Application for UNCG Communication Sciences and Disorders Graduate Program:

Q: I’m a senior in the program and ready to apply for graduate school. Do you have any tips for scoring well on the GREs?

There are several suggestions that former students have made to improve the GRE scores. We pass them along:

1. READ, READ, READ, READ!! Novels, biography, history, current affairs, drama, science, philosophy, religion. Get the syllabus from an American or British literature course and read everything on the reading list. The newspaper, Reader’s Digest, and Time magazine are written at the fifth grade level. They won’t help much. Reading material required in college courses will help to increase your comprehension, vocabulary, and general knowledge. If you have trouble with self-discipline, it may be useful to take a course or two in one of these areas for credit!

2. Get the Barron’s “Guide to the GRE” or “Crackin’ the GRE” at your local bookstore. Work through it, spending an hour a day on it. Regular, reasonable study periods will help more than cramming.

3. If you are or think you might be troubled with test anxiety, reading difficulties, learning disabilities, or depression, GET HELP! Contact a local mental health agency or a counseling psychologist. If you are a second degree seeking student at UNCG, you are eligible for services through the UNCG Counseling Center. Any of these problems can cause your performance on the GRE to be low.

Q. What does my statement of purpose need to look like?

- [http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/ma/statement-of-purpose/](http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/ma/statement-of-purpose/)
- double spaced is recommended

Q. What is the Graduate School Code that I use to send my GRE scores?

- 5913

Q: Can I tour and learn more about the graduate program during a visit?

- Yes! See [http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/visit-us/](http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/visit-us/) for dates and times.

Q: What is the average GPA and GRE of admitted applicants?

- The average GPA for students admitted to our program over the last three years was 3.75/4.0.
- GRE scores for the verbal and quantitative sections averaged at the 50th percentile and the average Analytic Writing score was 4.0.

Q: What sort of financial assistance is available?

- Most opportunities become available after applying and being admitted to the program. Additionally, there are many scholarships available for you to apply for once the program begins.

Q: How many observation hours are needed?

- We strongly recommend that you have 25 observation hours completed
- Required:
○ Fall within the scope of practice of speech-language pathology
○ Be under the direction of a qualified clinical supervisor who holds current ASHA certification in speech-language pathology.
○ Be approved in writing by a qualified clinical supervisor who holds current ASHA certification in speech-language pathology

● Recommended:
  ○ Be in a variety of settings (e.g., hospital, clinic, school, private practice, etc.)
  ○ Be of several types of clinical service (e.g., evaluation or treatment, children or adults, speech, language, cognitive-communication or swallowing disorder)

● What Counts?
  ○ “live” clinical sessions
  ○ through video recordings
    ■ as long as the recordings are done as part of a class or given to the student by a clinical supervisor

**If you have a Bachelor’s Degree and want to apply:**

Q. I have an undergraduate degree, but only have a few prerequisite courses, will I still be considered for the graduate program?

● Preference is given to students who have taken all the suggested courses including courses in communication sciences and disorders (language, articulation, voice and fluency).

Q. I have an undergraduate degree, but not in Communication Sciences and Disorders. How do I go about getting admitted and enrolled to get started on a new career path?

● At UNCG, we require at least 8 courses (listed below). After you have successfully completed the first five, you may take the second four courses. These courses introduce you to the disorders of speech and language.

**First Five:**
- CSD 334 Introduction to Audiology
- CSD 306 Introduction to Phonetics
- CSD 307 Speech and Hearing Science
- CSD 308 Language and Speech Development
- CSD 309 Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism

**Second Four:**
- CSD 556/557 Aural Rehabilitation
- CSD 336 Articulation Disorders
- CSD 337 Language Disorders
- CSD 338 Voice & Fluency Disorders
Details Regarding the Pre-Req Program at UNCG:

- One year of full-time study
- Must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA (a higher GPA is very desirable, because you will need a 3.5 or higher to be competitive during the graduate program admission process)
- Fall Enrollment Deadline for Pre-Req Program: May 15
- By January of your prerequisite year, you should Apply Online to the Graduate School
  - deadline for applications in Communication Sciences and Disorders is February 1, for the Summer or Fall enrollment
  - Decisions will be communicated by late March
  - If you are admitted for graduate study, you will abandon your second undergraduate degree and move right into graduate study during the Summer or Fall.
  - If you are not admitted at UNCG, you may wish to complete the second undergraduate degree (one more semester) and apply again the following year to the Graduate School, or you may apply and be admitted to another graduate program.

Options for Entering the Pre-Req Program at UNCG:

1. You can apply through the Office of Admissions 336-334-5243 or go to this website: [http://web.uncg.edu/adm/](http://web.uncg.edu/adm/) to be an Adult Transfer second degree student. They will give you instructions for application. At the same time, you would apply for admission to the undergraduate major in Communication Sciences and Disorders. The application can be printed from our website at: [http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/application-for-major/](http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/application-for-major/) or you can call 336-334-5184. At a minimum, the requirement for applying to CSD is an overall undergraduate transfer grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0. The application form comes with instructions; read carefully and follow them exactly.

2. Another option is to Apply Online to the Graduate School by February 1. Call the Graduate School at 336-334-5596. If you are admitted to the Graduate School, you could begin your prerequisite year in the Fall (no summer offerings). You should then plan on three years of full-time study (The first year would be prerequisite study and the following two years would be required for the Master’s degree).

Q. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each option?

1. If your overall undergraduate grade point average is 3.8 or better and you have GRE scores at or above the 50th percentile, it may be advantageous for you to choose Option 2. This would secure a place for you in a graduate program in a highly competitive environment. At UNCG, we don’t admit more than two 3 year Master’s students” per year, so only those with the highest qualifications are selected under Option 2.

2. A disadvantage of Option 2 is that you will not be eligible for financial aid at the graduate level while taking undergraduate courses.

3. If grade point is between 3.5 and 3.8 and your GRE scores are at or near the 50th percentile, Option 1 will be the better choice. Doing the prerequisite study before applying to graduate school would give you an opportunity to improve your GPA. You
also would have a chance to learn more about the discipline in order to be sure this is what you want to do.

4. The disadvantage would be that any financial aid awards would be at the undergraduate level of funding.

Q. What if your overall GPA from your undergraduate degree is below a 3.0?
   ● UNCG requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 to enroll in graduate school.

Q: I already have a degree and would like to take the prerequisite courses for grad school elsewhere. What courses do I need?
   ● Please visit the following link: http://csd.wp.uncg.edu/students/course-prereq/
     ○ Additional Required Courses Include:
       ■ physical sciences, biological sciences, mathematics, humanities
     ○ Others classes might include
       ■ neurology, sign language, nutrition and linguistics