

American Sign Language

ASL/English Interpreter Training

Program Description

The ASL program provides a foundation of interpreting skills for students seeking to transfer to a four-year institution in order to become an interpreter. The coursework presents American Sign Language in a cross-cultural context, addressing the ethics and standards expected of a professional interpreter.

Certificate of Achievement and Associate in Arts Degree

A Certificate of Achievement can be obtained upon successful completion of the 27-unit major. The Associate in Arts degree can be obtained upon completion of the major, general education requirements, and electives. All courses in the major must be completed with a minimum grade of C or a P if the course is taken on a Pass/No Pass basis.

Program Outcomes

Students who complete the ASL/English Interpreter Training Certificate of Achievement/Associate Degree will be able to:

1. Sign effectively, using appropriate skills, in working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of Deaf culture, and the ethics and standards of professional ASL environment.

REQUIRED COURSES.....Units

ASL 001 American Sign Language 1	3
ASL 002 American Sign Language 2	3
ASL 003 American Sign Language 3	3
ASL 004 American Sign Language 4	3
ASL 005 American Deaf Culture.....	3
ASL 006 Linguistics of American Sign Language.....	3
ASL 052 Fingerspelling, Classifiers, and Numbers.....	3
ASL 053 Introduction to American Sign Language Interpreting	3
ASL 054 ASL Interpreting Field Work.....	2
OCED 090 Occupational Work Experience	1
Required Major Total Units	27

CSU General Education or IGETC Pattern units 37-39
Total Degree Units CSU GE or IGETC 60-61

Solano General Education..... 21
Electives (as needed to reach 60 units)..... 12
Total Degree Units Solano GE..... 60

** 3-6 units may be double counted toward both the major area of emphasis and CSU General Education or IGETC Pattern. Consult with a counselor for more information on completing this degree.*

These programs are Gainful Employment Programs. For additional information, please visit http://www.solano.edu/gainful_employment/ and select "ASL/English Interpreter Training."

ASL 001 American Sign Language 1 3.0 Units

*Transferable to UC/CSU
 General Education: Opt A: Area C; Opt. B: Area 6; Opt. C: Area C2
 Hours: 48-54 lecture.*

Introduction to the culture and language of the deaf in this country. The course includes the acquisition of Fingerspelling skills and basic functional vocabulary of ASL. In addition to fluency in these two separate skills, the student will acquire basic knowledge of ASL syntax and nonverbal aspects of ASL, a history of the deaf in the country and deaf education, variations in Manual Communication, and the Culture of the Deaf. There will be both written and signed examinations, a research project, homework assignments, and individual examinations to demonstrate competency in both expressive and receptive ASL. Students will be expected to acquire a vocabulary of approximately 500 words (signs) and be proficient in Fingerspelling.

ASL 002 American Sign Language 2 3.0 Units

*Prerequisite: ASL 001 with a minimum grade of C
 General Education: Opt A: Area C; Opt. B: Area 6
 Transferable to UC/CSU
 Hours: 48-54 lecture*

Emphasis on vocabulary expansion, introduction to ASL idiomatic expressions and information regarding the ethics and process of becoming a sign language interpreter. Assessment of competency is accomplished through written and communicative examinations. Some interaction with the deaf population is required.

ASL 003 American Sign Language 3 3.0 Units

*Prerequisite: ASL 002 with a minimum grade of C
 General Education: Opt. B: Area 6
 Transferable to UC/CSU
 Hours: 48-54 lecture*

A focus on the grammatical structure of American Sign Language and how it has been influenced throughout history, by society, and other cultures in America. Students will develop their vocabulary, not through rote memorization, but through emphasis on receptive and expressive modes of communication; they will learn how to develop their own styles.

American Sign Language

ASL 004 American Sign Language 4

3.0 Units

Prerequisite: ASL 003 with a minimum grade of C

General Education: Opt. B: Area 6

Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

An advanced course designed to increase vocabulary, examine the use of semantic and body classifiers, expand and develop conversational signing ability through the use of appropriate grammar structures and storytelling. Popular Deaf culture stories are learned through the development of storytelling techniques. The rich heritage of Deaf people is studied through biographies of those who are famous for their contribution.

ASL 005 American Deaf Culture

3.0 Units

General Education: Opt. C: Area C2

Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Exploration of American Deaf Culture with historical and cultural overview of the American Deaf community and its language, American Sign Language (ASL). Fundamental sociological and anthropological theories will be discussed. Students will be given an opportunity to study and understand the following: minority group dynamics, attitudes and behavioral characteristics of the oppressed and oppressors, and the liberation movements. Analysis of the relationship of ASL to the history of the American Deaf community will be conducted.

ASL 006

3.0 Units

Linguistics of American Sign Language

Prerequisite: ASL 002 with a minimum grade of C

General Education: Opt. C: Area C2

Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Applies knowledge of linguistics (e.g., phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics) to signed languages, especially ASL. Students will learn about aspects of the language that are specific to signing, such as using three-dimensional space as grammatical tools. Students will compare ASL to other signed languages to further explore how these linguistic aspects differ between signed languages.

ASL 052

3.0 Units

Fingerspelling, Classifiers, and Numbers

Prerequisite: ASL 001 with a minimum grade of C (may enroll concurrently)

Transferable to CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Solidifies fingerspelling, numbers, and classifiers to the point where they can reliably be leveraged in an expressive and receptive manner. The focus of the course is on recognition and use of fingerspelling, numbers, and classifiers in different contexts.

ASL 053

3.0 Units

Introduction to American Sign Language Interpreting

Prerequisite: ASL 002 with a minimum grade of C

Transferable to CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Introduction to professional conduct, variety of interpreter work settings, and interactions with the populations served.

ASL 054 ASL Interpreting Field Work

2.0 Units

Prerequisite: ASL 003 with a minimum grade of C

Corequisite: OCED 090

Transferable to CSU

Hours: 32-36 lecture

Prepares students for the profession of ASL interpreting by providing field work in which students can observe different scenarios and apply skills learned in the classroom. Weekly seminars will explore how ASL interpreters learn discourse mapping, a systematic approach for analyzing texts to produce successful, effective interpretations. Through a co-requisite of OCED 090 students will work in a real world environment to practice the techniques discussed in class.

ASL 055

3.0 Units

Interpreting 1: Consecutive Interpreting

Prerequisite: ASL 053 with a minimum grade of C

Transferable to CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Building and improving basic receptive and expressive sign language interpretation skills emphasizing the development of consecutive ASL to English and English to ASL.

ASL 056

3.0 Units

Interpreting 2: Simultaneous Interpreting

Prerequisite: ASL 053 with a minimum grade of C

Transferable to CSU

Hours: 48-54 lecture

Advanced simultaneous interpreting skills that can be applied in both ASL to English and English to ASL interpretation. Topics include: research and analysis of the simultaneous interpreting process, interpreting models and how to apply them in various work environments, and the basis of ethical decision making within the field of sign language interpreting.