

To: Jeanette Morales
From: Sarah Fishman
Re: ASLI catalogue language
Date: 10 April 2009

RECEIVED APR 10 2009
APPROVED APR 22 2009

I'm sending the text that Dr. Maher would like added to the catalogue section on the new ASLI Bachelor's degree. It's meant to be introductory and explain to students a bit about what it entails and what they will be trained to do.

The College Undergraduate Studies Committee has approved this memo.



American Sign Language Interpreting (ASLI) Program Overview

The University of Houston American Sign Language Interpreting (ASLI) program is designed to prepare undergraduates to be certified Interpreters for the Deaf. Interpreters for the Deaf facilitate communication between the Deaf and typically hearing individuals and groups in a vast array of settings such as: schools, courtrooms, hospitals, television and video relay stations.

Courses are taught by both deaf and hearing instructors. Students interact with professional interpreters and the deaf community throughout their program of study in a variety of interpreting experiences. Graduates of the ASLI program must be proficient in both English and American Sign Language and will complete all University of Houston requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree. The goal of the program is for graduates to be qualified to pass the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (national) and/or Board of Evaluation of Interpreters (Texas) certification exams and gain employment in a growing field of high demand.

Approved
CLASS U.S.C
4/10/09

JAMES O. ...

September 11, 2008

Memo: New Program American Sign Language Interpreting (ASLI)

RECEIVED OCT 13 2008

To: Committee Members

The following memo will outline the recently approved ASL interpreting program. The memo is purposely written in "catalogue language" so that once the committee has approved the program it will be easy to transfer into the catalogue.

For reference it should be noted that the original approved document for the department was UC 9271 07S. In that document, department courses were identified using the letters CDASL. In the future, courses will be identified ASLI to emphasize that the program is American Sign Language *Interpreting* in contrast to a program solely devoted to developing language skills in American Sign Language.

Included in the memo are justifications where it was felt documentation would clarify the rationale for the requirement. These comments will be found in the left hand column adjacent to the text.

Since this is a new discipline, the department is simultaneously submitting CBM forms for the following courses:

- ASLI 1310 Fingerspelling
- ASLI 2322 Education of the Deaf
- ASLI 2311 Visual and Gestural Communication
- ASLI 3311 Introduction to the Interpreting Profession
- ASLI 3333 ASL Interpreting I: English to ASL
- ASLI 3334 ASL Interpreting II: Sign to Voice
- ASLI 4335 ASL Interpreting III: Advanced Interpreting Skills
- ASLI 4346 Transliteration and Educational Interpreting
- ASLI 4357 Court, Medical and Tri-lingual Interpreting
- ASLI 4368 Linguistics of ASL
- ASLI 4489 Internship in ASL Interpreting

Approved
CLASS U.S.C.
10/13/08

The department is excited to be able to offer this new program. The number of four-year ASL Interpreting programs is limited. This becomes increasingly problematic for ASL Interpreters as their accreditation board,

ORIGINAL

RID The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, has initiated requiring four-year degrees for accreditation. Our program will be the first in the state of Texas. The department will be a great asset to the community as well as identifying the University of Houston as on the forefront in this field.

Sandra Gold-Singleton, MA SLP
Undergraduate Advisor/Lecturer COMD

Michael Bienestock, Ph.D.
Associate Clinical Professor
Director American Sign Language Interpreter Program

CC
Lynn M. Maher, Ph.D. CCC-SLP
Department Chair/ Professor COMD

Place ASLI Brief overview here.

General Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in ASL Interpreter Program

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To obtain a bachelor's degree in ASL Interpreting (ASLI) the following requirements must be completed in addition to university core requirements as well as the requirements of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Science for the Bachelors of Arts Degree:

The following 43 credits constitute the required courses for the major in ASLI: COMD 2301, COMD 2302, ASLI 1310, 2311, 2322, 3311, 3333, 3334, 4335, 4346, 4357, 4489; either Eng 4300 or ASLI 4368 and either Eng 4303 or Psyc 4397.

