

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) STUDIES CERTIFICATE (CAREER)

Program website ([https://www.frederick.edu/programs/arts-humanities/american-sign-language-\(asl\)-studies-area-of-conce.aspx](https://www.frederick.edu/programs/arts-humanities/american-sign-language-(asl)-studies-area-of-conce.aspx))

Program Description

Introduces students to the rich history and culture of the Deaf community. Students will gain fluency and mastery of American Sign Language (ASL) by acquiring foundational skills and knowledge of the Deaf community. Students gain cultural competency by becoming involved in their local Deaf community through coursework and internships. Students gain a solid foundation to further their studies in American Sign Language, interpreting, and education of the Deaf or other related fields. Students will transmit their knowledge and promote respect for the rich history and culture of their local Deaf community.

All courses in this certificate apply toward the fulfillment of requirements for the American Sign Language (ASL) Studies Area of Concentration within the A.A. degree in Arts & Humanities. Students will be required to complete the ASL Proficiency Interview before graduation.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Compare and identify linguistic components of and relationships between languages, spoken and signed.
- Create new local and global understandings of d/Deaf languages and cultures through assessments of current knowledge and independent research.
- Critically judge and assess the quality of current ways of thinking about language and culture on local and global scales.
- Converse fluently in ASL with peers, both Deaf and hearing, by applying the language in conversations, ASL storytelling, or narratives.
- Explain and apply the ASL grammar structures in dialogues.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the Deaf culture, heritage, and Deaf values through signed presentations, papers, and written exams.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Departmental Requirements		
ASLS 120	Visual Gestural Communication	1
ASLS 121	American Sign Language I	3
ASLS 122	American Sign Language II	4
ASLS 124	Introduction to Deaf Community and History	3
ASLS 125	Depictive Verbs and Classifiers in ASL	3
ASLS 223	American Sign Language III	4
ASLS 224	American Sign Language IV	4
ASLS 230	Deaf Culture and Oppression	3
ASLS 232	Introduction to the Structure of ASL	3
ASLS 234	Discourse Features and Analysis in ASL	3
ASLS 236	ASL and English Comparative Analysis	3
Total Credits		34

Transfer Note

For more information on careers and transfer, contact the Career and Academic Planning Services office at 301.846.2471 or visit Transfer Services (<https://www.frederick.edu/student-resources/counseling-advising/transfer-services.aspx>).

Guided Pathway to Success (GPS)

Suggested schedules map your path to degree completion.

Students should meet with an advisor each semester to carefully select and sequence courses based on their specific academic goals and interests. Visit Jefferson Hall or call 301.846.2471 for advising.

Recommended First Semester		Credits
ASLS 120	Visual Gestural Communication	1
ASLS 121	American Sign Language I	3
ASLS 124	Introduction to Deaf Community and History (Milestone)	3
Credits		7
Recommended Second Semester		Credits
ASLS 122	American Sign Language II	4
ASLS 125	Depictive Verbs and Classifiers in ASL	3
Credits		7
Recommended Third Semester		Credits
ASLS 223	American Sign Language III	4
ASLS 230	Deaf Culture and Oppression (Milestone)	3
Credits		7
Recommended Fourth Semester		Credits
ASLS 224	American Sign Language IV	4
ASLS 232	Introduction to the Structure of ASL	3
Credits		7
Recommended Fifth Semester		Credits
ASLS 234	Discourse Features and Analysis in ASL	3
ASLS 236	ASL and English Comparative Analysis	3
Credits		6
Total Credits		34

Part-time Students

Part-time students should complete courses in the order listed on the pathway. Please contact program manager for questions about part-time status.

Students who take fewer than 15 credits each semester or who require developmental English or Math coursework will need additional semesters to complete their degrees. Summer term and January session classes may help students to make faster progress.

Pathway Legend

Milestone - courses with the Milestone notation should be taken within the recommend credit range to stay on track for program completion.

Fall, Spring, Summer - courses with a Fall, Spring, or Summer notation indicate the course is offered in the specified semester only.