DEAF COMMUNICATION STUDIES (DCS)

DCS 104. American Sign Language I (MOTR LANG 105). 5 Credit Hours.
In American Sign Language (ASL), Deaf instructors whose native language is ASL provide intensive exposure to basic ASL, expressively and receptively. The “voice off” policy in class creates a total immersion learning environment. Topics include: basic fingerspelling; cardinal numbers 1-66; statements, yes-no questions, wh-questions, and commands; personal activities; describing shapes and people; giving directions; spatial agreement; modifying verbs; Deaf communication cultural norms; biographies and accomplishments of Deaf individuals. Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency

DCS 105. American Sign Language II (MOTR LANG 106). 5 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to reinforce concepts taught in DCS 104 with a grade of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 106. American Sign Language III. 5 Credit Hours.
Continued exposure is given to ASL, allowing greater development of expressive and receptive ASL communication skills. Linguistic features of ASL and cultural features of the American Deaf community are presented in the context of language learning experiences. Prerequisites: DCS 104 with grade of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 107. Fingerspelling and Number. 3 Credit Hours.
This course teaches the manual alphabet and number principles for Deaf people. It is essential to develop communication skills in ASL or PSE. Prerequisites: DCS 106 with a grade of ‘C’ or better.

DCS 108. Orientation to Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
An overview of interpreting as an occupation. Topics include interpersonal skills, professional ethics, parameters of responsibility of the paraprofessional, examination of community resources, and legal ramifications. Prerequisites: DCS 106, DCS 109 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 109. Etymology for Interpreters. 3 Credit Hours.
This course instructs students in the fundamentals of language building, interpreting, translating English idioms in the correct meaning, and identifying the variation of verb versatility, multiple meanings, multiple signs, and contextual clues. Concentrated attention is given to English and sign vocabulary development. Students will learn discourse and comparative analysis techniques. Corequisite: DCS 106. Prerequisites: ENG 101 with a grade of ‘C’ or better and department permission and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 110. Deaf Theatre Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
This course addresses the special considerations of sign language performance. Emphasis is placed on developing theatrical sign and mime skills. Lectures and field trips are included. The course is open to Deaf and non-Deaf students. Prerequisites: Department permission and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 111. Theory of American Sign Language. 3 Credit Hours.
Theory of American Sign Language (ASL) examines the phonetic, grammatical, and syntactic features of ASL in contrast with English. Topics include ASL linguistic terms, ten sentence types (statements, yes-no questions, wh-questions, rhetorical questions, negation, classifiers, chronological sequencing, spatialization, directionality, and conditionals), colors, places, occupations, numbers, and the terminology that names the features of English and ASL. Corequisite: DCS 119. Prerequisites: Prior or concurrent enrollment in DCS 104 with a grade of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 115. Introduction to Deaf Communications Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
This course surveys the aspects of deafness by familiarizing students with the physiology of the ear, causes and types of hearing losses, social and psychological aspects of deafness, national and community organizations (i.e. NAD, RID), and history of deaf education. Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency.

DCS 116. American Sign Language Semantics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to expand student’s knowledge, recognition, and understanding of American Sign Language semantics and semantic units. Focus will be on interpreting and translating ASL idiomatic expressions into equivalent English meaning and usage; developing a recognition of cultural variations of sentence types, time, pronounization, subjects and objects, classifiers, locatives, pluralization and temporal and distributational aspects. Emphasis will be on cross-cultural influences on language usage and thought. Prerequisites: DCS 104 and DCS 115 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 118. Sign Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.
Sign Seminar provides additional interactive opportunities for students to expand American Sign Language vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and semantics. Instruction is delivered in total immersion. Students interact with signers from the local Deaf community, on a variety of topics. Instructional approaches include discussion, expansion, and explanation in the target language. Colloquialisms, registers of discourse, and socially restricted vocabulary are included. Prerequisites: DCS 105 with a grade of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 119. Theory of American Sign Language Lab. 1 Credit Hour.
This course is designed to reinforce concepts taught in DCS 111 (Theory of American Sign Language) within individualized and small group settings. Additional hours required. Corequisite: DCS 111. Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency.

DCS 120. Fingerspelling Lab. 1 Credit Hour.
This course is designed to reinforce concepts taught in DCS 107 (Fingerspelling) within individualized and small group settings. Additional hours required. Corequisite: DCS 107. Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency.

DCS 121. American Sign Language IV. 3 Credit Hours.
This course provides continued and in-depth exposure to ASL allowing greater development of expressive and receptive ASL communication skill. Advanced linguistic and cultural features are presented in the context of language learning experiences. Reading Proficiency. Prerequisites: DCS 106 with a grade of ‘C’ or better.

