

Nicole Pierson, MS, CCC-SLP

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ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- 2025 **EdD** Educational Leadership, Western Illinois University
(Macomb Il)
- Dissertation “Removing barriers to accessing ASD diagnosis in west central Illinois.”
Advisor: Dr. Julie Cox
- 2016 **Coursework:** SED 502 Legal and Policy Issues Affecting Special Education
Administration, SED 540 Contemporary Topics in Special Education,
Illinois State University (Normal, Il)
- 2013 **MS** Communication Sciences and Disorders, Western Illinois University
(Macomb Il)
- 2009 **BS** Communication Sciences and Disorders, Western Illinois University
(Macomb Il)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017-Present **Instructor and Clinical Supervisor in Speech Pathology and Audiology
Department**, Western Illinois University (Macomb, Il)
- Teach undergraduate and graduate level courses
 - o Achieved a rating of “highly effective” every semester, with course evaluations being consistently positive
 - Supervise student clinicians on and off campus
 - o Supervised undergraduate and graduate level student clinicians on campus at the WIU Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic
 - o Supervised graduate level clinicians at West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative
 - o Supervised graduate level clinicians at Central Intermediate School in Monmouth, Illinois.
 - Created two new courses: SPA 515 (Autism and Other Special Populations) and SPA391 (Auditory System and Hearing Loss)
 - Assist with recruitment events such as STEM camp and Discover Western
 - Created Speech Sprouts, a language enrichment program for children 0-4 and their caregivers
 - Created the WIU Autism Clinic of Excellence (WACE)
 - o WACE clinic coordinator
 - o Fostered interdepartmental collaboration with the school psychology and nursing programs
 - o Secured \$55,000 in grants, with the expectation of additional funding in the coming years

- o Created grant-funded GA positions related to this clinic, serving as an effective recruitment tool for high quality graduate clinicians
- o Actively working on developing a research partnership with University of Virginia for training paraprofessionals to effectively support children with autism in rural school districts.

2013- Present

Speech-Language Pathologist, Peoria Public School District #150 (Peoria IL)

- Served students in Head Start program, State PreK, Primary and Middle School
- Provided creative and motivating intervention to students with diverse needs
- Collaborated with teachers and other professionals in order to provide best practice
- Implemented various service-delivery models
- Created and implemented a Positive Peer Program to facilitate inclusion for children with disabilities
- Presented research-based information at Teacher Professional Development addressing skills and strategies for language impaired students in the classroom
- Participated in problem solving meetings, IEP meetings, parent/teacher conferences
- Chaired the committee to create policy and procedures for speech-language pathologists' role in the RTI process

2014- 2016

Speech-Language Pathologist, Select Rehab (Pekin, IL)

- Provided treatment to patients in skilled nursing facilities
- Treated patients with aphasia and dysphagia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2025 Public School Methods (SPA 521)

Fall 2024 Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA 100)

Spring 2024 Public School Methods (SPA521), Auditory System and Hearing Loss (SPA 391)

Fall 2023 Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA 100)

Spring 2023 Public School Methods (SPA 521)

Fall 2022 Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA100), ASL (SPA 223)

Spring 2022 Public School Methods (SPA 521)

Fall 2021 Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA100), ASL (SPA 223)

Spring 2021 Public School Methods (SPA 521)

Fall 2020 Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA100)

Spring 2020 Public School Methods (SPA 521)

Fall 2019	Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA100) Autism and Special Populations (SPA 515)
Spring 2019	Public School Methods (SPA521)
Spring 2018	Normal Language Development (CSD312) Public School Methods (CSD521)
Fall 2018	Introduction to Communication Disorders (SPA100) Normal Language Development (SPA312)
Fall 2017	Introduction to Communication Disorders (CSD100) Public School Methods (CSD521)

CLINIC SUPERVISION

Summer 2018	Graduate Speech-Language Practicum Off-site supervisor, Peoria Public Schools (Peoria, IL)
2017- Present	Graduate Speech-Language Practicum (SPA 588), Diagnostic Clinical Practicum (SPA 587), Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL)
2023- Present	WIU Autism Clinic for Excellence Coordinator and Evaluator, Western Illinois University (Macomb, IL)

INVITED SPEAKER

Pierson, N. M. (2021-2024) Why Sign With Hearing Children?. Present to ASL 2 course at Western Illinois University. (WIU, Macomb IL).

Pierson, N. M. (2023) Communication and Sensory Differences in Autistic Individuals. West Central Illinois Counselors Association (WIU, Macomb IL).

