

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE & SPECIAL POPULATIONS MINOR

Minor in American Sign Language & Special Populations

Department Chair

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The Program

The American Sign Language and Special Populations Minor is designed to assist individuals who wish to work with the deaf or hard of hearing and/or children with special needs. Individuals will find the minor useful if they seek employment as early interventionists, family service providers, teachers of special education, teachers of the hard of hearing or deaf, or teachers of children with language delays.

The minor is designed to help prepare students to work in an entry-level position with children and families that use American Sign Language as a means of communication or who might benefit from using signed speech in combination with verbal communication. The minor provides the student with background in child development, language acquisition, American Sign Language, life and culture of the deaf and hard of hearing communities, and experiences of families with children with special needs.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

Students must complete a total of 19 units as described below.

Children's Growth and Development

(One 3-unit course)

- CD 253 (3) Prenatal and Infant Development, **or**
- CD 255 (3) Early Childhood Development, **or**
- CD 256 (3) Middle Childhood Development, **or**
- CD 350 (3) Perspectives: Life-Span Development

American Sign Language *(6 units)*

- CD 109Y (3) American Sign Language I,* **and**
- CD 109Z (3) American Sign Language II

Language Acquisition *(3 units)*

- CD 355 (3) Language Development

Special Needs Populations *(7 units)*

- CD 366 (3) Exceptional Children and their Families, **and**
- COMM 322 (4) Intercultural Communication, **or**
- COMM 324 (4) Nonverbal Communication



* Students with extensive prior experience using ASL may take the challenge exam to complete CD 109Y.

NOTE: Challenge process requires students to inform instructor of desire to challenge and take exam within the first two weeks of the semester. Students should not enroll in the course they wish to challenge. The student must earn a 70% or greater on the challenge exam to earn a credit in CD 109Y and before proceeding to CD 109Z.