

## American Sign Language/ English Interpreting (INT)

The ASL/English Interpreting (INT) curriculum prepares students to work as professional interpreters with deaf and nondeaf (hearing) people. The goal of the ASL/English interpreter is to make communication as complete and equal as possible for both deaf and nondeaf participants by conveying as accurately as possible the thoughts, feelings, words, attitudes and meanings of the message, whether it is expressed in spoken English, American Sign Language (ASL) or other forms of signed communication. Thus, interpreters must be bilingual, skilled in both English and ASL, and bicultural, knowledgeable about the cultures of both deaf and nondeaf people.

In addition, an interpreter must be versatile, mature and flexible in order to successfully work with people from a variety of backgrounds with diverse communication needs. The field encompasses a multitude of situations and settings, including medical, legal, and psychological, that frequently contain sensitive and personal issues. In responding to these situations it is the interpreter's professional responsibility to thoroughly understand, and adhere to, the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. Code of Professional Conduct. Thus, it is imperative that interpreters also be of high moral character, nonjudgmental, and well-informed, in order to be able to meet the challenges which arise in these sensitive, diverse and ever-changing situations.

The INT curriculum covers a variety of subject areas, including deaf culture, structure of ASL, comparative English and ASL, professional practices and ethics, interpreting processes in theory and application, and guided skill development in ASL and interpreting with diagnostic feedback. The INT lab offers practice opportunities in both video and digital formats in a small group, supportive environment.

In addition to traditional classroom lectures and laboratory activities, the curriculum utilizes hands-on experience through fieldwork, guest lectures, observations, and internship. Cooperative relationships with professional and community agencies and organizations are maintained to provide opportunities for networking and interaction with the deaf community, as well as the professional interpreting community.

The INT program prepares students for entry-level work as interpreters. It also prepares students for the national certification evaluation given by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. For the majority of students, however, several years of professional work experience after graduation are needed before certification can be attained. Students completing the curriculum receive an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree.

### PROGRAM ENTRY AND PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS:

To be accepted into the ASL/English Interpreting Program students must earn a minimum grade of "B" in both ASL 101 and ASL 102 (both Program prerequisites). Applicants to the ASL/English Interpreting Program who have not taken ASL 101 and/or ASL 102, and who have prior experience with the language of ASL, may request a proficiency screening for acceptance and placement in the program.

To be accepted into the ASL/English Interpreting Program students must be English 101 ready. Developmental coursework must be completed before admittance into the program.

Applicants requesting transfer of ASL courses from another college must have earned a minimum grade of "B" on ASL 101, 102, 201, and 202 equivalents at their former college(s) for these courses to be transferable.

### PROGRAM RETENTION CRITERIA:

Students who wish to continue into INT level coursework must earn a grade of "B" or higher in both ASL 201 and ASL 202.

To remain in the ASL/English Interpreting curriculum, a student must receive a minimum grade of "C" in all ASL, INT and English courses. A student who demonstrates attitudes and behavior viewed as inconsistent with professional ASL/English interpreting standards may be dropped from the curriculum. In the event a student is dropped from the curriculum, the procedures of the College regarding dismissal of a student will be followed.

A student may be readmitted only once to the program.

Students must complete all coursework within five academic years of original date of entry into the program. Students who leave the program and wish to return after a period of five years will be evaluated for the need to retake coursework previously taken.

### PROGRAM OF STUDY AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

To qualify for an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in ASL/English Interpreting, a student must complete 68-69 credits as prescribed, and have a minimum GPA of 2.5 in all Program Core coursework and an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0, with no grade below "C."

*(continued on next page)*

Recommended Course Sequence	Course Number and Name	Prerequisite or Corequisite	Credits
<b>Program Core Courses - ASL/English Interpreting</b>			
1	ASL 201 - Intermediate American Sign Language I	ASL 102	3
3	ASL 202 - Intermediate American Sign Language II	ASL 201	3
5	INT 105 - Introduction to the American Deaf Community	ASL 102	3
6	ASL 215 - ASL Fingerspelling	ASL 202	3
7	ASL 230 - Structure of American Sign Language	ASL 202	3
8	ASL 231 - Advanced American Sign Language I	ASL 202	3
10	INT 106 - American Deaf Culture	INT 105	3
11	ASL 232 - Advanced American Sign Language II	ASL 231	3
12	INT 240 - Introduction to the Field of ASL/English Interpreting	ASL 230, ASL 231, INT 105, and ENGL 101 Pre or Coreq: INT 242	3
13	INT 242 - Introduction to Interpreting Processes	ASL 215, ASL 230 and ASL 231 Pre or Coreq: INT 240	3
14	INT 251 - ASL/English Interpreting I	INT 106, ASL 230, ASL 232, INT 240 and INT 242	3
16	INT 252 - ASL/English Interpreting II	INT 251	3
17	INT 255 - Transliterating	INT 251	3
20	INT 260 - Interpreting in Specialized Settings	INT 252	3
21	INT 297 - Interpreting Practicum	INT 252 and INT 255	4
<b>General Education Courses</b> (See page 36 for information on disciplines which meet these requirements.)			
2	ENGL 101 - English Composition I		3
4	Social Science Elective*		3
9	CIS 100 Introduction to Computer Use		1
15	Humanities Elective (select from:) ENGL 115 - Public Speaking ENGL 116 - Interpersonal Communications ENGL 131 - Acting I		3
18	Mathematics Elective (MATH 118 or higher)	Placement Test	3
19	ENGL 102 - English Composition II	ENGL 101	3
22	Social Science Elective*		3
23	Science Elective		3/4

**Total to Graduate:** 68-69 credits minimum

\*One of these two courses must fulfill the American Diversity Requirement

For More Information Contact:

The Division of Liberal Studies, Room BR-21, 1700 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130, Telephone 215-751-8450; or the College Information Center, 215-751-8010.