

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES

## CERTIFICATE - 18 CREDITS

### About this program

The American Sign Language (ASL) Studies certificate provides students with a basic knowledge of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. The curriculum provides a foundation for entry into a career in a deafness-related field and prepares students for continued educational studies in more advanced preparation for ASL interpreter certification. This program does not prepare students to become interpreters.

### Program outcomes

1. Demonstrate basic conversational skills and use of appropriate American Sign Language vocabulary, finger spelling and numbers.
2. Effectively communicate with deaf and hard-of-hearing people in a variety of settings.
3. Be prepared to meet the ASL prerequisites for sign language interpreter education programs.
4. Comprehend that the Deaf community shares a set of values, rules and traditions different from typical American values.

### Curriculum overview

| Crds | Requirement type |
|------|------------------|
| 18   | Required courses |
| 18   | <b>Total</b>     |

**Developmental courses note:** A student may be required to enroll in developmental courses in reading, writing and math. A student's scores on the Accuplacer assessment will determine enrollment in developmental courses. The purpose of developmental courses is to prepare students for the demands of a college-level curriculum. *Credits may vary.*

**Accreditation:** Minnesota State Community and Technical College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Higher Learning Commission 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411 <http://www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org> Phone: 312.263.0456 / 800.621.7440

# Curriculum requirement details

Required courses

Other requirements or restricted electives

| Course   | Crds |
|--|------|
| ASL1101 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture I.....   | 3    |
| ASL1102 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture II.....  | 3    |
| ASL1103 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture III..... | 3    |
| ASL1104 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture IV.....  | 3    |
| ASL1105 - Advanced Fingerspelling and Numbers .....        | 3    |
| COMM2200 - Intercultural Communication .....               | 3    |

## Course summaries

### **ASL1101 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture I ..... (3 credits)**

This is the first in a series of courses designed to develop the skills and knowledge needed to communicate in American Sign Language (ASL). This course introduces information about the Deaf community and Deaf culture. It will familiarize students with basic ASL vocabulary and grammar, including hand shapes, body movements and facial expressions to convey meaning. The course includes interactive activities, cultural awareness education and individual feedback, with emphasis on appropriate language use in common communication settings.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Assessment into ENGL1101

### **ASL1102 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture II ..... (3 credits)**

This is the second in a series of courses designed to develop the skills and knowledge needed to communicate in American Sign Language (ASL). ASL 1102 will focus on vocabulary development, fingerspelling, numbers and grammatical structure. This course includes further practice with both expressive and receptive ASL, along with additional information about the Deaf Community and Deaf Culture.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- ASL1101
- Grade of B or better in ASL1101.

### **ASL1103 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture III ..... (3 credits)**

This is the third in a series of courses designed to develop the skills and knowledge needed to communicate in American Sign Language (ASL). The course will focus on speed, fluency, vocabulary expansion and conversational skills, along with reinforcement of appropriate grammar usage. It also will examine attitudes, values and cultural norms of the Deaf Community.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- ASL1102
- Grade of B or better in ASL1102

### **ASL1104 - American Sign Language and Deaf Culture IV ..... (3 credits)**

This course, the fourth in a series of American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture courses, focuses upon the grammatical features of ASL and vocabulary expansion. Content of this course will focus on sentence construction, inflecting verbs and classifiers. Fluency and accuracy of fingerspelling will continue to be developed, along with the use of lexicalized signs and numbering.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Grade of B or better in ASL1103

### **ASL1105 - Advanced Fingerspelling and Numbers ..... (3 credits)**

This course focuses on enhancing expressive and receptive fingerspelling and numbers in American Sign Language (ASL). ASL1105 will expand the emphasis on using fingerspelling, lexicalized and abbreviated words, and ASL numbers, along with continued study of the complex rules and patterns of ASL number systems.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- ASL 1101 and a grade of B or better in ASL 1101

### **COMM2200 - Intercultural Communication ..... (3 credits)**

Meets MnTC Goal Areas 1 and 7. This course explores the nature of communication within and between cultures and co-cultures. This class will challenge students to think about their own cultural assumptions and explore ways in which these assumptions differ from those held by people in other cultures. Students will review theories of communication and culture and will examine how culture is evident in languages, behaviors, rituals, norms and worldviews. Students will observe and describe their own cultural background and will learn to respectfully communicate with members of other cultures.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- Assessment into ENGL 1101

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Program Plan — "Primary"

Locations: Moorhead

1st Fall Term (6 credits)

Courses

| Course   | Crds |
|--|------|
| ASL1101.: American Sign Language and Deaf Culture I... | 3    |
| COMM2200 - Intercultural Communication .....           | 3    |

1st Spring Term (3 credits)

Courses

| Course  | Crds |
|---|------|
| ASL1102.: American Sign Language and Deaf Culture II. | 3    |

2nd Fall Term (6 credits)

Courses

| Course  | Crds |
|---|------|
| ASL1103.: American Sign Language and Deaf Culture III | 3    |
| ASL1105 - Advanced Fingerspelling and Numbers .....   | 3    |

2nd Spring Term (3 credits)

Courses

| Course   | Crds |
|--|------|
| ASL1104.: American Sign Language and Deaf Culture IV | 3    |