

DEPARTMENT OF SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY

1. ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Our Department is one of the two Speech & Language Therapy (SLT) Departments that exist in the Greek Higher Education. The curriculum lasts four years and contains both teaching and practice in the fields of child and adult communication disorders.

To meet its goals, the Department uses a wide range of teaching methods, including seminars, lectures, practicum experiences, group work, video case studies, research experiences under the direction of expert faculty.

Philosophy

The philosophy of our SLT programme is based on internationally recognised professional standards with respect to training in clinical practice of speech & language therapy. The Department's goals and objectives are being implemented to the extent possible to meet the social, economic and public health needs in Greece.

Overview

The Department is based on its own modern facilities in the city of Ioannina (Epirus), in the north-western part of Greece. It has been providing courses and professional credentials for almost 15 years, to meet the evolving demand of the speech and language therapists' community.

The four-year undergraduate course leads to a Bachelor degree (240 ECTS units). Today, nearly 1300 students follow actively the department's curriculum which consists of introductory courses in the areas of medicine, linguistics & psychology, specialized courses covering voice, speech and hearing disorders, as well as courses on speech and language pathology and technology competences.

In parallel to the class courses, students have to participate in a significant number of clinical sessions (approximately 900 hours throughout the 4 year studies) under the supervision of experienced speech pathologists/therapists. Our students and staff work in close collaboration with a wide network of clinical entities, including special education schools, institutions, public and private hospitals and clinics. Their work covers clinical assessment, intervention and clinical practice in general.

Moreover, there is a wide array of teaching experiences with respect to formal classroom lectures and seminars, required laboratories, clinical practicum, dissertation projects, and clinical case studies. Novel informatics is used to develop and implement therapy and laboratory assignments.

Research

The full-time faculty and some adjunct part-time faculty and clinical supervisors have made enormous and impressive efforts to engage in empirical research, present at scientific conferences, attract grants, publish, and translate literature. Investments have been made in support of research, such as instrumentation for the laboratories, research projects, and joint grant applications and collaborations.

The Department publishes in internationally peer-reviewed journals (some of them with high impact factor), developed tools and diagnostic tests for the Greek language (some of which were translated/adapted by American Psychology Association), a very promising track record of attracting international research grants (e.g. EU grants including other European Funding Agencies in intelligent systems, reading, writing, learning disabilities and early childhood development; reaching the final stage of evaluation of competitive grants, such as ERC Starting Grant, COST, etc.).

Some research and literature has been translated in Greek and this has been acknowledged by famous behavioural neurologists (Mesulam, Duffy, Davis), and some faculty serve as editors and reviewers of refereed scientific journals. Some faculty participate in national research programmes connecting with other departments and scientific world conferences.

Goals

The Department of Speech & Language Therapy aims to:

1. Educate students on the application of biological and physical science assessment in development of human communication (speech, voice, child and adult language, neurological bases of human communication, developmental and acquired speech & language problems) in order to assess, diagnose and rehabilitate communication disorders.
2. Provide research on normal human communication processes versus pathological speech, voice and language disorders, with a particular emphasis on the Greek language.
3. Assist students in developing their professional skills and clinical background that will further allow them to make a smooth transition to the profession of speech and language therapist.
4. Provide services for diagnosis and treatment of disorders of speech & swallowing to the public and clinics

Outcomes of the learning process

1. Graduates are expected to be well equipped to act as professionals soon after their graduation.
2. The average graduate should be able to demonstrate in-depth knowledge and competencies in understanding and describing key concepts, terms and best practices in speech and language therapy.
3. The average graduate should be able to illustrate good understanding of research methodology and should also be able to demonstrate competencies in participating in the department's research activities, when asked.

4. Graduates are expected to demonstrate competency in professional/technical written expression and use of the proper terminology. In particular, students should be equipped with:
 - Capacity to express in a clear and cohesive mode.
 - Strong writing skills with a clear ability to present their thoughts and clinical point of view using appropriate wording, correct terminology and word choice (semantics) and adopting an easy-to-understand expression structure.
 - Ability to use scientific documentation, i.e. APA (including reference page, cover page, in-text citations, appropriate number of supportive sources, paraphrasing skills etc.).

