

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES (AA)

## Associate of Arts

### Transfer Program

#### Interest Areas:

**Arts, Comm., and Humanities**

This program prepares students for transfer to a four-year program in pursuit of careers in the Signing Professions. Course work is designed to provide information on the linguistic, historical, and cultural background of the American Deaf community.

An associate's degree with emphasis in American Sign Language Studies meets the general education requirements at all Idaho public universities. Course selection should be coordinated to meet requirements for the intended transfer institution's related majors. Such related majors may include: Deaf Studies, Early Childhood Education, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Sign Language Interpreting. Other professions that would benefit from this acquired skill and knowledge may include careers in Human Services, Education, Social Services, and Business.

Note: This is not an Interpreter Training Program (ITP), but most courses transfer to satisfy some ITP requirements at the transfer institution.

#### Contact Information:







**English & Humanities Division**

**Lee-Kildow Hall, Room 204C**

**Phone: (208) 769-3394**

Program Website ([https://www.nic.edu/programs/viewprogram.aspx?program\\_id=84](https://www.nic.edu/programs/viewprogram.aspx?program_id=84))

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
GEM 1	Written Communication	6
GEM 2	Oral Communication	3
GEM 3	Mathematical Ways of Knowing	3-5
GEM 4	Scientific Ways of Knowing	8
GEM 5	Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing <sup>1</sup>	3
GEM 6	Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing	6
GEM 7	Institutionally Designated	4-6
<b>Program Requirements</b>		
ASL-101	Elementary American Sign Language I   	5
ASL-102	Elementary American Sign Language II   	5
ASL-126	Introduction to the Signing Professions	3
ASL-201	Intermediate American Sign Language I	4
ASL-202	Intermediate American Sign Language II	4
ASL-207	Deaf Culture and Community	3
ASL-210	Linguistics of ASL	3
ASL-225	Introduction to the Interpreting Profession	3

ASL-260	Creative Sign Language	3
Total Credits		66-70

<sup>1</sup> This General Education Requirement is partially met by the Program Requirements.

### Course Key



GEM



WICHE  
Passport



AAS  
Institutionally  
Designated



Gateway



Milestone

## Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Perform intermediate language proficiency based on the ASLTA<sup>1</sup> Standards for learning ASL (created from ACTFL<sup>2</sup> Guidelines) in all areas of communication which included:
  - Initiate, engage, and elaborate in ASL conversations covering a vast array of topics in a culturally appropriate manner
  - Utilize both academic and 'real-world' ASL
  - Demonstrate understanding of the linguistic principles of ASL including the phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of the language.
- Demonstrate and understanding and appreciation of American Deaf Culture and common practices/perspectives of Deaf people.
- Identify commonalities and differences between ASL/Deaf Culture and English/Hearing Cultures.
- Discover various career paths that involve ASL and the Deaf community.

In addition to the program outcomes, students will meet the North Idaho College General Education (GEM) Requirements.

- <sup>1</sup> The American Sign Language Teacher's Association (ASLTA) is a national professional organization of American Sign Language and Deaf studies teacher.
- <sup>2</sup> The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) is also a national professional organization dedicated to the improvement and expansion of the teaching and learning of all languages at all levels of instructions.