

TO: Carole R. Roth-Abramson, Ph.D., CCC, BC-ANCDS, ASHA Fellow  
CC: Oksana Lyalka, President of the Ukrainian Society for Speech and Language Therapy

**Reference: SLT Ukraine Master Program — Requested Review Feedback**

Carole, greetings. At your request, I have reviewed the overview of the new Ukrainian SLT Master Program that you provided. As you are aware, I am not an expert in this field of study (*although I feel like I am at least familiar with the profession based on all the things I have learned from you over the past several years!*) Therefore, I have left the review of anything technical to others, in your field, who will have much better feedback on any skills and curriculum components than me. From a program design perspective, I reviewed this as someone who has experience in several master level programs at differing universities.

You asked for feedback specifically about Organization, Courses, Comprehensiveness and Quality so I have organized my comments below into those sections.

Organization: The program seems very well organized and provides a good balance of both the learning requirements as well as the social, support systems available to participants. The mix of teaching methods, lecture, self-study, lab, and field work also creates a dynamic aspect to the program.

Courses: Here is where I will defer to others on the appropriateness of the technical coursework. I understand and appreciate the structure of the general and specific elements and courses as well as the required completion requirements. So, from an overview perspective, what I see in the curriculum descriptions makes sense.

Comprehensiveness: The purpose statement for this program is a tall order. That is good (!) and demands that program graduates operate very independently and on several dimensions with communications, data analytics, qualitative and quantitative assessments, and of course effective counseling and therapy skills. So, my question as I reviewed the document was, 'Will completing this course of study enable participants to successfully operate as the program purpose intended?' Having reviewed the program description a couple times, my sense is yes, the program fulfills the purpose. Yes because of the curriculum, and the varied methods of study. Also, through the well described support systems and networks provided to students.

Quality: Quality is hard to provide feedback on at this point. The proof will be in the execution. The list of talented contributors to the program suggests that quality should be high.

One final comment: I kept thinking about the pre-qualifications for this program. I see the prerequisite coursework and that selection into the program will be based on merit. As mentioned earlier, to fulfill the purpose, this program needs to produce independent, confident graduates —as I read it, self-starters, highly organized, confident in their evaluations and recommendations. It would seem to me that in addition to prior qualifying coursework, applicants would need to demonstrate or provide behavioral examples of prior work or accomplishments that match the profile of successful program graduates.

Let me know if you have any questions about my review.

Warm regards,

*Chris LaVictoire Mahai*

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