

SIGN LANGUAGE

Associate in Arts Degree: American Sign Language Interpreting

The American Sign Language Interpreting program is a comprehensive two-year program designed to award students with an Associate in Arts degree in American Sign Language Interpreting. The degree will provide students with transfer opportunities to a four-year college or university as well as equip them with the necessary skills for entry-level positions within the field of interpreting.

Students may take American Sign Language courses to satisfy the General Education language requirement. They may also take the courses for pleasure or practical usage in communication with the deaf community, as well as to prepare for a profession that will require communication competence in the language. Enrollment in the courses will provide students with opportunities to develop their linguistic skills as well as their cultural awareness.

Interpreters work in a variety of settings. These include, but are not limited to: educational, legal, medical, religious, community, theater, rehabilitation, and freelance.

Students with an American Sign Language Interpreting degree will develop the following competencies:

- * Advanced American Sign Language skills
- * Knowledge of the Code of Ethics for Interpreters
- * Knowledge of principles, practices, and procedures of interpreting
- * Knowledge of Deaf Culture
- * Knowledge of interpreting techniques
- * Interpreting skills (English to ASL)
- * Transliterating skills (English to MCE)
- * American Sign Language/MCE to English skills
- * Cultural bridging techniques
- * Idiomatic and specialized vocabulary skills
- * Knowledge of specialized settings and applied techniques
- * Fingerspelling skills: Expressive and receptive
- * Historical knowledge of American Sign Language, Deaf Culture, and Interpreting
- * Knowledge of the structure of American Sign Language

Degree Student Learning Outcome:

Students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in the core skills and knowledge required for employment as an interpreter.

Program Requirements:

Units Required: 38

		Units:
SIGN-103	American Sign Language III	4.0
SIGN-104	American Sign Language IV	4.0
SIGN-110	American Deaf Culture	3.0
SIGN-112	Interpreting: Principles and Practices	3.0
SIGN-200	Specialized Signs and Settings	3.0
SIGN-201	Interpreting I	3.0
SIGN-202	Transliterating I	3.0
SIGN-203	Sign to English Interpreting/Transliterating I	3.0
SIGN-204	Interpreting II	3.0

SIGN-205	Transliterating II	3.0
SIGN-206	Sign to English Interpreting/Transliterating II	3.0

Plus a minimum of three units from the following, a minimum of 1 unit of WE-186SIGN is required:

WE-186SIGN	Work Experience Education Sign Language	.50 – 4.0
LING-101	Introduction to Linguistics	3.0
SIGN-111	Fingerspelling	2.0
SIGN-113	Creative Uses of Sign	3.0
SIGN-114	Working and Socializing with People Who are Deaf-Blind	4.0

Associate in Arts Degree: American Sign Language – Deaf Studies

The ASL and Deaf Studies degree is designed for students seeking a career in the field of Deaf Studies, education, social work, psychology, linguistics, communication, speech language pathology, and other related disciplines. Course work includes ASL Structure, Deaf Culture, Deaf Education, Deaf History, and other electives designed to create a well-rounded and fluent professional that can work with the Deaf community in a variety of settings.

Degree Student Learning Outcome:

Students will be able to demonstrate the career skills needed to work with the Deaf Community.

Program Requirements:

Units Required: 22

		Units:
SIGN-103	American Sign Language III	4.0
SIGN-104	American Sign Language IV	4.0
SIGN-110	American Deaf Culture	3.0
SIGN-210	Structure of American Sign Language	3.0
SIGN-212	Deaf Education	3.0

Plus a minimum of five units from the following:

SIGN-113	Creative Uses of Sign	3.0
SIGN-114	Working and Socializing with People Who are Deaf-Blind	4.0
WE-186SIGN	Work Experience Education Sign Language	.50 – 4.0

Certificate of Specialization: Deaf-Blind Support Service Provider

Students completing this certificate will be equipped with advanced skills in American Sign Language. An emphasis will be placed on Deaf and Deaf-Blind culture, allowing them to work and socialize successfully with Deaf-Blind individuals and other professional service providers.

Certificate Student Learning Outcome:

Students will learn about the Deaf and Deaf-Blind Cultures with an emphasis on communication and guiding techniques, equipping them to work and socialize with Deaf-Blind people.

Units Required: 14.5

		Units:
SIGN-104	American Sign Language IV	4.0
SIGN-110	American Deaf Culture	3.0
SIGN-114	Working and Socializing with People Who are Deaf-Blind	4.0
SIGN-200	Specialized Signs and Settings	3.0
WE-186SIGN	Work Experience Education Sign Language	.50 – 4.0

SIGN 101 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

Units: 4.00

UC:CSU 72.00 hours lecture

Presents the fundamentals of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills through the learning of basic vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. Corresponds to the first two years of ASL offered in the high school. Field assignment required.

