Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	BSc. (Hons) Speech and Language Therapy
2	**Course Code**	US0701
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists Health and Care Professions Council

6	**Course Description**
	If you want a client-centred, evidence-based education in the field of speech and language therapy, our three-year BSc course is the right choice for you. Our course, which is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) uses a variety of innovative activities and placements. After successful completion of this course, you will be ready to apply to the HCPC for registration as a speech and language therapist. **What's covered in the course?** Speech and language therapists support people of all ages who have communication and/or swallowing difficulties. This course is designed to prepare you to achieve excellence and professional autonomy in clinical practice. You will learn through a variety of formats, including workshops, interactive lectures and simulation sessions. You will be taught not only by staff who are specialists in their subject areas but also by our wonderful experts by experience who are an integral part of our teaching team. Throughout the course, you will develop your understanding of research and evidence-based practice, so that you will be able to contribute to the future development of the speech and language therapy profession. You will undertake three clinical placements, during which you will be immersed in all aspects of clinical practice. Towards the end of your clinical placement in your third year, you are likely to be managing your own caseload of clients. Our graduates can go on to work as speech and language therapists in a wide range of settings including the NHS, schools, charities and private practices. **Where will I study?** You will study in our City South Campus, with access to cutting edge facilities and equipment that will enhance your skills learning. You will have access to simulation facilities and environments that can re-create clinical experiences, allowing you to develop your hands-on skills right here on campus too. Our unique facilities are also useful to support you with any questions or queries before starting your real-life clinical placements.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Speech and Language Therapy	6	360
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Certificate of Higher Education Health Studies in Communication	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Health Studies in Communication	5	240
	Bachelor of Science Health Studies in Communication	6	300
	Bachelor of Science with Honours in Health Studies and Communication (where zero credit practice modules are not successfully completed	6	360

8	Variation from the University Regulations
	• For modules with more than one item of assessment, all items of assessment must be passed in order to pass the module. • For modules with more than one item of assessment, resits that are allocated a grade are capped at the item level only. Overall module marks will not be capped. • Compensation of marginally failed modules is not permitted • Due to limited placement capacity, where students are repeating a stage of study and have previously passed the placement (or placement module) they will not repeat the placement or its assessment when repeating the stage. The original mark(s) will stand and will be combined with any marks achieved during the remainder of the repeat stage to calculate the overall stage mean. • Students are only entitled to two attempts at any item of clinical assessment. Third attempts and/or restudy of modules previously failed is not permissible. • The practice element of each zero-credit clinical practice module must be passed before commencing the practice element of the succeeding practice module • The maximum registration period within which to complete the course is 5 years.

9	Delivery Patterns		
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full Time	City South	3 years	US0701
Part Time	City South	6 years	US0700

10	Entry Requirements	
		Details are found on BCU website Speech and Language Therapy - BSc (Hons) - 2027/28 Entry | Birmingham City University
	EU:	
	International:	
	Access:	

11	Course Aims
	The BSc(Hons)Speech and Language Therapy course introduces learners to the necessary knowledge and skills in order to practice successfully as a Speech and Language Therapist. Learners will develop a strong foundation in typical communication and swallowing and learn how these can be impacted by a range of developmental, neurological, structural, and acquired conditions. Building on this knowledge, learners will begin to develop the theoretical understanding and practical skills required to observe, assess, and support individuals with communication and swallowing needs across a variety of contexts, including health, education, and community settings. Learners are encouraged to link theory to practice and to understand how evidence-based approaches inform assessment and intervention in speech and language therapy. The course emphasises the importance of person-centred and inclusive practice and supports learners to consider the impact of social, cultural, and environmental factors on communication and participation. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding how culture can influence assessment processes and outcomes, enabling learners to develop as culturally responsive practitioners. By the end of the course, learners will have developed the academic foundations, practical awareness, and professional values required for progression within an undergraduate speech and language therapy programme and for future professional practice aligned with HCPC and RCSLT expectations. Overall, the course aims to support the development of reflective, ethical, compassionate, and Band 5 work-ready future speech and language therapists.

