Delivery: Full-time

Work Integrated Learning: 2 Field Placements

Length: 3 Semesters

Duration: 1 Year

Effective: Fall 2023

Location: Barrie

Description

Students gain knowledge and hands-on experience to work in an adjunctive capacity as supportive personnel to qualified Speech-Language Pathologists and/or Audiologists in a variety of treatment settings. Students focus on conducting programming after the Speech-Language Pathologist or the Audiologist has completed the assessment and determined the therapy plan, as well as practicing the variety of other types of duties within this profession.

Based on a thorough understanding of physiological and functional speech/language and hearing disorders, students develop programming skills and learn intervention techniques to evoke and sustain communication behaviours. In addition, students identify the behaviour and environmental factors that can potentially support or erode the efficacy of therapy.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of this program are prepared for employment as supportive personnel (speech and learning technicians, speech aides, therapy assistants, audiometric technicians, or hearing screeners) serving children and adults with communicative disorders and delays. They may find work in a variety of settings including children's treatment centres, school boards, public health units, Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs), hospitals, early years centres and private speech and/or audiology clinics, under the supervision and direction of qualified Speech-Language Pathologists and/or Audiologists.

Program Learning Outcomes

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. implement speech/language/hearing programs under the supervision of a speech-language pathologist or audiologist;
2. collect, compute and display data based on observational training;
3. perform routinely required maintenance procedures on therapy and assessment materials, and equipment;
4. prepare written and oral progress reports;
5. articulate knowledge of the various types of communicative disorders and be sensitive to underlying behavior which contributes to client progress;
6. identify ancillary resources available to individual with communicative delays or disorders;
7. participate as a team member and demonstrate appropriate interpersonal skills;
8. apply professional and ethical behavior;

9. apply basic entrepreneurial strategies to identify and respond to new opportunities;
10. employ environmentally sustainable practices within the profession.

Program Progression

The following reflects the planned progression for full-time offerings of the program.

Fall Intake

- **Sem 1:** Fall 2023
- **Sem 2:** Winter 2024
- **Sem 3:** Summer 2024

Admission Requirements

Ontario College Diploma, Ontario College Advanced Diploma, Degree or equivalent with a specialty in communication disorders, linguistics, human anatomy and physiology, social sciences, or human services curricula.

Selection Process

Applicants with a diploma or degree outside the specialty listed above will be considered if they have volunteer and/or work experience in a clinical setting with a speech-language pathologist, audiologist and/or communicative disorders assistant.

Additional Information

In addition to these requirements, applicants must also provide proof of a current standard First Aid, C.P.R. BLS certification, and verification of immunization prior to the commencement of the preclinical course, "Introduction to Theory and Practice," in semester 1.

Certain clinical placements will require students to have updated flu shots, TB testing and Hepatitis B vaccination as well as a Vulnerable Sector Screening Police Record Check including a check of the Pardoned Sex Offender Database. It is the student's responsibility to ensure he or she is eligible to participate in clinical placements. The College assumes no responsibility for these matters and students should be aware that tuition will not be refunded in the event that access to a placement is denied.

Graduation Requirements

13 Program Courses

2 Field Placements

Graduation Eligibility

To graduate from this program, a student must attain a minimum of 60% or a letter grade of P (Pass) or S (Satisfactory) in each course in each semester. The passing weighted average for promotion through each semester and to graduate is 60%.

Program Tracking

The following reflects the planned course sequence for full-time offerings of the Fall intake of the program. Where more than one intake is offered contact the program co-ordinator for the program tracking.

| Semester 1 | | Hours |
|--------------------|--|--------------|
| Program Courses | | |
| CODA 1000 | Articulation, Phonology and Motor Speech Disorders | 42 |
| CODA 1001 | Introduction to Audiology and Amplification Systems | 42 |
| CODA 1002 | Language Disorders In Children | 42 |
| CODA 1003 | Introduction to The Profession | 28 |
| CODA 1004 | Augmentative and Alternative Communication | 42 |
| CODA 1006 | Introduction to Communication Disorders in Adults | 28 |
| CODA 1020 | Introduction to Theory and Practice | 56 |
| Hours | | 280 |
| Semester 2 | | |
| Field Placements | | |
| CODA 1015 | Field Practicum 1 | 245 |
| CODA 1016 | Field Practicum 2 | 245 |
| Hours | | 490 |
| Semester 3 | | |
| Program Courses | | |
| CODA 1010 | Fluency and Voice | 42 |
| CODA 1011 | Language, Learning and Literacy | 42 |
| CODA 1012 | Augmentative and Alternative Communication: High Tech and Software | 42 |
| CODA 1014 | Communication Disorders in Adults | 28 |
| CODA 1018 | Advanced Theory and Practice | 56 |
| CODA 1019 | Amplification Systems and Aural Rehabilitation | 42 |
| Hours | | 252 |
| Total Hours | | 1022 |

Graduation Window

Students unable to adhere to the program duration of one year (as stated above) may take a maximum of two years to complete their credential. After this time, students must be re-admitted into the program, and follow the curriculum in place at the time of re-admission.

Disclaimer: *The information in this document is correct at the time of publication. Academic content of programs and courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational objectives and employment market needs.*

Program outlines may be subject to change in response to emerging situations, in order to facilitate student achievement of the learning outcomes required for graduation. Components such as courses, progression, coop work terms, placements, internships and other requirements may be delivered differently than published.