American Sign Language

ASL 101/American Sign Language I 1 course unit
(fall and spring)
Through readings, field visits, class activities, and independent research, this course will provide the students with a core signed vocabulary that can be identified and produced in a meaningful context. Various functions of language will be the basis for establishing and maintaining content-specific conversations. Students will become familiar with the origins and principles of ASL and be able to compare and contrast those features to the English language. Students will explore the impact various scientific, political, and educational leaders have had on the Deaf community. In addition, the student will come to appreciate the shifting perceptions of the Deaf community that have occurred in the past few decades.

ASL 102/American Sign Language II 1 course unit
(fall and spring)
Through readings, field visits, class activities, and independent research, this course will build upon the core signed vocabulary that was introduced during the ASL I course. In-depth analysis of techniques, forms, and appropriate use of fingerspelling in signed conversations will be provided. Expansion of the student’s vocabulary base and knowledge of the principles of ASL will lead to increasingly longer periods of language immersion experiences during class time. Students will explore a variety of organizations devoted to serving deaf citizens.

ASL 103/American Sign Language III 1 course unit
(fall and spring)
Pre-requisite: ASL 101 & 102
Through readings, field visits, class activities, and independent research, this course will further expand the core vocabulary base of the ASL I and ASL II courses. Development of advanced signing skills will include awareness of transcription symbols, topicalization, classifiers, temporal sequencing, and various number systems. Short stories, narratives, and conversations will be highlighted as expressive and receptive venues for communicative exchanges. Students will be introduced to folklore, poetry, and linguistic play as aspects of ASL literature.

ASL 390/Discipline Specific Research Course variable course units
Permission of instructor required
Guided research in a related field of study under the direct tutelage of a faculty member.

ASL 391/Independent Study variable course units
Independent exploration of a specific topic under supervision of a faculty member. Could include a unique case study, exploration of a research topic, extensive reading in an area of interest, participation in department of interagency clinics, workshops, etc., or such other independent studies that would contribute to professional growth of the student.

ASL 392/Guided Study variable course units

ASL 393/Independent Research variable course units
Permission of instructor required
Independent exploration of a specific topic under supervision of a faculty member. Could include a unique case study, exploration of a research topic, extensive reading in an area of interest, participation in department of interagency clinics, workshops, etc., or such other independent studies that would contribute to professional growth of the student.

ASL 399/Internship variable course units
Permission of instructor required
Field-based learning experience.
ASL 400/400-Level Special Topics
Permission of instructor required

variable course units

ASL 493/Independent Research II
Permission of instructor required

Advanced independent exploration of a specific topic under supervision of a faculty member. Could include a unique case study, exploration of a research topic, extensive reading in an area of interest, participation in department of interagency clinics, workshops, etc., or such other independent studies that would contribute to professional growth of the student.