



Education

Program: Deaf Studies

Program Code:

DS_DSE

Academic Area:

Arts and Humanities

Type:

Associate in Arts

CIP Code:

05.0211

Program Statement

Deaf Studies explores the language, culture, history and contemporary issues of Deaf people. Fundamental to our program are both competency in American Sign Language and a desire to work with the Deaf community as allies (or advocate members). As such, all Deaf Studies concentrations share the same ASL and Deaf Studies core courses. This program also includes specialized courses needed for transfer into a BS/BA program in the educational area of choice. Students in this concentration are considering a future working with deaf or hard-of-hearing children in early intervention or an educational setting.

Program Information

The program can be completed in 2 years if students successfully complete 5 courses a semester (15 credits). Less than five courses per semester will add additional time to complete the program and graduate. Students can also opt to take summer courses to lessen the fall/spring workload.

Program courses are a combination of general education courses all students must take, Deaf Studies and ASL courses, and courses that pertain to a variety of fields within education.

Students who want to meet the MassTransfer block should choose either Early Childhood Education or Education concentration for a total of 12 credits.

Students wanting to continue into education should choose an elective (with their advisor/program coordinators) that pertains to that transfer goal.

Students who have taken non-credit "sign language classes" in the past, or who are heritage signers (Deaf/signing family) should meet with the program coordinators to discuss Credit for Prior Learning Assessment (CPL) opportunities.

Students who have taken 2 or more ASL classes in high school, with a B or better, should meet with the program coordinators for placement.

Although individual courses may be offered on different campuses in both day/evening formats and/or online, Deaf Studies courses (DST/DSC) and upper level ASL courses (ASL 201 and 202) are primarily offered on the New Bedford campus for day, face-to-face classes or online; some Deaf Studies courses are solely offered online (Deaf History, Deaf Literature)



Students who do not earn a C or better in any ASL class, DST 101 Introduction to Deaf Studies or DST 110 Deaf Culture will not be able to complete an Associate's in Arts in Deaf Studies program and should speak to the program coordinators about options including retaking courses.

Students spend an additional hour per week engaged in language lab activities with every ASL class taken. Students are expected to attend various Deaf events and get involved with their program throughout their studies to apply their language skills and develop them further in real world, practical situations.

Students may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check for courses which require Community Based Learning or ASL 285 placements.

After Bristol

- Students in this concentration have successfully transferred to Bridgewater State University, Northeastern University, Gallaudet University and Rhode Island College to degree programs in education.
- Students seeking licensure as a teacher of the Deaf/hard-of-hearing can seek a BA/BS program in Deaf Education out of state or seek any education degree and attend graduate school at Boston University to achieve an Ed.M. in Deaf education. Deaf Studies supports and prepares students for the Bi-lingual/Bi-cultural philosophy.

Degree Requirements

General Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
BIO 111	General Biology I	4
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3
HST 111	The West and the World I	3
HST 113	United States History to 1877	3
MTH 127	Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers I	3
PSY 101	General Psychology	3



Program Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
ASL 101	Elementary American Sign Language I	3
ASL 102	Elementary American Sign Language II	3
ASL 181	Visual/Gestural Communication	1
ASL 201	Intermediate American Sign Language I	3
ASL 202	Intermediate American Sign Language II	3
ASL 285	Community-based Learning in Deaf Studies	1
DST 101	Introduction to Deaf Studies	4
DST 110	Deaf Culture	3
DST 151	Deaf History	3
DST 251	Deaf Literature and ASL Folklore	3
DST 284	ASL/Deaf Studies Capstone Seminar	1

Concentration Courses

Choose one of the following concentration options:

Course #	Title	Credits
	Early Childhood Education	12
	Education	12

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 1

Course #	Title	Credits
ASL 101	Elementary American Sign Language I	3
DST 101	Introduction to Deaf Studies	4
DST 110	Deaf Culture	3
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
	ECE/EDU Concentration Course	3

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 2

Course #	Title	Credits
ASL 102	Elementary American Sign Language II	3
ASL 181	Visual/Gestural Communication	1
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3
MTH 127	Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers I	3
PSY 101	General Psychology	3
	ECE/EDU Concentration Course	3



Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 3

Course #	Title	Credits
ASL 201	Intermediate American Sign Language I	3
DST 151	Deaf History	3
	ECE/EDU Concentration Course	3
HST 111	The West and the World I	3
PSY 252	Child Development	3

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 4

Course #	Title	Credits
ASL 202	Intermediate American Sign Language II	3
DST 284	ASL/Deaf Studies Capstone Seminar	1
ASL 285	Community-based Learning in Deaf Studies	1
DST 251	Deaf Literature and ASL Folklore	3
HST 113	United States History to 1877	3
BIO 111	General Biology I	4
	Total credits:	62

Category Descriptions

Early Childhood Education

Credits: 12

To meet DEEC requirements, students should take ECE 113, ECE 222, ECE 234 and ECE 251 in the Early Childhood Education Certificate.

ECE 260 is the best choice for transferring.

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 111	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 112	Observing, Recording, and Analyzing Early Childhood Settings	3
PSY 252	Child Development	3
	Early Childhood Education Elective	3

Education

Credits: 12

Course #	Title	Credits
EDU 220	Foundations of Education with Teaching Pre-Practicum	3
PSY 252	Child Development	3
	Education Electives	6