

Area: Humanities
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Degree: A.A. - Deaf Culture & American Sign Language Studies
 Certificate: Deaf Culture & American Sign Language Studies

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Deaf Culture & American Sign Language Studies Degree and Certificate

Major Code, degree: 011311A01

Major Code, certificate: 011311C01

This program provides academic coursework based on a Deaf-centered framework that encourages students to embrace an empowered collaboration with Deaf people. It provides an introductory overview of the Deaf community and American Sign Language in a cultural context, with the psychosocial dynamics of people working in the Deaf community. It also emphasizes development of skills related to paraprofessional services in an individual or group setting in an educational or social services agency which serves Deaf clients.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- compare and contrast characteristics that impact a Deaf person's life in the following areas: the world of work, education, family, language, and social development.
- demonstrate ability to carry on American Sign Language conversation consistent with the ability of a 4th semester second language learner with a Deaf individual or groups of Deaf people.
- apply entry-level positions working with the Deaf community.
- demonstrate characteristics related to personal growth and adjustment in various populations within and outside of the Deaf community.
- apply skills in working with various Deaf participants within and outside of the Deaf community.
- demonstrate skills in working with school-age Deaf children in an educational setting.
- compare and differentiate the Deaf individual to individuals of diverse populations when comparing human development.
- demonstrate appropriate cultural interaction within the Deaf community.
- demonstrate ability to communicate respectfully in a Deaf-culture setting.

Career Opportunities

This program prepare students for entry-level positions such as paraprofessional services in an individual or group setting, in an educational or social services agency which serves deaf clients.

See losrios.edu/gainful-emp-info/gedt.php?major=011311C01 for Gainful Employment Disclosure.

Requirements for Degree or Certificate	31.5-32 Units
DEAF 310 American Sign Language I	4
DEAF 312 American Sign Language II	4
DEAF 314 American Sign Language III	4
DEAF 316 American Sign Language IV	4
DEAF 320 Fingerspelling, Classifiers and Numbers	0.5 - 1
DEAF 351 Introduction to American Deaf Culture	3
DEAF 352 Introduction to American Deaf Education	3
DEAF 355 Audism and Inequality of the Deaf	3
DEAF 370 Linguistics of American Sign Language	3
And a minimum of 3 units from the following:	3
DEAF 318 American Sign Language V (4)	
DEAF 380 American Sign Language Literature (3)	

Associate Degree Requirements: The Deaf Culture & American Sign Language Studies Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See ARC graduation requirements.

Deaf Culture and ASL Studies

DEAF 310 American Sign Language I **4 Units**

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGRD 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This is the first course in a series of five courses in American Sign Language (ASL). The instructional activities are based on an immersion approach, in which the learners develop language competency in source and target language. The emphasis is on non-speech communication. Topics include grammatical features such as adjective descriptors, differentiation between cardinal/ordinal numbers, contrastive structure, temporal aspect markers and temporal sequencing, conversational skills, narrative skills, and discussions with peers. This course is formerly known as SILA 305.

DEAF 312 American Sign Language II **4 Units**

Prerequisite: DEAF 310 or SILA 305 with a grade of "C" or better.

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 AND ENGRD 312 and ENGRD 300; OR ESLR 340 and ESLW 340

General Education: AA/AS Area I; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This is the second in a series of five courses in American Sign Language (ASL). The emphasis is on nonverbal communication. Topics include grammatical features such as adjective descriptors, differentiation between cardinal/ordinal numbers, contrastive structure, temporal aspect markers and temporal sequencing, conversational skills, narrative skills, and discussions with peers. This course is formerly known as SILA 306.

DEAF 314 American Sign Language III 4 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 312 or SILA 306 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 and ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is the third in a series of five courses in American Sign Language. It emphasizes expressive and receptive nonverbal communication skills between signers who have preliminary American Sign Language syntactical and lexical skills. It provides an understanding of deaf cultural processes by identifying behaviors and norms from activities assigned in the class. It also includes dialogs that involve asking, empathizing, negotiating and agreeing or disagreeing. The emphasis is on non-speech communication. This course is formerly known as SILA 315.

DEAF 316 American Sign Language IV 4 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 314 or SILA 315 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course is the fourth in a series of five courses in American Sign Language (ASL). It emphasizes expressive communication skills that involve locating and signing interesting facts, making major life decisions, discussing health conditions, and using money. It incorporates information and activities previously learned about Deaf culture into these narratives. The emphasis is on non-speech communication. This course is formerly known as SILA 316.

