

UC 11116 10F

Approved by CLASS USC

11/17/10

APPROVED MAR 23 2011

Dr. Sarah Fishman

Date

Note - cbm 003's  
submitted separately  
for course changes  
listed below

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To: Undergraduate Council  
Attn: Simon Bott, Chair, Undergraduate Council  
Richard Scammel, Undergraduate Council, Degree Programs Chair

From: Michael Bienenstock, American Sign Language Interpreting Program Coordinator  
Lynn M. Maher, Communication Sciences and Disorders Department Chair

Date: Sept. 14, 2010

Please find the American Sign Language Interpreting (ASLI) CBM forms reflecting the proposed changes to the program with this memo. These changes are summarized below.

CB3  
Committee

1. We propose renumbering Introduction to the American Sign Language Interpreting Profession course (ASLI 3311) from junior level to sophomore and numbering it ASLI 2333. Renumbering the course would provide a more accurate reflection of the level and content of the course. Because a similar class is taught at community colleges, changing the level of the class will facilitate the undergraduate transfer process.
2. We are proposing Education of the Deaf (ASLI 2322) be renumbered to a junior level class, ASLI 3322, to more accurately reflect the level of writing and theory demanded in that class.
3. We are requesting to rename all three American Sign Language Interpreting classes I, II, and III (ASLI 3333, 3334, and 4335) to more transparently reflect the content of the classes and distinguish them from the typical "American Sign Language Interpreting I, II, and III" classes taken in community college. In addition to interpreting skill learning and practice, the content of our classes is heavier on background and theory and organized differently from the ASLI I, II and III courses offered in the associate's degree. The fact that our classes are named in the same way as the lower-level classes in the associate's degree is causing transfer students a great deal of confusion. The name changes should help to alleviate that confusion.
4. We are requesting the addition of a *Selected Topics in American Sign Language* (ASLI 4390) class, which can be used as an elective to explore emerging areas in the field. The topics covered in this class will vary based on interest of the students and availability of faculty.
5. In addition, we are requesting a *Special Problems – Trilingual Interpreting* (ASLI 4398) course to afford those students with specialized interest in Tri-lingual



CSB  
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Interpreting (e.g. English-Spanish-ASL) or Deaf-Blind Interpreting the opportunity to receive specialized instructional and practice in these unique areas of the field.

6. In addition to the course changes, we also request approval for changes in the minimum GPA requirements needed to maintain good standing in the program. The program requirements as currently stated were originally modeled after ComD requirements. Based on our current experience, we now believe that these requirements, while appropriate for a program such as ComD where graduate school is a requirement for clinical practice, are too stringent for ASLI majors. These students are not competing for limited places in graduate school. The requirement to maintain a B- or higher, and the restriction against re-taking more than one course in the major seems unnecessarily harsh and will delay progress toward graduation in the major.

The current degree requirement language states:

- a. *A satisfactory rate of progress toward the degree is required throughout the 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 grade point average may result in a warning. If a student is unable to improve their GPA within one semester, removal from the program is possible.*
- b. *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.*

We propose this change:

- a. A satisfactory rate or progress toward the degree is required throughout the student's enrollment. A minimum grade point average GPA of 2.00 (C) for all ASLI courses attempted is required for continuation in the program. Failure to maintain a 2.00 grade point average may result in a warning. If a student is unable to improve their GPA within one semester, removal from the program is possible
- b. Prior to enrollment in a class any prerequisites must be completed successfully (grade of C or better). If a student enrolls in a class for which they have not successfully completed the prerequisites, they will be dropped. Neither the department nor the university will be responsible for any tuition refunds.

Degree Programs

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