Pierson, N. M. (2018) Parents' Rights in Special Education. Comfort Circle, special needs support group (WIU, Macomb IL).

Pierson, N. M. (2019) Parents' Rights in Special Education. Comfort Circle, special needs support group (WIU, Macomb IL).

CONTINUING EDUCATION

2024	EDL 790 Dissertation
2024	EDL 770 Comprehensive Evaluation

2023	Ethics Training
2023	EDL 557 Special Problems in Educational Leadership
2023	EDL 701 Quantitative Research
2023	EDL 710 Global Perspectives on Educational Leadership
2023	EDL 700 Seminar in Doctoral Studies
2023	EDL 725 Dissertation Studies 2
2023	EDL 790 Dissertation
2022	EDS 570 Seminar in College Teaching
2022	EDS 747 Social Justice Policy and Ethics
2022	EDL 712 Managing Organizational Resources
2022	EDL 711 Transforming Organizations
2022	EDL 682 Field Study Qualitative Research
2022	CSP 533 Critical Narrative Analysis
2021	EDL 600 Evaluating Educational Programs
2021	EDL720 Coalition Building
2021	Autism Symposium (1.5 CEU)
2020	From Preschool to Highschool: Language and Literacy Toolkit (.3 CEU)
2020	Forced Into Telepractice With No Idea What to Do Next! (.1 CEU)
2020	Telepractice: Practical Application in Pediatrics (.15 CEU)
2020	Embedding Intervention Strategies into Everyday Activities of Infants/Toddlers and Their Families (.1 CEU)
2020	Neurodiversity: Thinking Differently (.1 CEU)
2020	Recent Intervention Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders (.1 CEU)

2020	Collaborative Therapy Isn't Pushy (.1 CEU)
2020	Ethical Issues Associated with the Supervisory Process (.05 CEU)
2019	Nine Building Blocks of Supervision (.2 CEU)
2019	Knowledge, Skills and competencies for Supervision (.1 CEU)
2019	Dismissal Decisions and Student Motivation (.1 CEU)
2019	Supporting Children in Poverty: Special Considerations (.1 CEU)
2019	Autism Across the Spectrum (.6 CEU)
2018	WIU Language Conference- BFF Technique to Sensory Needs (.6 CEU)
2018	Differentiating Sensory and Behavior (.6 CEU)
2017	Legal Updates: Discipline, 504, RTI Collaboration (.3CEU)
2016	Annual Therapies in the School Conference (1.2 CEU)
2016	Zones of Regulation (.6 CEU)
2016	Tobii Dynavox Compass Software (.1 CEU)
2016	Tobii Dynavox - Beyond Requesting (.1 CEU)
2016	Audiology for the SLP (.2 CEU)
2016	Implementing Tier II approach (.2 CEU)
2016	Classroom Based Strategies for Autism Spectrum Disorder (.1 CEU)
2016	Social Skills Curriculum (.1 CEU)
2016	Sensory Diets (.1 CEU)
2016	CAPD Intervention Strategies (.3 CEU)
2015	Visual Phonics (.9 CEU)
2015	The Kaufman Speech to Language Protocol (.6 CEU)

2015	Assessment of Lip and Tongue Tie (.2 CEU)
2015	Strategies for Treating Children in Trauma (.7 CEU)
2015	Behavior Management Strategies for SLPs (.1 CEU)
2015	Expediting Progress for Children with Severe Phonological Disorders (.1 CEU)
2015	Incorporating Phonemic & Phonological Awareness i Speech Therapy (.1 CEU)
2015	Writing and Redefining IEP Goals (.1 CEU)
2015	Language & Literacy in Poverty (.1 CEU)
2014	Illinois Speech-Language Hearing Convention (1.1 CEU)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2017	Peoria Federation of Teachers, Speech-Language Pathologist Liaison
2015- 2017	Executive Board Member, Peoria Area Speech-Language Hearing Association

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2023- Present	WIU Autism Clinic Coordinator
2018- 2020	Language Conference Committee
2018- 2023	Internship Committee (School placements)
2018- 2020	Group Therapy Think Tank
2017 - Present	Clinic Committee
2017- Present	Undergraduate Recruitment Committee

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2015- Present	Peoria Area Speech-Language Hearing Association
2013- Present	American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) #14063094

2013-Present Illinois Licensed Speech-Language Pathologist

2013- Present Illinois Professional Educator's License