



The degree : Master in Speech and Language Therapy¹

Where ? Belgian students have two options : they can either study Speech and Language Therapy :

- in "high school" : an intensive and specific curriculum in 3 years
- at university in 5 years.

Here I will describe the university course in 5 years.

Entrance : To enter a Speech and Language Therapy course, a Belgian student must succeed in his last year of high school.

Cost : 835€.

Program : Bachelor in Psychology + Master in Speech therapy

Bachelor in Psychology : orientation in speech therapy (3 years)

Courses in common with students in psychology or educational sciences,

Specific courses to speech therapy

Taught by professors from the psychology, educational science, medicine and linguistics courses.

First and Second year : theoretical knowledge about the fundamentals in psychology, language and biology.

Third year : Focus on the development, learning and disorders.

Master in Speech Therapy (2 years)

It includes :

- Four specialized speech therapy options : each option consists of three courses, for a total of 15 ECTS (120 hours). The students are asked to choose two of the following options of specialization :
 - Acquired language disorders of neurological origin
 - Neurodevelopmental disorders
 - Phonation disorders, articulation and swallowing
 - Sensory impairment (hearing and sight loss)
- A core curriculum, with practical and scientific courses
- Elective courses to complete the training (12 ECTS)

Students write, at the end of their studies, a dissertation.

Internships : The students do two internships of 300 hours and 16 ECTS each.

The first internship, in Master 1, concerns the option "Development, learning and disorders".

The second internship, in Master 2, is devoted to the specialized logopedia in one of the two fields chosen by the student.

¹ In Belgium, there is a French-speaking population and a Dutch-speaking population. Here only the French-speaking part will be presented.



FRANCE

The degree : Speech and Language Therapy Certificate (recognised as a Master 2 level)

Where ? At university, in either the health or rehabilitation department. There are 21 universities offering an SLT course in France.

Entrance : To enter a Speech and Language Therapy course, students must have a baccalaureate and succeed in a written and oral entrance exam (which will soon be revoked).

Cost : 539€ for a student in full-time education, between 1000€ and 7500€ for students in continuing education, depending on the university.

Program : The course lasts 5 years.

First cycle : 3 years
6 semesters = 180 ECTS 1.946 hours of classes 780 hours of internships

Second cycle : 2 years
4 semesters = 120 ECTS 1.212 hours of classes 1.260 hours of internships

It includes 12 course units in total :

- Human and social sciences
- Biomedical science
- Physics and technical science
- Profession of speech and language therapy
- Professional practice
- Observation internships and research awareness
- Research in speech therapy
- Cross-disciplinary competence
- Public health
- Evaluation of professional practice
- Professional seminars
- Optional and obligatory Course unit

Students write, at the end of their studies, a dissertation.

Internships :

- First year : primary and secondary schools
- Second year : childcare, retirement homes, hospitals and private practices (observation only)
- Third year : internships with an SLT in hospitals and/or private practices
- Fourth year : internships with an SLT in hospitals, medical institutions and/or private practices, and a research internship
- Fifth year : internships in hospitals, medical institutions and/or private practices. By the end of the studies, students must be able to take care of any patient.



ITALY

The degree : it has the value of University Bachelor's Degree, level I. It is a certified professional degree.

Where ? At university, in the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

Entrance : Students must pass an entrance exam that consists of a general knowledge written multiple choice test.

Program : The studies last 3 years. The university degree in speech therapy program aims to train professionals who are able to carry out prevention activities, health education projects and rehabilitative treatment of language, communication and cognition deficits in children, adults and the elderly. The degree program ranges from disciplines such as physics, statistics and general education to the subjects of the specific profession, such as science and medical techniques, neuropsychiatry, linguistics, philosophy of language, physiology, pathology of speech and swallowing, neurological and degenerative cognitive function.

Students write, at the end of their studies, a dissertation.

Internships :

- First year : 450 hours
- Second year : 500 hours
- Third year : 550 hours (including the hours for the degree thesis).



SWEDEN

The degree : It is a *logopedie* degree.

Where ? At university. There are six universities that offer an SLT program in Sweden.

Entrance : There is no entrance exam, but students may pass a preparation test to improve their chances. This test costs 30€ and evaluates the level in maths, Swedish and English.

Cost : university courses are free in Sweden.

Program : The course lasts 4 years.

First year

Introduction to speech therapy, with courses in linguistics, psychology and basic medicine.

Second year

Study of speech, language and brain.
Basic statistics and research methodology.
Speech and language disorders in children including practical education.

Third year

Language, speech, voice and pharyngeal disorders and stuttering, including practical training.
Experimental methods.
Research Communications.

Fourth year

Reading and writing difficulties as well as speech therapy in habilitative activities including practical training.
Elective course.
Students write, at the end of their studies, a Master's thesis.

Internships : there are five periods of internships ; the subject may vary depending on the university, here is an example of the program in the University of Uppsala :

- Speech and language disorders in children
- Dyslexia
- Voice disorders and stuttering
- Congenital communication and swallowing disorders
- Acquired communication and swallowing disorders

Students must prepare their internships with workshops and seminars and have a lot of personal work.

Students may carry on with a masters.