12	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Be able to meet the HCPC Standards of Proficiency and apply for registration with the HCPC as a Speech and Language Therapist
2	Be able to meet the requirements of the entry level pre-registration eating, drinking and swallowing competencies
3	Be able to recognise and describe typical characteristics and presenting features of speech, language, communication, and, where relevant, eating, drinking, and swallowing (EDS) differences and difficulties including their development, presence and impact across the Lifespan
4	Be able to identify and describe underlying causes (aetiology), prevalence (epidemiology), cooccurrence/co-morbidity, and factors that may influence an individual's outcomes

	(prognosis).
5	Be able to understand the interactions between speech, language, communication and EDS differences/difficulties and social interaction/belonging, health, psychosocial wellbeing, education and occupation/vocation across the lifespan recognising the impact of environmental and systemic factors.
6	Be able to lead or contribute to strengths-based, holistic, and culturally responsive assessments, differential diagnosis, intervention/support, and management of people with lived experience within appropriate care pathways and underpinned by principles of safe practice
7	Understand how to further current speech and language therapy practice by contributing to the collective understanding and models as appropriate and advocating for appropriate resourcing
Skills and other attributes	
8	Embody the role of the SLT in interprofessional teams and social networks in the management of speech, language and swallowing differences/difficulties
9	Demonstrate advanced communication skills
10	Demonstrate a commitment to continuing professional development and career planning
11	Be able to work effectively in a multidisciplinary team and adopt a holistic partnership approach
12	Be able to evaluate and utilise the current evidence base and lived-experience perspectives to inform clinical decisions and evaluate service provision
13	Demonstrate transferable skills that underpin your practice in a variety of settings including effective time management, organisational skill and cultural humility
14	Conduct yourself in a manner that is consistent with the values of the profession.

13	**Level Learning Outcomes**
Upon completion of Level 4 / the Certificate of Higher Education, students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate the knowledge of underlying principles of professional skills
2	Demonstrate the understanding and the emerging ability to adapt communication to suit the needs of service users and colleagues to ensure safe and effective patient care
3	Demonstrate an understanding of typical human development and disorders in relation to communication and swallowing
4	Demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based practice
5	Demonstrate effective academic writing at level 4
Upon completion of Level 5 / the Diploma of Higher Education, students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate the underpinning knowledge needed to successfully undertake appraisal and management of clients with communication and swallowing difficulties
2	Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate research
3	Demonstrate knowledge, skills and behaviour towards autonomous practice
4	Show critical thinking skills within academic writing and verbal discussions
Upon completion of 60 credits at Level 6 / the Bachelors Degree, students will be able to:	
1	Communicate an understanding of speech, language, communication and swallowing needs through a process of critically evaluating the evidence base.
2	Apply their knowledge of speech, language and communication and swallowing needs and the role of speech and language therapists, recognising that HCPC accreditation is required to practice as a speech and language therapist.
3	Integrate information from a range of sources including primary data that can be used to problem solve or form the basis for a project plan

Upon completion of 120 credits at Level 6 / the Honours Degree without practice component, students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge and skills required for advanced clinical practice of the management of communication and swallowing difficulties
2	Demonstrate and understanding of wider skills such as leadership skills and advanced clinical communication
3	Demonstrate reflexivity to take into account socioeconomic, cultural and historical factors which impact on practice
Upon completion of 120 credits at Level 6 / the Honours Degree with practice students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate autonomous and safe clinical practice using critical thinking, decision making and alternative pathways
5	Meet the HCPC Standards of Proficiency to enable registration with the HCPC as a Speech and Language Therapist

14	**Course Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy**
	The learning, teaching and assessment methods have been designed to respect the diversity of learners, enable participation and encourage engagement throughout the course to enhance the student's experience and employability. **Learning and teaching** A variety of learning and teaching methods will be used across all 3 years to allow the leaner to fulfil their potential and learn theoretical aspects of speech and language therapy practice alongside developing decision making skills. This will include blended learning of formal lectures, simulations and scenario-based experiences, clinical workshops, case study learning, inquiry based learning and self-directed study. Key to learning will be application of knowledge in clinical placements. **Assessment** Assessments have been designed to be inclusive and varied to enable the learners to engage and achieve. Work will be assessed using a mix of methods such as written exams, oral presentations, written assignments and clinical skills assessments. The range of assessment methods is chosen to not only indicate a level of achievement but also develop and demonstrate a range of skills transferable to the modern healthcare environment. This includes reflection, oral and written communication, and competence in care delivery and the ability to research, appraise and evaluate evidence. Formative learning allows for feedback as part of a continuous process and the learner will be provided with opportunities for formative learning. Examples of formative learning is Moodle quizzes, practice of practical assessments and assessment plans. There may be sessions within the module where group formative feedback and activities are offered. Formative feedback will also constructively align with the summative assessment.

