



Department of Speech and Hearing Science
110 Pressey Hall
1070 Carmack Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1002

614-292-9436 Phone
614-292-7504 Fax

bielefeld.6@osu.edu

October 12, 2018

Bernadette Vankerbergen
SBS Divisional Curriculum Review Committee

Dear SBS Curriculum Review Committee,

The department of Speech and Hearing Science is requesting a modification to the structure of the undergraduate minor.

The attached pages present the current minor requirements (Appendix A) and the proposed changes with the changes highlighted in red (Appendix B).

The current proposal was approved by the Speech and Hearing Science Undergraduate Studies committee on May 4, 2018, and by the departmental faculty on August 31, 2018. We are now seeking approval at the college level. Please contact me if there are any questions or concerns that I can address. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Bielefeld, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Undergraduate Studies committee chair
Speech and Hearing Science

Proposal to revise the minor in Speech and Hearing Science

Proposed implementation date: Autumn, 2019

Academic units responsible for the minor: Speech Hearing Science, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences

Rationale:

Currently, the Speech and Hearing Science minor is comprised of three required courses (SHS 2230, SHS 3320, and SHS 3340) followed by two three-credit elective courses on one of four tracks: Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, Multicultural/Disability, or Speech & Hearing Science. Over the last several years, it has become clear that this approach is too restrictive. Many students pursuing the minor want a cross section of coursework in speech, language, and hearing, and the revised minor requirements will allow them to tailor the coursework to best fit their educational interests. Because of the specific tracks currently offered, we believe some students who have an interest in learning about speech, language, and hearing have been discouraged from pursuing the minor.

Therefore, we believe the proposed changes, which will make the minor requirements less restrictive, will allow more students to complete the minor, and will allow students to customize the minor to best meet their educational needs.

There are two key proposed changes that can be seen in Appendix B:

- 1) Elimination of the course tracks. The revised minor will carry over SHS 2230 as the only required course, and then allow the student to select from a list of electives for the remaining credits in the minor. This reduction in restrictions is projected to allow more students to complete the minor, and to allow students to use their coursework more efficiently for the minor and their applications to graduate school.

- 2) Reduction of the minor from 15 credits to 14. This will permit the inclusion of a two-credit service-learning course (Service Learning in Adult Neurogenetics for Speech-Language Pathology) that is currently in development (and therefore has no course number or approved syllabus) for future students pursuing the minor. Before that course is approved, and added to the list of acceptable courses for the minor, all of the current elective courses are three credits, so every student will still need to take 15 credits. The change to a minimum of 14 is to provide the flexibility to add the two-credit course to the list of elective options if the course is approved in the future.



Student Enrollment

The mean enrollment in the Speech and Hearing Science minor for the past five years is 10.3. We are projecting that that number could increase to 15-20 students per year going forward with the proposed changes.

Transition Plan

For students currently enrolled in the Speech and Hearing Science minor, the changes will have no effect. Our undergraduate advisor will contact each student currently enrolled in the minor to explain the new requirements. If the student is currently on one of the four approved tracks, those courses will qualify them for the minor under the new requirements. Therefore, if they choose to stay on the track, they will need to do nothing. All students will have the option of moving away from the tracks and using the new requirements if they so choose in consultation with the undergraduate advisor

Appendices attached:

Appendix A: Current Minor requirements

Appendix B: Proposed new Minor requirements with changes tracked in red

Appendix C Proposed new Minor requirements – clean copy