



## **Sign Language Interpreter A.A.A.**

Career Community: Communication, Journalism, and Language

Curriculum Code: 0282

Effective: Fall 2025 – Summer 2030

### **Purpose of the Major**

A Sign Language Interpreter is a person specially trained to facilitate communication between the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing, and hearing communities. Employment opportunities may be in educational settings, freelance, or contracted with agencies to provide interpreting services for D/deaf persons. State of Michigan PA 204 of 2007 states that interpreters must possess certification in order to be employed. The State of Michigan regulates all required certifications under Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' (LARA) Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS) and state credential testing is through the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI). To apply for BEI certification in Michigan, you must have at least an associate degree from an accredited institution and pass a Test of English Proficiency. In addition to BEI certification for the State of Michigan, graduates may also consider taking the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) for interpreting in educational settings only, or National Interpreter Certification (NIC) for nationally recognized certification. Not all courses in this pathway transfer to all colleges. Students who wish to transfer to a four-year institution should select coursework indicated for that institution and may also complete coursework for a Communication, Journalism, and Language Enhanced AA, Sign Language Interpreter track, degree. The Enhanced AA option allows students to transfer additional credits toward the Bachelor's degree. Institutions accepting credits from the Enhanced AA, Sign Language Interpreter track, include Gallaudet University and Siena Heights University. Students planning to enroll must meet with a faculty advisor from the Sign Language Interpreter Program.

### **Milestone**

In addition to the required General Education courses in Math and English, completion of SIGN 163, SIGN 167, and SIGN 170 with a 2.0 or higher is a key component for success in completing this program. Knowledge obtained in these courses is the foundation for learning in other required courses. Students are encouraged to contact their faculty if they need additional assistance with learning the concepts presented in these courses.

### **Additional Information**

Entrance to the Interpreter Training Program is granted by passing a screening implemented by the Sign Language Program. Once students have successfully completed, with a minimum 2.0, or are currently enrolled in SIGN 163 (American Sign Language III), SIGN 166 (Fingerspelling), SIGN 167 (Beginning Sign to Voice), and SIGN 170 (Expressive/Receptive ASL), then they are eligible to screen.

To complete this degree, students must receive at least a 2.5 in ALL 200-level SIGN courses and complete 400 practicum hours - 240 hours their second year of the program (sophomore year) and 160 hours their third year of the program (junior year) - while also satisfying the individual

category requirements. For questions related to the practicum, please contact the Practicum Supervisor by [email](mailto:signpracticum@star.lcc.edu) (signpracticum@star.lcc.edu).

## Contact Information

For further information, including career options, course substitutions and waivers, etc., contact the Communication, Media and the Arts Department, Gannon Building, Room 1222, telephone number 517-483-1546 or the Sign Language Interpreter Program, 517-483-5329, [signadvising@star.lcc.edu](mailto:signadvising@star.lcc.edu).

**Major Required Courses** - *Some courses meet General Education requirements for MTA. A minimum grade of 2.0 is required to meet LCC degree requirements for General Education courses and for all courses to transfer to other colleges (some colleges, and some programs within colleges, require a higher grade in a course).*

Course Code	Course Title	Credit / Billing Hours
ACAD 100	First-Year Experience	1 / 1
COMM 280 or SOCL 120	Intercultural Communication Introduction to Sociology	3 / 3 4 / 4
SIGN 160	Intro to the Deaf Community	3 / 3
SIGN 161	American Sign Language I	3 / 3
ENGL 121 or ENGL 131	Composition I Honors Composition I	4 / 4 4 / 4
MATH 119 or MATH 120 or STAT 170	Math – Applications for Living College Algebra Introduction to Statistics	4 / 4 4 / 4 4 / 4
SIGN 162	American Sign Language II	3 / 3
SIGN 163	American Sign Language III	3 / 3
SIGN 164	American Sign Language IV	3 / 3
SIGN 166	Fingerspelling	3 / 3
SIGN 167	Beginning Sign to Voice	3 / 3
SIGN 170	Expressive/Receptive ASL	3 / 3
SIGN 200	Sign Practicum Seminar	2 / 2
SIGN 240	Intro to Transliterating	3 / 3
SIGN 250	Deaf Culture and History	3 / 3
SIGN 260	Linguistic Principles of ASL	3 / 3
SIGN 263	Intermediate Sign to Voice	3 / 3
SIGN 266	Post-Secondary Interpreting	2 / 2
SIGN 267	Sign Practicum I	3 / 3
SIGN 268	Sign Practicum II	3 / 3
SIGN 270	Advanced Interpreting	3 / 3
SIGN 271	Advanced Sign to Voice	3 / 3
SIGN 293	Principles of Interpreting	3 / 3
SIGN 296	Specialized Interpreting	2 / 2