~~ASLI majors are also required to complete a COMD minor consisting of: COMD 2339, 3301, 3381, 4382, and either COMD 2376 or COMD 2385.~~

For those planning to major in ASL Interpreting:

1. All Students are required to meet with the undergraduate advisor prior to declaring the major.
2. To be accepted into the major, students must a) complete COMD 2301 or its equivalent with a grade of B or better b) pass a departmental written examination and c) pass an ASL Language Proficiency test with a grade of B+ or better. These admission tests may be repeated only once.
- ~~3. ASLI students should declare the COMD minor with the COMD advisor the same semester that they declare their major so that they two programs can be~~

ASLI 4368 is a new departmental ASL Linguistics course. Plans are to offer it for the first time in Fall 2010.

~~This text is consistent with the proposed changes in the requirements for the COMD minor proposed separately.~~

Students must achieve a standard of competency in ASL to interpret for others. Writing competency is included in the National Board Examination for interpreting.

THE CB asked COMD to remove this portion of text. CB felt that COMD shouldn't limit ASLI Majors to a particular minor. It defeats the purpose of a minor.

THE CB asked COMD to remove this ~~same~~ portion of text. Same reason as mentioned above.

~~coordinated~~

- 3A. Degree plan should be filed once the student has reached junior status and have been accepted in the major. The degree plan must be filled the semester prior to enrollment in ASLI 4489 Internship in ASL Interpreting.
- 4B. ASLI students will take one of the following courses to complete their Writing in the Discipline requirement for the core. Psyc 2344 Cultural Psychology; Soc 2310 Social Problems, Soc 2325 American Minority People or Soc 3330 Introduction to Social Psychology. The course taken for WI must be completed with a grade of B- or better.
- 5C. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of B- or better.
- 6D. A satisfactory rate of progress toward the degree is required throughout a student's enrollment. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 (B) for all ASLI courses attempted is required for continuation in the program. Failure to maintain a 3.00 GPA may result in a warning. If student is unable to improve GPA in a specified time period removal from the program is possible.
- 7E. Prior to enrollment in a class any prerequisites must be completed successfully (grade of B- or better). If a student enrolls in a class for which they are not eligible they will be dropped. Neither the department nor the university will be responsible for any tuition refunds.
- 8F. Only two courses in the major can be repeated, and they may be repeated only once.

At this time we have not designated a departmental WI course. It is felt that any of these social science courses would benefit the students in the ASLI discipline.

- 9 10. A grade of B- or better must be achieved in the following minor courses: COMD 3301, COMD 3381, COMD 4382. These courses may be repeated only once.
- 10 11. All undergraduate students must attend all mandatory undergraduate advising meetings. **It is recommended that students meet with their advisor at least once a year.**
- 11 12. Students whose latest ASL class was over 12 months prior must be evaluated for placement in the appropriate ASL level.
- 12 13. Courses in the major that are seven or more years old may not count toward a degree, whether taken at the University of Houston or transferred to the University of Houston, unless successfully petitioned.
- 13 14. A minimum of twelve hours of advanced ASLI courses must be taken in residence at the University of Houston.

The courses in the minor are integral to the ASLI curriculum. Therefore it is felt that they should be completed with the same performance standard.

Degree Plans:

To file a degree plan:

1. The student must complete COMD 2302 or equivalent and 15 hours in the department,
2. Student must have achieved Junior status having completed at least 60 credits. Overall GPA must be 2.5 or better.
3. The following core classes must have successfully been completed:
 - 6 credits Communications
 - 6 credits math or core reasoning
 - 6 credits core natural science
 - 6 credits core U.S. History
 - 6 credits core Political Science

All students should see their ASLI advisor for assistance in determining their full program of

with a minimum grade of B- for each course.

JAN 2013

study which includes university and college core course requirements. ASLI and COMD courses are typically offered once a year and must be taken in sequence to accommodate prerequisites.

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