

Speech Pathology – <http://ehhs.kent.edu/spa/>

Erin Pooley – My name is Erin Pooley, I'm from Coshocton, Ohio and I'm a speech pathology and audiology major.

Beth Crithfield – My name is Beth Crithfield, I'm a speech-language pathologist. I majored in speech-language pathology at Kent State University and I am from Salem.

Chris Galizio – Hello my name is Christopher Galizio and I am an audiologist at the Cleveland V.A. Medical Center.

Beth Crithfield – When you're a speech-language pathologist, first of all, it's a master's degree. So you have to have a master's in the field.

Erin Pooley – At Kent State you have the option of the last semester of undergraduate, you can start master's level classes so those hours count both towards undergraduate and graduate degree. This May I will graduate in four years with my bachelor's degree, but I will already have a semester of my graduate degree completed.

Beth Crithfield - The field of speech-language pathology right now, is a very exciting field. I've been a speech path now for seven years. I have loved my job every year; I just find more and more things that I enjoy about it. I've worked in a clinic, I've worked in schools, I've worked in nursing homes, I've worked in a rehab center, and I enjoyed all of those sites. So much diversity, even in the types of patients you work with.

Erin Pooley – I've always loved working with kids, so I could see myself working in a school, but, as I've gone further along in the major, I've also become very interested in the health care and the medical aspect as well so I could also see myself potentially working in a hospital or rehabilitation center.

Chris Galizio – Audiologists can either work in hospitals, also ear, nose, and throat clinics, private dispensing facilities, also some audiologists do work in the educational field like at schools. When I left Kent State I want to pursue my career and feel very confident in my clinical skills.

Beth Crithfield – Right now the job market for speech-language pathology and all therapies is very, very good. We are at a shortage and will remain at a shortage so it is a very good field to get into as far as planning your future.

Chris Galizio – The job market is good, especially for those who want to work with adults of the population is ageing, there are jobs opening up everywhere across the country.

Erin Pooley – It is a field that is in much demand. I have complete confidence that I will have no problems finding a job when I graduate.

Chris Galizio – Professors and staff in the audiology department are really great.

Erin Pooley – I've had nothing but good experiences with my program, the faculty. It is a fairly small major so you get to know faculty and staff very well.

Chris Galizio – One of the components of the audiology program at Kent State is the externship. One of the externships that I completed was at the Cleveland V.A. Medical Center. Immediately after graduation the Cleveland V.A. offered me a position as an audiologist.

Beth Crithfield – I student taught at Austen Town when I was done with that experience I was ready to go into a school and work with students.

Erin Pooley – My program does require at least one semester of an externship. We do have an in house clinic where we do have clients that come, but they are mostly children so we do go off campus either to a hospital or a rehab center.

Beth Crithfield - The characteristics and the skills that you need to be a strong speech-language pathologist, there is actually probably a balance between you have to love people, and you also have to really enjoy study and research, because the type of therapy we do changes and it changes yearly.

Chris Galizio – I really enjoy being a student at Kent State. Most of my life long friends that I made, I made at Kent State.

Erin Pooley - I've had the best four years of my life here, I've met some amazing, amazing people that I know will be my friends for the rest of my life.

Chris Galizio – Compared to other programs in the U.S., Kent State is one of the top ones.

Beth Crithfield – I am currently President Elect of Ohio Schools Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Coalition. Kent, I think, definitely prepared me into not only being a good speech-language pathologist but a leader.