SPEECH PATHOLOGY AT CURTIN

For more than 40 years, Curtin has been committed to excellence and innovation in speech pathology teaching and research.

Our postgraduate students are readily employed and recognised for their expertise in all facets of communication, their innovative approach to practice, their use of technology and their ability to conduct research in a variety of health settings.

FAcILITIES
Our on-campus stuttering clinic and adult speech pathology clinics, located at the Health and Wellness Centre, proude services to members of the public and allow students to learn in a clinical environment. Our stuttering Clinic provides individual treatment as well as fluency groups for adolescents, adults, children and Individuals with Down Syndrome. Our Adult Speech Pathology Clinic offers individual treatment, a dysphonia group and a language group for stroke survivors.

WHY STUDY A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE AT CURTIN?
ACCESS NEW KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERIES
A Curtin health sciences degree can give you access to knowledge and discoveries to help you improve the standard of healthcare in Australia and make a real difference to people’s lives, locally and globally.

MOVE UP THE CAREER LADDER
A postgraduate course can add new or specialist skills and knowledge to your repertoire. Our postgraduate coursework and research programs are diverse, ranging from life sciences and clinical sciences to population health sciences.

CHaNGE YOUR CAREER
A graduate entry master degree can give you the right skills to change careers.

GET AN EDGE IN THE JOB MARKET
A postgraduate qualification may also help you stand out from other candidates in an increasingly competitive job market.

PROFESSIONALLY RECOGNISED
Many of our courses are accredited nationally and are internationally recognised, allowing you to potentially work in a number of countries around the world when you graduate.

GRADUATE ENTRY FOUNDATION COURSE
This course is for students who want to start a career in health, but have a degree in a different field. The enabling course allows domestic students who have completed their undergraduate degree in a different field to complete the essential prerequisite undergraduate-level units for application to our graduate entry master courses.

You may select prerequisite units that you need to become eligible to apply for a postgraduate program. You can study a maximum of four units.

Completion of this enabling course may allow entry to:
• Master of Occupational Therapy
• Master of Nursing Practice
• Master of Pharmacy
• Master of Physiotherapy
• Master of Speech Pathology

Please note: entry to these master courses is competitive and a strong course weighted average is required.

For more information, visit courses.curtin.edu.au

SPEECH PATHOLOGY INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT
Speech pathologists diagnose and treat people with communication impairments including speech, language, stuttering, hearing and swallowing difficulties. Underlying causes of impairments can be developmental or acquired. For example developmental delays, disabilities, brain injury, stroke or degenerative conditions.

Using assessment tools, speech pathologists can diagnose a person’s specific communication problem and devise a tailored treatment plan to best address their needs.

Employment for speech pathologists is expected to grow very strongly. 80.1 per cent of speech pathologists are employed full-time and work on average of 32.9 hours per week.

The speech pathology workforce has a young age profile, with less than 10 per cent at the workforce aged over 55 years and over.

Speech pathologists are mainly employed in hospital, community, and education settings.

Text taken from joboutlook.gov.au; speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

International students
International students studying in Australia on a student visa can only study, full-time and are subject to specific entry requirements that must be met. As some information contained in this publication may not be applicable to international students, see international.curtin.edu.au for further information. Australian citizens, permanent residents and international students studying outside Australia may wish to refer to their relevant local or national education authority or education agency for course entry requirements.

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This graduate entry master course will develop your understanding of typical communication development, developmental and acquired communication and swallowing disorders, speech pathology, clinical practice, clinical measurement and research. Your studies will be supported by extensive clinical practice.

You will be provided with the skills and knowledge to practice as a speech pathologist, which involves diagnosing, treating and providing management services to people of all ages with communication disorders, including speech, language, voice, fluency and literacy difficulties, or people who have physical problems with eating or swallowing.

The course focuses on three areas:

- **Human communication science** – units where there is a theoretical focus and you are introduced to theoretical, evidence-based material and its links to clinical practice.
- **Clinical science in speech pathology** – units that are grounded in clinical practice. You will learn how clinical practice links back to theory as you are learning in human communication science.
- **Research methods** – units that provide you with the research skills you require to become an evidence-based clinician.

### COURSE ESSENTIALS

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<td>033868G</td>
<td>Speech Pathology Australia</td>
<td>2 years full-time</td>
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### PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

This course is accredited by Speech Pathology Australia. Graduates are eligible for membership with Speech Pathology Australia.

### ADMISSION CRITERIA

An honours degree or a bachelor degree with a course weighted average of 65 per cent. Evidence of studies in human biology at university level is essential. Without this background, you will have to complete additional units in this area before commencing the course.

You will be required to obtain an approved first aid certification in addition to a number of police clearances and immunisations upon entering this course.

You will also be required to provide supplementary information with your application.

For more information, please visit curtin.edu/hs-admission-requirements

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

This course requires a higher level of English language proficiency: IELTS (Academic) overall band of 7.0 with a minimum of 7.0 in each band (or equivalent English test).

### RESEARCH DEGREES

Speech pathology research at Curtin is well-known and respected in both national and international arenas. We have a thriving community of postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students whose research contributions have real-world applications and impact.