Collaboration with social, cultural and production organizations

The Department has taken initiatives to expand current knowledge and continuing education opportunities through the organisation of seminars, workshops, public lectures, conference presentation, and connections with primary and secondary schools, hospitals, private practices.

2. PROFESSIONAL RIGHTS




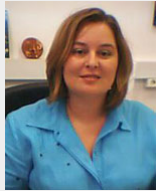
SLT Department is an essential provision within the Greek health system as it is the main provider of speech & language therapists, a profession which is relatively novel in Greece and for which there is a huge need and demand.

Based on the Greek law, following their 4-year studies, graduates of our Department have absorbed the necessary knowhow and clinical expertise to be awarded the title of "Speech & Language Therapist". As a result, they are able to work in the field of Speech and Language Therapy (either self-employed or as members of the staff in schools, hospitals, institutions, organizations).


The latest external evaluation report of the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (HQA) can be found at the following link:
http://www.adip.gr/external/TEIEpirus_SpeechLangTherapy_2013.pdf

3. DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RESOURCES

Academic Faculty Staff

	<p>Nasios Grigorios Associate Professor of Neurology (<i>Head of the Department</i>) Tel: +30 2651050722</p>
	<p>Ziavra Nausica Professor of Audiology and Neurotology ENT Surgeon Tel: +30 2651050727</p>
	<p>Zakopoulou Victoria Associate Professor Tel: +30 2651050755</p>
	<p>Siafaka Vassiliki Assistant Professor in Psychology</p>
	<p>Toki Eugenia Assistant Professor of Informatics in Speech Pathology Tel: +30 2651050720</p>
	<p>Nissioti Melpomeni (Melina) Lecturer in Speech and Language Therapy Tel: +30 2651050769</p>

Administrative - Technical Staff

	<p>Kotrotsiou Chrisoula, Administration Tel. +30 2651050712</p>
	<p>Maggiorou Eleni, Administration Support Tel. +30 2651050710</p>

4. COURSE OUTLINE

1st Semester	
Courses	C/O
Language Development	C
Linguistics	C
Developmental Psychology	C
Anatomy/Physiology of Hearing, Speech & Language	C
Pediatrics	C
Phonetics	C
Introduction to Information Technology (IT) in the Health Sector	C

2nd Semester	
Courses	C/O
Introduction to Speech & Language Pathology	C
Developmental Language Disorders	C
Clinical Psychology	C
Neuroanatomy – Neurophysiology	C
Pathophysiology of Hearing, Speech & Language	C
Statistics and Software in Behavioural Sciences	C

3rd Semester	
Courses	C/O
Audiology	C
Health Psychology	C
Assessment and Diagnosis Approaches in Speech and Language Pathology	C
Communication Disorders in Patients with Mental Illness	C
Voice disorders	C
Language Disorders at School Age - Learning Disabilities	C

4th Semester	
Courses	C/O
Treatment Approaches in Speech and Language Pathology	C
Rehabilitative Audiology	C
Phonological Development & Disorders	C
Clinical Practicum in Speech & Language Pathology I	C
Learning Disabilities – Bilingualism & Multilingual Environment	C
Clinical Neuropsychology	O
Research Methods in Behavioural Sciences	O
English Terminology (in Speech & Language Pathology)	O

5th Semester	
Courses	C/O
Cognitive Psychology	C
Behavioural Neurology	C
Clinical Practicum in Speech & Language Pathology II	C
Fluency Disorders (Stuttering - Stammering)	C
Neurolinguistics – Psycholinguistics	O
Pediatrics	O
Clinical Neurology	O

6th Semester	
Courses	C/O
Aphasiology: Brain, Voice and their Disorders	C
IT Applications in Speech Pathology	C
Communication Disorders of People with Head- Neck- and Facial Abnormalities	C
Clinical Practicum in Speech & Language Pathology III	C
Communication Disorders of People with Psychopathology issues	O
Adult Psychopathology	O
Innovation and Entrepreneurship	O

7th Semester	
Courses	C/O
Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	C
Clinical Practicum in Speech & Language Pathology IV	C
Neurogenic Motor Disorders of Speech	C
Diagnosis & Treatment of Speech Disorders through New Technologies	C
Swallowing Disorders - Dysphagia	O
Clinical Ethics	O

8th Semester	
Courses	C/O
Dissertation	C
Clinical Internship in Speech & Language Pathology	C

5. CONTACT

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