SIGN 102 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II

Units: 4.00

UC:CSU 72.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-101.

Continues the study of American Sign Language (ASL) designed to increase the student's proficiency in intermediate ASL communication skills with a continued emphasis on comprehension skills, conversational skills, cultural awareness, grammatical features and vocabulary development. Field assignments required.

SIGN 103 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III

Units: 4.00

UC:CSU 72.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-102

Continues the study of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills with an increased emphasis on complex vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. Field assignments required.

SIGN 104 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE IV

Units: 4.00

UC:CSU 72.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-103

An advanced study of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills with an emphasis placed on fluency and refinement of complex vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. Students gain a greater ability to utilize various verb types, temporal markers, adverbial and adjectival structures. Field assignments required.

SIGN 110 AMERICAN DEAF CULTURE

Units: 3.00

UC:CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Studies various aspects of American Deaf Culture, including the description of deafness, deaf people, the Deaf community as defined by audiology and/or cultural means, service for and by Deaf people, and culture as reflected in the arts and language of Deaf people. Field assignments required.

SIGN 111 FINGERSPELLING

Units: 2.00

CSU 36.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-102

Develops basic skills in receptive and expressive fingerspelling. Strongly recommended for prospective teachers, interpreters, and other professionals working with deaf people. Course taught in American Sign Language.

SIGN 112 INTERPRETING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-102

Introduces the field of sign language interpreting including the history of interpreting, models of interpretation, professional standards, code of ethics, interpreter assessments, credentialing, roles and responsibilities.

SIGN 113 CREATIVE USES OF SIGN

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-103

Introduces students to artistic expressions of American Sign Language including poetry, storytelling, play on signs, songs, puns, jokes, handshape stories, and theatrical presentation of signs. Perspective, movement, characterization, form, and technique will be explored.

SIGN 114 WORKING AND SOCIALIZING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF-BLIND

Units: 4.00

CSU 72.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-103

Provides interpreters and interpreting students with an introductory level overview of working with Deaf-Blind people. Students will become familiar with features of the Deaf-Blind community, learn common etiologies of Deaf-Blindness, learn basic communication and guiding skills for use with Deaf-Blind people, and experience a variety of situations simulating Deaf-Blindness. Field trip may be required.

SIGN 200 SPECIALIZED SIGNS AND SETTINGS

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-104, 110 and 112

Introduces students to specialized signs for vocabulary and specialized terminology presented in a variety of environments including educational, religious, medical, legal, and theatrical. Special settings (deaf-blind, tactile, oral, teaming, and video-relay) will be analyzed and interpreting techniques will be applied.

SIGN 201 INTERPRETING I

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-104, 110 and 112

Introduces the process of consecutive interpreting including skills for analyzing, processing, and interpreting English meaning while conveying it accurately into American Sign Language.

SIGN 202 TRANSLITERATING I

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-104, 110 and 112

Introduces the process of consecutive transliteration, analyzing, processing, and interpreting English meaning while conveying it accurately into a Manually Coded English form.

SIGN 203 SIGN TO ENGLISH INTERPRETING/TRANSLITERATING I

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-104, 110 and 112

Introduces the skills required for accurate Sign to English interpretation/Transliteration. Takes a theoretical and practical approach to analyzing the process and discussing common techniques and difficulties.

SIGN 204 INTERPRETING II

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-201

Develops advanced, simultaneous interpreting skills, including the skills for analyzing, processing, and interpreting English meaning and conveying it simultaneously into American Sign Language.

SIGN 205 TRANSLITERATING II

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-202

Develops the advanced process of simultaneous transliterating, including skills for analyzing, processing, and interpreting English meaning while conveying it accurately into a Manually Coded English form.

SIGN 206 SIGN TO ENGLISH INTERPRETING/TRANSLITERATING II

Units: 3.00

CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-203

Develops the advanced skills and knowledge for accurate simultaneous Sign to English interpretation/transliteration. Takes a theoretical and practical approach to analyzing the process and discussing solutions to common difficulties.

SIGN 210 STRUCTURE OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Units: 3.00

UC:CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-102

Analyzes the linguistic structures of American Sign Language used in the United States. Emphasis will be placed on research skills, social use and variation in language, and child language acquisition.

SIGN 212 DEAF EDUCATION

Units: 3.00

UC:CSU 54.00 hours lecture

Prerequisite: SIGN-102

Explores the history of deaf education with emphasis placed on educational, political, and social trends and the various instructional strategies that affect the placement and instruction of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students (DHH), as well as DHH students with additional challenges. Students gain an understanding of the foundation of language deprivation and the impacts on a DHH student's education, explore federal and state special education laws, Individual Family Service Plans (IFSPs), Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and the roles of Related Service Providers and support staff in the educational process.