DCS 206. Consecutive Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduces basic skills necessary for an individual to interpret ASL to English or English to ASL. The course is built around a sequencing of drills and incorporates video and deaf signers. The Code of Ethics is reinforced in the classroom. Prerequisites: DCS 106 and DCS 109 with grades of ‘C’ or better or permission of department and Reading Proficiency.
DCS 207. Simultaneous Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduces basic skills necessary to simultaneously transliterate Contact/PSE to English or English to Contact/PSE. The course is built around sequencing of drills and exercises and incorporates videos and deaf signers. The Code of Ethics will be reinforced in context.
Prerequisites: DCS 106 and DCS 109 with grades of ‘C’ or better or permission of department and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 209. Interpreting/Transliterating Lab. 1 Credit Hour.
Designed to reinforce concepts discussed in DCS 206/207 within individualized and small group settings. Concurrent enrollment in DCS 206 or DCS 207.
Additional lab hours required.
Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency.

DCS 210. Sign to Voice Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
The purpose of this course is to provide the student an opportunity to build skills in interpreting and transliterating into spoken English from ASL and various contact varieties.
Prerequisites: DCS 206, DCS 207 and COM 111 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 211. Specialized Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
Various interpreting settings are explored, including educational, legal, medical, mental health, religious, platform, rehabilitation, and performing arts. The course also develops understanding of additional types of communication techniques, such as interpreting for those who are deaf-blind, oral or exhibit minimal language skills.
Prerequisites: DCS 105 and COM 111 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 212. Deaf History and Culture. 3 Credit Hours.
This course helps students understand historical values and traditions within the culture of Deaf people. Traditions include use of humor, success stories and behaviors of empowerment. Values include the importance of clubs, perspectives on education of Deaf children, interpreter services and the preservation of ASL.
Prerequisites: DCS 211 with a grade of ‘C’ or better or approval of department chair and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 213. Professional Issues and Ethics. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will explore the current role of the interpreter as a professional. Topics will include, but not be limited to, the art of cross-cultural mediation, ethical standards, application of interpreting theories, resume development and business practices. This course will prepare students for the workplace learning experience.
Prerequisites: DCS 211 and DCS 216 both with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 214. Interactive Interpreting. 3 Credit Hours.
This skill development course will provide students with the opportunity to practice skills associated with interactive interpreting situations. Students will use both consecutive and simultaneous interpreting methods. Interactive interpreting refers to the process of initiating an interpretation both manual and verbal during a variety of interview and one-on-one situations (mental health, medical, employment, educational and business). Students will begin working with isolated cognitive subtasks (critical listening, analyzing the information, constructing the interpretation and generating the interpretation) of interpretation and work to integrate component skills to perform an interactive interpretation.
Prerequisites: DCS 210, DCS 216 and DCS 217 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 215. Interpreter Seminar. 2 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to provide increased interactive opportunities for students to continue the development of their knowledge of the interpreting process. Instructional approaches include discussion, expansion, and explanation of interpreting and transliterating. In addition, the course focuses on cross cultural mediation and discourse analysis.
Prerequisites: DCS 206 and DCS 207 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 216. Educational Interpreting - Classroom Applications. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to focus on the principles of interpreting within the framework of an educational system. Procedures and strategies for effective communication in the educational setting are discussed. The role of the educational interpreter to facilitate communication between Deaf individuals and their peers, educational instructors, staff and students is stressed. Also emphasized is the interpreter as a member of the educational team.
Prerequisites: DCS 206 and DCS 207 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 217. Translation Applications of ASL. 3 Credit Hours.
This is a skill development course based on English written text analysis and American Sign Language equivalent meaning and appropriate interpretation with conceptual accuracy. Students will engage in the analysis, discussion and translation of ASL and/or English texts from one language into the other. Student demonstration of translations will be used to discuss meaning of message and degrees of equivalency. The discourse style of American English and Sign Language usage will be analyzed to distinguish the patterns of low and high context usage, linguistic structure and cultural differences.
Prerequisites: DCS 216 with a grade of ‘C’ or better or concurrent enrollment in DCS 216 and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 218. Pre-Workplace Learning. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will prepare students to enter the workplace learning experience. Topics will include professional organizations, certification, contextual factors, market analysis, time management, business management, consumer attitudes and minority accommodations.
Prerequisites: DCS 206 and DCS 207 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.

DCS 219. Workplace Learning: Deaf Communication Studies. 3 Credit Hours.
This experiential course provides the student the opportunity to apply theory and skills learned in the classroom, learn new skills, and explore career possibilities while supervised by a professional in the field and a faculty member. Students will observe and participate in the functions of interpreting to enhance their preparation for entering the field. Minimum of 150 hours in the workplace throughout the term.
Prerequisites: DCS 206, DCS 207, DCS 218 with grades of ‘C’ or better and Reading Proficiency.