

TO: Senate Council

Contact: Dr. Karen Badger, Associate Dean (kbadger@uky.edu) and Dr. Anne Olson, CSD Department Chair (aolso2@uky.edu)

Submitted July 9, 2020

RE: Request for modification of Academic Calendar: MS in Communication Sciences and Disorders

We request approval to modify the Fall 2020 semester to 8/17/2020 through 12/18/2020, with grades due no later than 12/21/2020 for the following courses:

CSD 657 001 Clinical Practicum in Speech Language Pathology

CSD 659 001 Clinical Rotation in Speech Language Pathology

CSD 659 002 Clinical Rotation in Speech Language Pathology

This is a one-time request for modification of the University Senate approved Academic Calendar to a nonstandard calendar for these courses.

Rationale: These courses are taken by 1st and 2nd year CSD Master's students to fulfill the program's clinical hours requirement. The Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) for Communication Sciences and Disorders requires speech language pathology (SLP) students in CSD programs to complete a minimum of 400 clinical hours prior to graduation and to demonstrate they are entry-level practitioners and have had experiences in an appropriate variety of clinical facilities with a variety of populations. Fulfilling this standard requires students to have adequate time during a semester to acquire these experiences so that they are eligible to 1) ensure an on time graduation and 2) apply for certification through the American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) which is required by employers.

The schedule and semester for CSD students is dense and lock-step and does not allow for further compression. Thus, students must be allowed additional time to acquire these relevant clinical hours and experiences. First year graduate students acquire these hours in CSD 657 which occurs in an on campus academic clinic service delivery setting. Second year graduate students acquire these clinical experiences in CSD 659, an off campus clinical rotation setting. Acquisition of the hours is essential for the development of their clinical skills and specified as a standard for our program accreditation. Therefore a calendar extension is requested for CSD students enrolled in courses CSD 657 and CSD 659 through December 18th. Given that the *Playbook* acknowledges the importance of accreditation required experiential learning and the need for on-time completion, it is imperative that CSD Master's students be allowed the opportunity to acquire additional clinical hours after Thanksgiving through December 18th. By doing so, we believe that they will be better positioned to insure on time matriculation.

Since this proposed nonstandard calendar means students will complete their work in these three courses after the approved calendar's grade submission deadline, we are also asking that deadline for submission of grades for the courses referenced above be extended to December 21st so that assessment accounts for all of the work they complete in the semester.

The proposed nonstandard calendar for Fall 2020 semester does not and does not have the potential to violate SR 5.2.2, specifically in relation to student load.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and collective help on this pressing issue. Please let us know if you are in need of additional information.

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