

American Sign Language, AAS

Academic Year 2026-2027

Program Description:

This program is designed to give students foundation in American Sign Language (ASL) and to acquaint them with basic issues of concern to the Deaf Community. Furthermore, the program offers an opportunity to individuals already working in the Deaf community to increase their understanding of ASL and Deaf Culture in order to strengthen their knowledge and their communication skills.

Upon completion of the Associate of Applied Science Degrees in American Sign Language, The graduate will be able to:

- Effectively communicate with Deaf person in informal settings in teaching, human services, or health care;
- Enhance their credentials for employment opportunities which do not require interpreter certification but do assign value to skills in ASL . and knowledge of Deaf culture;
- Earn the academic qualifications for entry into advanced studies at universities offering sign language programs;
- Enter an interpreter training program, after which they may sit for a certification examination, sponsored by the national licensing organization.

Career Outlook:

American Sign Language skills are needed by professionals in public and private agencies and educational settings serving the deaf/hard of hearing people (e.g. teachers, counselors, consultants, therapists, specialists) by enhancing their ability to understand and communicate with the deaf and hard hearing. (<http://www.aslta.org/language/index.html>)

Salary Forecast:

For the most current salary information please refer to the Bureau of Labor Statistics “Occupational Outlook Handbook” found at www.bls.gov/ooh/.

Program Outcomes:

- Utilize fingerspelling to communicate with Deaf persons
- Converse fluently in ASL with peers both Deaf and hearing by applying the language in conversations, ASL storytelling, or narratives
- Compare and contrast Deaf Culture/the deaf community with the hearing community
- Apply ASL grammar structures when in dialogue
- Identify local and national resources for Deaf, hard of hearing, and late deafened adults

Additional Information:

Other individuals that can benefit from this program are parents of DHH children and young hearing children, early childhood teachers and child care providers, teacher, paraprofessionals, speech/language pathologists, counselors, interpreters, and medical professionals.

Contact Information:

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Mountwest empowers students to learn and lead in the community and in the workforce.

American Sign Language¹ – Major Code CA50	
Name:	ID Number 942-
Educational Counselor:	
Faculty Advisor:	

COURSE	REQUIREMENTS	SEM	HRS	GR	SUBSTITUTE/REPEAT CRS	SEM	CR
ASL 101	American Sign Language	F	3				
ASL 101L	ASL Lab I	F	1				
ASL 105	American Deaf Community & Culture	F	3				
ASL 111	Visual & Gestural Communication	F	3				
ASL 115	Deaf and ASL Art and Literature	F	3				
ENL 101	Written Communication ²		3				
COL 101	New Student Seminar		1				
			17				
ASL 102	American Sign Language II	S	3				
ASL 102L	ASL Lab II	S	1				
ASL 103	Fingerspelling	S	3				
ASL 215	Visual Music ASL ⁸	S	2				
COM 112 or COM 125	Oral Communication Or Interpersonal Communication		3				
MAT 120	Applied Professional Math		3				
			15				
ASL 201	American Sign Language III	F	3				
ASL 201L	ASL Lab III	F	1				
ASL 112	Intro to ASL Linguistics	F	3				
ASL 220	Resources for the Deaf Community	F	3				
PSYC 200	General Psychology		3				
			13				
ASL 202	American Sign Language IV	S	3				
ASL 202L	ASL Lab IV	S	1				
ASL 205	American Deaf Community History	S	3				
ASL 270	Introduction to Interpreting	S	3				
ASL 290	Applied Issues Concerning Deaf Community	S	3				
HIST 104	US History Since 1877		3				
			16				
	HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 61						

¹ All ASL courses must be completed with a “C” or better to graduate.

² ENL 101 has a prerequisite of ACT 18, SAT 480+, Accuplacer 250-300 or placed in ENL 101E. Students must complete ENL 101 or ENL 101E with a "C" or better to graduate.

³ ASL 102 has a prerequisite of ASL 101 and 101L.

⁴ ASL 201 has a prerequisite of ASL 101, 101L, and ASL 102, 102L.

⁵ MAT 120 has a prerequisite of a minimum ACT Math score of 19, SAT Math score of 510, or Accuplacer of 250.

⁶ ASL 202 and ASL 270 have prerequisites of ASL 101, 101L, ASL 102, ASL 201, and 201L.

⁷ ASL 290 has prerequisites of ASL 101, ASL 101L, ASL 102, ASL 105, ASL 110, ASL 115, ASL 201, ASL 205, and ASL 220.

⁸ ASL 215 has a prerequisite of ASL 101