

# American Sign Language and Special Populations

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## Minor in American Sign Language and Special Populations

### Department Chair

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HGH 229

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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 might find the minor useful if they seek employment as early interventionists, family services 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 from the following list of courses.

Children's Growth and Development (select one 3 unit course)

- CD 253 Prenatal and Infant Development
- Or
- CD 255 Early Childhood Development
- Or
- CD 256 Middle Childhood Development

American Sign Language (6 units of credit)

- \*CD 109Y American Sign Language I
- And
- CD 109Z American Sign Language II

Language Acquisition (3 units)

- CD 355 Language Development

Special Needs Populations (7 units)

- CD 366 Exceptional Children and Their Families
- And
- COMM 417 Second Language Acquisition (cross listed as ENG 417)
- Or
- COMM 322 Intercultural Communication
- Or
- COMM 324 Nonverbal Communication

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

Note: Challenge process requires students to enroll in the course and inform instructor of desire to challenge and take the exam within the first two weeks of the semester. 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.