

# INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

---

The Interdisciplinary Minor in American Sign Language will increase students' proficiency in the language and provide them with key tools for the workforce of the 21st century. Students receive a solid foundation in the way Deaf culture, Deaf history and language accessibility intersect with equality, human connections, and democratic processes. A minimum of 21 credits is required for the program.

## Learning Objectives

### A. Critical Analysis:

1. Articulate a critical understanding of the way language, culture, privileged and marginalized societies have shaped the Deaf and ASL community and the relationship with the majority "hearing" society.
2. Identify linguistic patterns, analyze sentence structure, and apply essential components of sign language grammar in professional and conversational settings.
3. Analyze and interpret the use of literary and storytelling techniques in American Sign Language, including rhymes, rhythm, and movement. Examine literature and film in its cultural and historical context.
4. Construct grammatically correct and well-articulated expressive videos in the target language, on literary, linguistic, and cultural topics.

### B. Global and Cultural Awareness:

1. Conduct dynamic conversations in a culturally and socially appropriate manner with speakers of the target language in person and with the use of technology.
2. Reflect critically on their own socially and culturally constructed values and behavior patterns, through recognizing and appreciating cultural difference.
3. Explain the conceptual shifts between Deaf history and current Deaf movements and how these are relevant to Deaf rights in America and around the world.
4. Analyze historical and cultural Deaf perspectives from a variety of countries, including the topics of Deaf empowerment, Deaf identity, and the documentation and preservation of language and culture.

### C. Written and Oral Communication in a Second Language:

1. Practice signed expressive communication to present information, describe and narrate personal experiences and events in a coherent, well-developed manner. Demonstrate contextual flexibility and appropriate register, applying proper advanced language techniques in a variety of professional and social interactions.
2. Exchange information and discuss opinions and individual perspectives on familiar topics of personal and public interest, both prepared and impromptu.
3. Present a coherent and persuasive argument, which demonstrates competent use of a variety of sentence structures, cohesive devices, and pertinent vocabulary.

4. Make effective use of written critical analysis on a variety of relevant topics, and articulate knowledge of the Deaf literary traditions-crafting works in poetry and creative formats (songs, handshape, letter & number stories etc.)