Our researchers collaborate nationally and globally and are affiliated with numerous research groups. Speech pathology research areas include:

- developmental speech and language disorders
- acquired aphasia
- cognitive communication disorders
- stuttering
- swallowing and feeding
- linguistic and cultural diversity
- scholarship of health professional education

We offer the following higher degree by research courses:

- Master of Philosophy (Human Communication Science)
- Doctor of Philosophy

#### ONE SYLLABLE AT A TIME: RESEARCHING STUTTERING AS A GENETIC CONDITION

Stuttering can be an indiscriminate and awkward disorder that affects children, adults and even British monarchs. It occurs when there is a problem in the ongoing rhythm of speech; a person knows exactly what they want to say, but involuntarily loses control of their speech muscles just as they are about to speak. Associate Professor Janet Bellby is investigating possible contemporary causes of stuttering. Historically, theories on what causes stuttering have centred on emotional or psychological origins, but these have been increasingly disproven with advances in science and technology.

“We still don’t know what causes stuttering, but we know what doesn’t cause it and I think it is a complex interplay between a multitude of factors,” she says.

Bellby is collaborating with international researchers to investigate stuttering. Their ultimate aim is to identify children at risk for stuttering, so that they can be screened and identified early, enabling effective treatment and prevention.

One area I am particularly interested in is aged care. While mealtime management is a crucial part of a speech pathologist’s role, I also hope to improve communication and engagement outcomes for older Australians, so they can continue to live purposeful, enjoyable and meaningful lives. I also still hold a passion in working with school aged children with speech and language difficulties, following my past experiences in primary school teaching.”

Elise Le Page
Master of Speech Pathology
**HOW TO APPLY AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

**DOMESTIC STUDENTS**

**TUITION FEES**
Your tuition fee is calculated and charged on a semester basis.

Indicative course fees for the 2018 commencement year are available at [courses.curtin.edu.au](http://courses.curtin.edu.au). Indicative course fees for the 2019 commencement year will be available from September 2018.

For more information on individual unit (subject) fees, visit [fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm).

**STUDENT SERVICES AND AMENITIES FEE**
Your Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) supports a range of non-academic services and amenities at Curtin. For information on the cost and services covered by the SSAF, visit [fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm).

**COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE**
A number of our postgraduate health sciences courses are commonwealth supported. A Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) is subsidised by the Australian Government and is available to Australian and New Zealand applicants only. For more information about CSPS and whether you are eligible, visit [studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au).

**EMPLOYER-PAID STUDY**
Your employer may be able to help you with the cost of postgraduate study. Many employers have developed formal employee education assistance policies in which education costs may be shared.

**FEE-HELP**
If you are an Australian citizen or hold a permanent humanitarian visa, you have the option of applying for FEE-HELP – a loan to help pay for part or all of your tuition fees. For more information, visit [fees.curtin.edu.au/feeHELP.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/feeHELP.cfm).

**TAX BENEFITS**
You may be entitled to an income tax deduction for tuition fees and related expenses, if there is a direct connection between your course and your current work. For more information, please consult the Australian Tax Office at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au).

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
You may be able to apply for a scholarship to support your study. To find out more and sign up to the scholarships email alert, visit [scholarships.curtin.edu.au](http://scholarships.curtin.edu.au).

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

**TUITION FEES**
Tuition fees are based on a normal full-time workload of 100 credits per semester (200 credits per year) unless otherwise stated. If you study more than 100 credits per semester, you will have a higher annual tuition fee. The tuition fee is calculated in Australian dollars and is charged on a semester basis. Course and individual unit (subject) fees are listed at [fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm).

Please note: all listed fees are subject to annual increases.

**OFFER LETTER (100 CREDITS) FEE**
As an international student, you need to pay the fees for your first study period (one semester or 100 credits) before arriving in Australia in order to receive a confirmation of enrolment. The fee quoted on the international offer letter is only an approximation and may differ slightly in accordance with the units you choose to study upon your enrolment.

**INDICATIVE ESSENTIAL INCIDENTAL FEES**
Some courses require compulsory additional payment for retainable materials and course-related fees, known as essential incidental fees.

Some individual units may have optional fees for course materials and other course-related items.

**REFUND AGREEMENT**
The categories under which the University Fees Centre will assess an application for refund are laid out in the University’s International Student Refund Agreement. The agreement is supplied to you with your Letter of Offer and can also be accessed online at [fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds.cfm). You can also view the most up-to-date information as the policy is subject to change.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**
Curtin requires all students to demonstrate proficiency in English. You will meet the English language proficiency requirements by demonstrating completion of at least one year full-time of an undergraduate or postgraduate coursework degree at recognised universities in Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom or United States of America.

Alternatively, you can demonstrate your English language proficiency via other tests, such as the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

For further information on the postgraduate English language proficiency requirements, visit [curtin.edu/pg-english](http://curtin.edu/pg-english).

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**
Health sciences students who will be working with children aged from newborn to 17 need to have a Working With Children Check. Your course coordinator will advise you when this is required. Courses that include supervised practice in a clinical setting require screening for and vaccination against a range of infectious diseases before beginning placement. A recognised first aid certificate and a criminal record screening are also necessary.

[curtin.edu/hs-fieldwork-requirements](http://curtin.edu/hs-fieldwork-requirements)

[curtin.edu/pg-english](http://curtin.edu/pg-english)

[fees.curtin.edu.au/feeHELP.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/feeHELP.cfm)

[fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm)

[studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)

[ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au)

[fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm](http://fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm)


[curtin.edu/pg-apply](http://curtin.edu/pg-apply)

[research.curtin.edu/pg-apply](http://research.curtin.edu/pg-apply)

[scholarships.curtin.edu.au](http://scholarships.curtin.edu.au)

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