



American Sign Language Certificate

Diversify your communication skills with the American Sign Language (ASL) Certificate. Students will equip themselves with basic tools to communicate with Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing individuals, including the use of expressive fingerspelling, signing, and conversational behaviors.

American Sign Language Curriculum

Curriculum

Program Courses

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
ASL 1101	American Sign Language I (ASL I)	View-ASL 1101	n/a	4
ASL 1102	American Sign Language II (ASL II)	View-ASL 1102	n/a	4
ASL 1300	Deaf Culture	View-ASL 1300	n/a	3
ASL 1400	Fingerspelling and Numbers	View-ASL 1400	n/a	3
ASL 2201	Intermediate American Sign Language (ASL III)	View-ASL 2201	n/a	4
ASL 2202	Intermediate American Sign Language (ASL IV)	View-ASL 2202	n/a	4

NHCC Residency and GPA

7 Credits must be earned at NHCC

Total Credits Required

22

Program Overview

2024-2025

The purpose of the American Sign Language (ASL) Certificate is to provide training for students who wish to learn basic American Sign Language and understand Deaf Culture. This certificate is appropriate for students who are planning to enter or are currently employed in all areas of customer relations. Students who complete this certificate will be in a position to use basic communication with colleagues or customers who are ASL users. This program will not prepare students to become interpreters.

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to communicate with Deaf and Hard of hearing people on a basic level in American Sign Language, including the use of fingerspelling numbers, signs and grammar structures. Students who earn this certificate may choose to continue their studies in an Interpreting Program for ASL.

Program Outcomes

Develop a foundation of essential knowledge about the cultural, social, and natural worlds of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing along with overall individual well being by:

- Articulating an awareness and understanding of Deaf Culture and the unique qualities of deafness as an American Linguistic minority.

Develop Intellectual and Practical Skills, including:

- Demonstrating basic conversational skills and use of appropriate American Sign Language grammar structures, vocabulary, finger spelling and numbers.
- Effectively communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in American Sign Language in a variety of settings i.e. work, grocery store, church, etc.

Demonstrate Personal and Social Responsibility, including:

- Analyzing individual approaches to American Sign Language and making appropriate choices within various contexts involved.

Integrative Learning:

- Analyzing, comparing, and contrasting different perspectives of the Deaf Community.
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Program Maps

Program roadmaps provide students with a guide to understand the recommended course sequence to complete their degree.

- [American Sign Language Certificate Program Roadmap](#)
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Career Opportunities

Information on careers, including career descriptions, salary data, and employment outlook is available on the [Bureau of Labor Statistics website](#) and [O*Net Online website](#).

Transfer Information

If you are planning on transferring to another institution, follow the guidelines available on our transfer resources web page to help you plan the process: [Transfer Information](#)

Degree Information

Certificates may be earned for successful completion of courses in a specialized program of study with a minimum grade point average of 2.00 (C). A certificate shall include 9 to 30 semester credits. At least one third of the total credits required for each certificate must be completed at North Hennepin Community College.

Developmental Courses Some students may need preparatory course(s) in Math and/or English. Courses numbered below 1000 will not apply toward a degree.

Equal Opportunity Employer and Disability Access Information North Hennepin Community College is a member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and an equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 7634930555 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 18006273529.

Accreditation

North Hennepin Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

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