AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AA: 608
Total Credits: 60
Catalog Edition: 2022-2023

Program Description
(R): 608

The associate of arts degree program in American Sign Language is a transfer-degree program designed for students who plan to enter fields in which they would work with Deaf people on a daily basis. The program fosters the acquisition of the language and culture of the Deaf in the United States and Canada. Following the national standards established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the program focuses on communication through the study of semantics, syntax, pragmatics, and culture. Following program completion, students would transfer to a four-year degree program majoring in American Sign Language, Deaf studies, Deaf education, interpreter education, or social work.

Program Outcomes
Upon completion of this program a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate an appreciation of the culture and cultural practices of the Deaf community and support ASL as the visual language of the Deaf community.
- Effectively utilize signed communicative and interpreting skills learned in the classroom in general situations in and out of the Deaf community.
- Achieve an overall proficiency rating in all skill areas, both linguistic and pragmatic, of 2.5 on the MC American Sign Language Proficiency Assessment (MC-ASLPA).

Program Advisors
Rockville

- Prof. Ivonne Bruneau-Botello (Department Chair), 240-567-3993, Ivonne.Bruneau-Botello@montgomerycollege.edu

Online Advising

- Please review our ASLP General Advising Module at https://youtu.be/_zXeteNtcTA and complete the ASLP Advising Form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSexYlLBi1fW4yaTzaeDTQujfwjrGXg99ctaO9rjKdgbeHN viewform to receive more information.

For more information, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/asl .

To view the Advising Worksheet, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/_documents/counseling-and-advising/advising-worksheets/current-catalog/608.pdf

2022-2023

Program Advising Guide
An Academic Reference Tool for Students

608

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
ASSOCIATE OF ARTS: 608

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Suggested Course Sequence

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

First Semester

ENGL 101 - Introduction to College Writing *3 semester hours* *

ASLP 100 - ASL I *3 semester hours* (HUMD)

ASLP 105 - Visual Gestural Communication *3 semester hours*

ASLP 106 - Fingerspelling and Number Use in ASL *3 semester hours*

PSYC 102 - General Psychology *3 semester hours* (BSSD)

Third Semester

ASLP 200 - ASL III *3 semester hours*

ASLP 205 - Structural ASL I *3 semester hours*

ASLP 207 - ASL Translation and Interpretation *3 semester hours*

ASLP 269 - Independent Study in ASL *1-4 semester hours* (2 semester hours)

Arts Distribution *3 semester hours (ARTD)*

Second Semester

English Foundation *3 semester hours (ENGF)*

Mathematics Foundation *3 semester hours (MATF)*

ASLP 110 - ASL II *3 semester hours* (HUMD, GEIR)

ASLP 121 - Introduction to the Deaf Community and Culture *3 semester hours* (BSSD)

Natural Science Distribution with Lab*4 semester hours (NSLD)*

Fourth Semester

ASLP 206 - Structural ASL II *3 semester hours*

ASLP 210 - ASL IV *3 semester hours*

ASLP 222 - Deaf History and Culture *3 semester hours*

HLTH 105 - Personal and Community Health *3 semester hours* (GEIR)

Natural Sciences Distribution *3 semester hours (NSD)*

Total Credit Hours: 60

* ENGL 101/ENGL 101A, if needed for ENGL 102/ENGL 103, or elective.

Transfer Opportunities

Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer or http://artsys.usmd.edu .

Get Involved at MC!

Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/

Related Careers

There are many promising career opportunities for people who are proficient in American Sign Language (ASL). The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the demand for Sign Language Interpreters is expected to grow 46% from 2012 to 2022, which represents a surge of 29,300 jobs. The requirements for interpreters vary from licensing, formal preparation (Associates, Bachelors or Masters) to doctoral degrees.
Being fluent in ASL can also open doors to specialized careers in various fields, including therapy, technology, education, health, tourism and many other recreational services, to name a few.

American Sign Language Mentoring Program

Our ASL Mentoring Program creates opportunities for ASL students to remain on course to complete program requirements and to stay engaged in the acquisition of language skills. If you have questions that you want to ask an experienced or native signer, or if you just want to practice ASL, you can have free, one-on-one or group mentoring sessions. For more information about ASL mentoring, contact the Department of World Languages and Philosophy (Rockville, Macklin Tower, Room 429; 240-567-5393).

Career Services

Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career

Career Coach

A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit https://montgomerycollege.emsicc.com

Important Facts

Why should I learn American Sign Language (ASL) at MC?

Our students are motivated to study ASL for a variety of professional and personal reasons. Many of our students are interested in becoming interpreters, so gaining fluency in ASL and learning more about Deaf culture are integral first steps. Others are pursuing fields like education, speech-language pathology, audiology, counseling, or social work, where they will benefit from knowledge of ASL. Even if their major does not explicitly require knowledge of ASL, students in many different service-related positions—childcare, retail, and more—discover ASL to be an asset when interacting with Deaf community members.

In addition to opening the door to many professional opportunities, students often study ASL for personal reasons. Many of our students study ASL because they wish to communicate with Deaf family and friends. Some of our students are Deaf or hard of hearing themselves and study ASL to learn more about the structure and syntax of their own language; others are international students who use different sign languages and want to learn American Sign Language as well. Regardless of your motivation, you will find committed instructors, relevant content, and engaged student peers in our program.

Do you have prior experience with ASL?

The Department of World Languages and Philosophy has an assessment instrument to place students out of ASLP100. Please contact us (Macklin Tower 429; 240-567-5393) if you have prior experience with ASL, and we will help you meet with the ASL coordinator or a faculty member to evaluate your skills. Please note, at this time we do not offer credit by exam. If you are majoring or seeking a degree in ASL, you must meet with the department chair and/or an ASL advisor to discuss course substitution to meet General Education distribution requirements.

Can I get both the AA and the certificate?

Yes! In fact, we recommend that all students pursuing the A.A. in ASL also declare their intent to pursue a certificate as well. The overlap in required courses means that you can pursue both simultaneously and graduate from MC with both a degree and a credential. If you have declared your major and are currently pursuing the AA but not the certificate, contact an advisor today to add the certificate.