American Sign Language (ASL) instruction at College of the Sequoias prepares students for entry-level employment and/or potential further study in the field of ASL which includes career pathways in interpreting, social services and teaching. We also offer an introduction to sign language interpreting course to prepare students who are interested in becoming interpreters.

Contact Information

Language and Communication Studies Division Chair

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Associate Degree

- Associate of Arts in American Sign Language (AA) (https://catalog.cos.edu/areas-study/american-sign-language/associate-arts-american-sign-language-not-for-transfer-aa/)

For a complete list of courses and descriptions visit: COURSES (https://catalog.cos.edu/course-descriptions/)

ASL 001 American Sign Language 1  4unit(s)
Hours: 4 Lecture/Discussion
This course is a study of fundamentals of American Sign Language. Students will learn the basics of visual/gestural communication and grammatical structures with emphasis on receptive and expressive skills, including intensive practice, finger spelling, individual evaluation, and basic information about Deaf culture.
ASL 002 American Sign Language 2
Hours: 3 Lecture/Discussion
ASL 002 is the second course in a four-course series. Emphasis will be on increasing vocabulary, developing everyday conversational skills, expressing considerably more complicated needs and ideas, and becoming more adept at functioning in the deaf community. Students will also begin translating written text into ASL.
Prerequisites: ASL 001 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

ASL 003 American Sign Language 3
Hours: 3 Lecture/Discussion
ASL 003 is the third course in a four-course series. Students learn to communicate at an intermediate level. Emphasis is on expanding conversation adeptly and comfortably in a wide variety of situations in the deaf community.
Prerequisites: ASL 002 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

ASL 004 American Sign Language 4
Hours: 3 Lecture/Discussion
ASL 004 is the final course in this four-course series. Emphasis is placed on fluency in functional conversational skills in cultural context. Morphology and grammar of American Sign Language will be explored in depth.
Prerequisites: ASL 003 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

ASL 105 Deaf Culture
Hours: 3 Lecture/Discussion
An in-depth study of Deaf culture and the deaf community which will help students understand Deaf culture, values, language, identity, rules of interaction, and traditions.
Advisory on Recommended Preparation: ASL 001 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

ASL 106 Deaf Literature
Hours: 3 Lecture/Discussion
A study of American Sign Language literature that has been passed down from one generation to the next by people of Deaf culture and examination of the values, morals and life experiences of the world around Deaf people.
Advisory on Recommended Preparation: ASL 001 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

ASL 110 Introduction to Sign Language Interpreting
Hours: 4 Lecture/Discussion
Introduction to the profession of sign language interpretation, emphasizing a professional code of ethics applied to real situations. Advanced techniques will include legal, medical, educational, mental health, religious, and deaf/blind interpreting.
Prerequisites: ASL 002 or equivalent college course with a minimum grade of C.

American Sign Language
Klein, Annette
B.A., California State University, Fresno
M.A., California State University, Fresno