



Work-Integrated Education (WIE)

Students will be required to participate in Work-Integrated Education (WIE) to satisfy the overall requirement of general education before graduation. These WIE activities aim to provide the framework for students to integrate what they learn in the classroom with what they learn in the real world. All structured clinical placements in hospitals or clinical settings from subjects Clinical Education I to Clinical Education VII are WIE in nature and students can fulfil the WIE requirement upon graduation.



Further Studies

Versatile pathways are available for postgraduate professional and academic studies after graduation.

- Possible credit transfer to Master programmes offered by CBS, such as Chinese Linguistics, Chinese Language and Literature, Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, Translation and Interpreting, and Bilingual Corporate Communication.
- Various MA, MSc, or PhD programmes offered by local or overseas institutions, such as:
 - Translation, Specialized Translation with Interpreting;
 - Business Administration, International Management, Public Relations and Corporate Communication, International Business Communication, Strategic Public Relations, Critical Discourse, Culture and Communication, Journalism;
 - Linguistics, Computational Linguistics, Clinical Linguistics, Language Sciences, Language and Cognition, Biological Science; and
 - Chinese Studies, East Asian Studies, and English Language and Literature.



Words from prospective employers

Most of the employers who have hired the speech therapy graduates of our department generally satisfied with the professional and academic knowledge base, clinical skills and attitudes of our graduates, e.g.:

Ms Phyllis Chau

Director, The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

“ Very extensive experience and knowledge to serve various kinds of clients in the community, students are relatively more mature comparing to other fresh graduates. Overall, the teaching and academic team is very professional and is closely in line with the needs of the service organizations in real life practice. ”

Dr Jess Chan

Service Head of Child Rehabilitation Service, Hong Kong Christian Service

“ Humble to learn and listen, adequate clinical skills as entry-level speech therapist, flexible in most situations. ”

Ms Sarah Poon

Speech Therapist, Yan Oi Tong

“ Clinicians are equipped with great flexibility towards different environments - thanks to the variety of placement offered. ”

Ms Amy Pun

Speech Therapist, The Salvation Army

“ Adequate background knowledge and clinical skills. ”



Enquiries

For academic matters, please contact :

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THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
香港理工大學



中文及雙語學系
Department of Chinese & Bilingual Studies

BScST



BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy



Programme overview

No. of credits required for graduation :

A minimum of 132 credits
(including 27 Clinical Education training credits)

Medium of Instruction :

English*

* Supplemented by Cantonese and Mandarin for Cantonese-speaking and Mandarin-speaking clients in clinical placements



Programme aims

- To produce collaborative practice-ready speech therapists with the ability to practise speech therapy safely and effectively in the areas of speech, language, voice, fluency and swallowing with children and adults presenting with developmental and acquired communication disorders and swallowing disabilities.
- To equip students with the professional and academic knowledge base, clinical and research skills, and attitudes and ethics required to function effectively as entry-level speech therapists.
- To cultivate graduates who are able to practise as speech therapists in Hong Kong and serve as speech therapy advocates in mainland China and the Macau SAR.



Professional recognition

Contingent on successful accreditation of the programme by the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists (HKIST), BScST graduates will be qualified to practise as registered speech therapists.



Characteristics

- 1 The curriculum offers a unique approach to education and training in Cantonese, Mandarin and English, addressing speech therapy in both Chinese and bilingual contexts. A hybrid teaching and learning approach is adopted: traditional lectures are conducted in the first year of study in BScST, and the problem-based learning (PBL) approach is adopted in the second year.
- 2 The curriculum of this undergraduate programme builds on the success of our self-financed Master of Speech Therapy programme, with added emphases on interdisciplinary approaches to rehabilitation and evidence-based practice underpinned by the latest research conducted at CBS.
- 3 The teaching team is composed of academic and teaching staff with considerable teaching experience, proven research track records and extensive clinical expertise.
- 4 Accreditation for the programme will be sought from the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists (HKIST), the local professional body responsible for regulating the speech therapy profession and conducting Institution-based Assessment for Speech Therapy Education Programmes in Hong Kong under the Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions, Department of Health, Hong Kong.



Career prospects

Graduates are equipped to practise as speech therapists in different service settings, such as the Hospital Authority, non-government organisations, special and mainstream schools, private clinics, as well as other community service providers.



Speech therapy service has been in high demand in Hong Kong and Mainland China.

Hospitals



Schools



e.g. Mainstream and special schools

Non-profit Organizations



e.g. Preschool centres and old age homes

Private Organizations



Starting salary in 2023

HKD \$35,775

Starting salary is for reference only. The majority of employers pay entry-level speech therapists at Point 16 of the government's Master Pay Scale.



Academic pathways

The programme offers the following two academic pathways:

The Single Discipline Major Pathway:

BScST as the single degree programme

The Major and Minor Pathway:

BScST as the Major programme and a Minor programme offered by CBS (Japanese/Korean Minor) or another department/faculty/school at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU)