	Clinical Placement Assessment Learners will have the opportunity to attend a range of clinical placements to meet the Standards of Proficiency required by the HCPC upon registration and fulfil RCSLT Practice based learning requirements. Core placements will be in a variety of settings such as the NHS, private /independent organisations and the third sector. In the first year, assessment focusses on learners professional practice whilst in second and third year placements focus on appraisal and management of clients. The clinical practice assessment will be undertaken by practice educators.

15	**Course Requirements**
15a	**Level 4:** ***In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):***

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SPR4063	Introduction to Professional Practice for the Speech and Language Therapist	20
SPR4058	Application of Professional Skills for the Speech and Language Therapist	20
SPR4059	Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics for the Speech and Language Therapist	20
SPR4064	Introduction to Research Methods for the Speech and Language Therapist	20
SPR4062	Introduction to Human Development across the lifespan	20
SPR4061	Introduction to communication and swallowing variations across the lifespan	20
SPR4060	Foundations in clinical practice and professional identity	0

Level 5:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
SPR5055	Principles of appraisal for acquired communication and swallowing difficulties	20

SPR5056	Principles of appraisal for developmental communication and swallowing difficulties	20
SPR5057	Clinical Preparedness, Assessment, Analysis and Professional Skills	20
SPR5059	Person Centred Management for Developmental Communication and Swallowing Difficulties	20
SPR5060	Person Centred Management for Acquired Communication and Swallowing Difficulties .	20
SPR5061	Intermediate Research and Evidence Based practice for the Speech and Language Therapist	20
SPR5058	Appraisal in Professional Clinical Practice and Professional Identity	0

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	**Module Name**	**Credit Value**
SPR6059	Advanced Person Centred management of Communication and swallowing difficulties	40
SPR6062	Professional Practice and Readiness for Entry-Level Speech and Language Therapy	20
SPR6061	Equity, Liberty, and Social Issues (in Speech and Language Therapy)	20
SPR6060	Consolidation of Research and Evidence Based Practice	40
SPR6063	Management in Professional Clinical Practice Professional identity	0

15b	Structure Diagram

Level 4 – all core

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Introduction to Professionalism for the Speech and Language Therapist (20 credits) Clinical Linguistics and Phonetics for the Speech and Language Therapist (20 credits) Introduction to Human Development across the lifespan (20 credits)	Application of Professional Skills for the Speech and Language Therapist (20 credits) Introduction to Research Methods for the Speech and Language Therapist (20 credits) Introduction to communication and swallowing disorders across the lifespan (20 credits) Foundations in clinical practice and professional identity (0 credits)

Level 5

Principles of Appraisal for Acquired communication and swallowing difficulties (20 credits) Principles of Appraisal for Developmental Communication and Swallowing Difficulties (20 credits) Clinical Preparedness, Assessment, Analysis and Professional Skills (20 credits)	Person Centred Management for Acquired Communication and Swallowing Difficulties (20 credits) Person Centred Management for Developmental Communication and Swallowing Difficulties (20 credits) Intermediate Research and Evidence Based practice for the Speech and Language Therapist (20 credits) Appraisal in Professional Clinical Practice and Professional Identity (0 credits)

Level 6

Advanced Person Centred management of Communication and swallowing difficulties (40 credits) Equity, Liberty, and Social Issues (in Speech and Language Therapy) (20 credits)	Professional Practice and Readiness for Entry-Level Speech and Language Therapy (20 credits) Management in Professional Clinical Practice Professional identity (0 credits)
Consolidation of Research and Evidence Based Practice (40 credits)	

16 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 4

Workload

18% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	220
Directed Learning	440
Private Study	540
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	17
Exam	67
In-Person	16

Level 5

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	284
Directed Learning	364
Private Study	552
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	17
Exam	50
In-Person	33

Level 6

Workload

XX% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	126
Directed Learning	202
Private Study	872
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	40
Exam	30
In-Person	30