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### Kaitlyn Holtz's Portfolio

Kaitlyn Holtz

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Duquesne's five-year Speech-Language Pathology program immerses its pre-professional phase students in an array of subjects that extend beyond the health sciences. Classes related to anatomy, linguistics, and healthcare make up the core of the speech-language curriculum, but other skills linked to art, philosophy, and faith are necessary to understand the diverse population of clients one may encounter. Speech-language pathologists are required to be culturally aware and strive for cultural competence. By understanding microcultures that form a person including age, class, geographic region, sexual preference, ethnicity, race, occupation, etc., a clinician can cater and gear assessments, results, and therapy toward each individual.

This portfolio contains works from the pre-professional coursework of a rising speech-language pathologist. From a website dedicated to communication disorders to a narrative revolving around the baroque artist, Caravaggio, viewers can expect to be immersed in both creative and scientific pieces. These diverse works demonstrate the constant academic and personal growth that a student majoring in this field undergoes. Critical research, introspective observations, and innovative solutions resonate throughout these pieces and create the foundation for the professional phase of this program. Ultimately what speech-language pathologists, as well as many other healthcare professionals, are striving towards is to improve a patient's quality of life, and by building on a solid biological and visionary base, clinicians can provide the best means and treatment to do so.