

September 2, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: M.A. SLP Students

FROM: Jennifer T. Tetnowski, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathology Program Coordinator
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders

RE: Comprehensive Examination for the MA-SLP Degree

Our training institution is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) which requires that students are assessed for their summative knowledge. Your comprehensive examination fulfills that requirement.

The Comprehensive Examination for the M.A. degree will be held on **Friday, March 27, 2026**. The exam will be delivered online via Canvas. You must bring your laptop computers to the test room, AHB 1046, to take the test and you will space yourselves in every other chair in the classroom. It is recommended that you arrive at 8:15 am that day to find a seat and get settled. This exam will not be rescheduled for any reason. It will be proctored by faculty members during the day. There is a 3-question "practice quiz" for you to complete any time before the exam to make sure that your computer works well with the Canvas system. No books, paper, or electronic devices (smartphones, smart watches, etc.) other than your laptop will be allowed in the exam room.

You will access the exam at the appointed time from a special Canvas site that Instructional Support Services has created. The site is named, "CSD Speech Language Pathology Comprehensive Exam". There are two sessions for the exam. **Session I will open for everyone at 9:00 am and close at 11:00 am that day.** Your work on Session I must be submitted by 11:00 am. *Refreshments will be available in AHB Rm. 1047 beginning at 8:30 am and after you submit Session I of your exam.*

Session II of the exam will open at 11:30 am. Session II will close at 1:30 pm. Your work on Session II must be submitted by 1:30 pm.

The format of the exam employs Multiple Choice and True/False questions. There are 100 questions (each worth 1 pt.) in Session I and 100 questions (each worth 1 pt.) in Session II. Within each session, you have TWO parts to the exam. One part contains scenarios for the application of knowledge followed by multiple choice questions. The other part is comprised of multiple choice and T/F questions that are theoretical. While one part of the exam is open, you may move back and forth through the questions in that part. However, once a part has been completed/submitted, you will not be able to re-access it.

The examination will assess knowledge of speech-language pathology and audiology gained in undergraduate and graduate courses and clinics. Examinations in speech-language pathology and in audiology will contain some items from the complementary profession. The speech-language pathology examination, for example, will contain a majority of questions submitted by the speech-language faculty but will also contain some questions submitted by the audiology faculty pertaining to undergraduate audiology and aural rehabilitation content. Students should attempt to answer all questions; there is no penalty for guessing. Questions will require students to demonstrate knowledge of facts, analyze/ interpret data, solve clinical problems, and apply ethical decision-making and judgment to professional issues. The examination is not intentionally weighted to favor some course/clinic content and not others; all content areas are important. As with the national PRAXIS exam, 1) questions from different content areas will be intermixed as you move through the test, and 2) the exam will end at *precisely* 1:30 pm. Additional examination time will not be available without formal direction from Student Accommodation Services (SAS) office. <https://www.ouhsc.edu/academicaffairs/accommodations>

If you already receive accommodation for tests, they will apply for this exam.

Examination scores will be reviewed by the program director who will sum up correct answers across Sessions I and II of the exam and who will then perform several item analyses. A passing score on the exam is 70% (140/200) or greater. Results will be reported to students via email as “Pass” or “Fail” by Monday, March 31st. A formal letter will follow later next week. Students who receive a score of “Pass” will have completed the examination. Students who receive a score of “Fail” may have an opportunity to retake the exam. Whether Pass or Fail, students will not be informed of their specific scores and will not be able to review their examinations. In the case of a failed examination, students will receive feedback about the content areas most frequently in error on the exam.

Any student who earns a score of less than 70% correct on the examination will be notified that he/she has not passed the exam and, at the discretion of the examination committee, may be allowed to retake the exam. The follow-up examination will be scheduled by the examination committee *no sooner than three weeks and no later than three months* following the original test. If the second attempt at the examination is failed, the student may be permitted to have a third and final oral examination *no sooner than three weeks and no later than three months* following the second attempt.

If the additional examination(s) is/are successfully completed, the student (within 24 hrs.) and the College of Allied Health (within 72 hrs.) will be notified by the committee chairman that the comprehensive examination for the master's degree has been passed. If the examination is failed, the student will no longer be eligible for the degree that he/she is seeking*.

If you should have any questions about the examination, please feel free to contact me via email at jennifer-tetnowski@ouhsc.edu or via voicemail at (405) 271-4214 ext. 46078. A Zoom virtual meeting appointment can also be scheduled.

*Successful completion of curriculum courses and clinics shows ongoing *formative* performance; successful completion of the integrated comprehensive examination for the degree shows *summative* performance. Students must successfully complete both formative and summative assessments to earn an M.A. degree in Speech-Language Pathology from the OUHSC.