Notes:

ACAD 100 may be waived when students meet one of the following College-approved waiver criteria:

- Completion of 12 college-level credits with minimum grades of 2.0 shown on the LCC transcript (including transfer, if applicable), or
- Employment in the field of, or a field related to, the degree being sought, or
- For Health Careers students, successful completion of CHSE 100.

Students wishing to waive ACAD 100 should contact their advisor.

For future transfer to Gallaudet University, choose MATH 119.

### **Major Required Courses, Limited Choice – Natural Sciences Lab or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab**

*Select one lab course as indicated for each transfer institution and major or choose one from [LCC General Education - Applied Degrees, Natural Sciences Lab or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab](#). If a specific course is not indicated, select any course. A minimum grade of 2.0 is required for General Education courses.*

Course Code	Course Title	Credit / Billing Hours
ASTR 201	Introductory Astronomy	4 / 5
BIOL 120	Environmental Science	4 / 6
BIOL 121	Biol Foundation for Physiology	4 / 6
BIOL 125	Intro Biology for Non-Majors	4 / 6
BIOL 145	Intro Anatomy and Physiology	4 / 6
CHEM 135	Chemistry in Society	4 / 5
GEOG 206	Physical Geography	4 / 4
GEOG 220	Weather, Forecasting & Climate	4 / 4
GEOL 221	Physical Geology	4 / 6
GEOL 222	Historical Geology	4 / 6
GEOL 230	Environmental Geology	4 / 6
ISCI 131	Integrated Physical Science	4 / 6
PHYS 120	The Art of Physics	4 / 5

Note: For future transfer to Gallaudet University, choose BIOL 145.

### **General Education – Applied Degrees**

- English Composition or Applied English  
Major Required Courses will meet this requirement
- English Composition (second course)/Communication or Applied Communication  
Major Required Courses will meet this requirement.
- Humanities and Fine Arts or Social Sciences or Applied Social Sciences  
Major Required Courses will meet this requirement

- Mathematics or Applied Mathematics  
Major Required Courses will meet this requirement.
- Natural Sciences Lab or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab  
Major Required Limited Choice Courses will meet this requirement

### Additional Credits

After completing the course and credit requirements as noted on this pathway, students who fall short of the 60-credit minimum required for an Associate Degree may select any course(s) needed to reach 60 credits, except those courses noted in number 7 in the [Institutional Requirements for Associate Degrees](#). Students are encouraged to use Degree Works and meet with an Advisor to ensure all requirements are met and for course recommendations.

### Minimum Total Credit Hours

72 credits / 72 billing hours

### Recommended Course Sequence

Semester I (Fall)
ACAD 100
COMM 280 or SOCL 120
ENGL 121 or ENGL 131
SIGN 160
SIGN 161

Semester II (Spring)
MATH 119, MATH 120, or STAT 170
SIGN 162
SIGN 166
Limited Choice – Natural Sciences Lab or Applied Sciences and Technology Lab

Semester III (Summer)
SIGN 163 – Milestone course
SIGN 167 – Milestone course
SIGN 170 – Milestone course

Semester IV (Fall)
SIGN 164
SIGN 200
SIGN 240
SIGN 250 (can be taken semester IV or VII)

Semester V (Spring)
SIGN 260 (can be taken in semester V or VIII)
SIGN 263
SIGN 267

Semester VI (Summer)
SIGN 266
SIGN 268

Semester VII (Fall)
SIGN 250 (can be taken semester IV or VII)
SIGN 270
SIGN 293

Semester VIII (Spring)
SIGN 260 (can be taken semester V or VIII)
SIGN 271
SIGN 296

*LCC makes every effort to limit revisions to the pathways during their effective timeframe. However, the College reserves the right to update certificate and degree titles, and make course changes as needed, without prior notice. The College also reserves the right to discontinue programs when warranted.*