DEAF 318 American Sign Language V 4 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 316 or SILA 316 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area I; CSU Area C2; IGETC Area 3B; IGETC Area 6

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This is the last course in a series of five courses in American Sign Language (ASL). It prepares for the effective communication with Deaf people. It emphasizes expressive communication skills that involve narrating unforgettable moments, telling about accidents, and storytelling. It incorporates information and activities previously learned about Deaf culture into these narratives. The emphasis is on non-speech communication. This course is formerly known as SILA 318.

DEAF 320 Fingerspelling, Classifiers and Numbers .5-1 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 310 or SILA 305 with a grade of "C" or better
Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 27-54 hours LAB

This course provides hands-on experiences with fingerspelling, classifiers and American Sign Language (ASL) numbers. Topics include expressive and receptive fingerspelling, classifiers, and ASL numbers techniques. This laboratory course enables ASL learners to develop, expand, and reinforce hands-on experiences with fingerspelling, classifiers, and ASL numbers skills while working independently, in small groups, and with media such as DVDs and recorded video clips in ASL that incorporate fingerspelling. Coursework includes study topics integrated with expressive and receptive fingerspelling, classifiers, and ASL numbers techniques. Students may register until the sixth week of the semester. This course may be taken up to two times, for a total of 1.0 unit, using different topics. Pass/No Pass only.

DEAF 351 Introduction to American Deaf Culture 3 Units

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D3; CSU Area D7

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course is a survey of four institutions which have critical impact on the psycho-social development of Deaf people: family, education, work, and society. It provides awareness and sensitivity to the unique challenges of deafhood and how they influence personal-social and communication competencies of the Deaf person. Selected visits to community events may be required. This course is formerly known as SILA 330.

DEAF 352 Introduction to American Deaf Education 3 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 351 or SILA 330 with a grade of "C" or better

Advisory: Eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b)

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course surveys topics related to educating Deaf children, adults, and individuals with additional disabilities. It also covers teaching methods and philosophies, school placement issues, child development, and methods of addressing developmental and linguistic stages. Selected visits to a residential Deaf school in Fremont and/or a local mainstreaming/Deaf program school may be required. This course is formerly known as SILA 332.

DEAF 355 Audism and Inequality of the Deaf 3 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 351 or SILA 330 with a grade of "C" or better

Advisory: SOC 320; AND eligible for ENGRD 310 or ENGRD 312 AND ENGWR 300; OR ESLR 340 AND ESLW 340.

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area D3; CSU Area D7

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course focuses on topics in the field of race and ethnicity in Deaf community. It provides theoretical background and contexts of audism and oppression. It also covers the contribution of minorities including Deaf people to the United States as well as the sociological reasons for inequality of Deaf people in the United States.

**DEAF 370 Linguistics of
American Sign Language 3 Units**

Prerequisite: DEAF 316 or SILA 316 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through the assessment process.

General Education: AA/AS Area II(b)

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course provides a foundation in American Sign Language (ASL) linguistics. Topics include theoretical knowledge and practical application of phonology, morphology, syntax, and sociolinguistics aspects of ASL usage. This course is formerly known as SILA 317.

DEAF 380 American Sign Language Literature 3 Units

Prerequisite: DEAF 314 or SILA 315 with a grade of "C" or better

General Education: AA/AS Area I; AA/AS Area VI; CSU Area C2

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course introduces American Sign Language (ASL) literature genres such as folklore and folktales, storytelling, visual vernacular, personification, classifier story, poetry, ABC and number stories and non-fiction narrative. Topics include analyzing and applying ASL usage in ASL literature genres.

**DEAF 390 Introduction to
the Interpreting Profession .5 Units**

Prerequisite: DEAF 310 or SILA 305 with a grade of "C" or better

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 9 hours LEC

This course introduces general information about the field of American Sign Language (ASL)/English interpretation. Topics include regulations, certification and educational requirements, fundamental and requisite skills, the Code of Professional Conduct, and pay scale and job opportunities in the field of ASL/English interpretation. An overview of the Interpreter Preparation Program at American River College and hands-on experiences are incorporated. Pass/No Pass only. This course is formerly known as SILA 362.

**DEAF 495 Independent Studies in Deaf Culture and
American Sign Language Studies 1-3 Units**

Prerequisite: None

Hours: 54-162 hours LAB

Independent Study is an opportunity for the student to extend classroom experience in this subject, while working independently of a formal classroom situation. Independent study is an extension of work offered in a specific class in the college catalog. To be eligible for independent study, students must have completed the basic regular catalog course at American River College. They must also discuss the study with a professor in this subject and secure approval. Only one independent study for each catalog course will be allowed.