



Deaf Studies Program

Information for Applicants - Fall 2012

Thank you for your interest in the Deaf Studies Program offered at Northern Essex Community College. **All new entrants will be advised toward the following two options which will become effective in fall 2013:**

- 1. Associate in Arts, Deaf Studies**
 - 2. Associate in Arts, Deaf Studies: Interpreter Transfer ***
1. **The Deaf Studies Option** provides students with a broad introduction to American Sign Language and linguistics, Deaf culture, Deaf history and Deaf literature. Graduates of this option typically continue their education at other post-secondary institutions or else gain entry-level employment in agencies serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. Students may transfer all their credits to Framingham State University for a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies, or they may transfer elsewhere.
 2. **The Interpreter Transfer Option** gives students a pre-interpreting foundation that can transfer to Framingham State University, Gallaudet University or other 4-year interpreting programs. This option gives students a foundation in American Sign Language and linguistics, Deaf culture, Deaf history and Deaf literature, as well as an introduction to the interpreting field.

NECC-Framingham State University 2+2 Bachelor of Arts in ASL/English Interpreting:

NECC is developing a 4-year degree program in partnership with Framingham State University (FSU) which will culminate in a Bachelors' degree in ASL/English interpreting. After completion of the AA Degree: Interpreter Transfer, students complete an additional two years of study under FSU but on the NECC Haverhill campus. In these final two years, students take courses in advanced ASL, advanced English, interpreting, communication, as well as electives. Please see the last page of this packet for details on this 2+2 curriculum. (***This degree option is pending approval from the Department of Higher Education and NECC and FSU Boards of Trustees.**)



All applicants to either option must first complete Elementary ASL 1 and 2 with a grade of B or better, or pass an ASL assessment demonstrating comparable skills. Students who are accepted into the program begin their studies in the fall semester.

Admission Requirements & Documentation Checklist

All applicants must complete the following items to be considered for acceptance into either program option.

- 1. Attendance at a **Deaf Studies Information Session**. Email deafstudies@necc.mass.edu to register.
- 2. Application for admission to NECC. Email admissions@necc.mass.edu. This step requires an **official high school transcript/diploma** (even for candidates with college degrees) **or GED scores/certificate**.
- 3. Submission of **official college transcripts** to the Registrar from the colleges you have previously attended, if applicable.
- 4. **Completion of ASL 101 and ASL 102 with a grade of B or better.**

OR

- (for candidates who have acquired their ASL skills elsewhere, including in-family) **Completion of an ASL proficiency assessment.**

To schedule an assessment, email deafstudies@necc.mass.edu

- 5. Completion of the **Academic Skills Assessment in reading, writing and mathematics**. *Applicants must demonstrate the ability to enter English Composition I.* To take the assessment, please call the Assessment Center at 978-556-3428. It is possible to be waived from assessment if you have successfully completed specific college course(s). Please submit official transcript(s) to the Registrar for evaluation.



Once all of the above requirements have been completed, applicants meet with the program coordinator to:

- Complete program enrollment
- Register for classes
- Discuss initial practicum placement
- Apply and pay for a CORI/SORI check (see below)

Other Information

• Transfer credits:

Transfer credits from other institution(s) are awarded only for comparable courses which are completed with a grade of C or better. Transfer credits for Deaf Studies and American Sign Language courses taken elsewhere will be reviewed by the program coordinator. Candidates may be required to submit a summary of each American Sign Language or Deaf Studies course previously taken, including: a) title of each course, b) course description as it appears in the course catalogue, c) number of credit hours earned and number of classroom hours per week, d) the name of instructor, and e) the title of text books used for each course.

• Health requirements:

Information regarding health requirements will be sent to you by Student Records, upon acceptance.

• Transportation:

Students are responsible for their own transportation to fieldwork and practicum sites required by the program.

• Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and Sex Offender Record Information (SORI) checks:

Students participating in an academic program which involves working with: 1) children, 2) people with disabilities, 3) senior citizens, or students who are registered in a cooperative education experience or in a program that includes a clinical affiliation with a private or public health care provider, will be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record



Information (CORI) check, a Criminal Records Central Repository (CHRI) check and/or a Sex Offender Registry Information (SORI) check.

Students will need to provide a government issued photo identification and sign a release form allowing the college to view the student's CORI, CHRI or SORI reports. *Depending on the contents of a student's CORI, CHRI or SORI reports, participation in an academic program, a cooperative education experience or a clinical or practicum affiliation related thereto, may be denied.* CORI checks may be performed pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 6, Section 172, and consistent with guidelines promulgated by the Executive Office for Health and Human Services, and/or the Commonwealth's Department of Public Health. SORI checks may be performed pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 6, Sections 178(J) & 178(K). CHRI checks may be performed pursuant to New Hampshire law. For more information, contact admissions@necc.mass.edu

- **Video Recording Equipment:**

The ASL and interpreting courses require that students capture their assignments on video. Students should be equipped with, or have access to, video recording equipment within their first week in the program.



Associate Degree: Deaf Studies Recommended Course Sequence

Year 1, Fall Semester

Intermediate ASL I (*formerly Advanced ASL I*)
Introduction to Deaf Studies (*formerly Deaf Community*)
Deaf Community Practicum (*formerly Introduction to Practicum*)
English Composition I
Math elective

Year 1, Spring Semester

Intermediate ASL II (*formerly Advanced ASL II*)
ASL Linguistics
English Composition II
Cultural Anthropology
Science elective

Year 2, Fall Semester

Advanced ASL I (*formerly Advanced ASL III*)
Deaf Culture
Science elective
Government or History Elective
Free elective

Year 2, Spring Semester

Advanced ASL II (*formerly Advanced ASL IV*)
Deaf Literature and ASL Folklore
EDU 101 or HSU 101 or elective
Free elective



Associate Degree: Interpreter Transfer Recommended Course Sequence

Year 1, Fall Semester

Intermediate ASL I (*formerly Advanced ASL I*)
Introduction to Deaf Studies (*formerly Deaf Community*)
Deaf Community Practicum (*formerly Introduction to Practicum*)
English Composition I
Math elective

Year 1, Spring Semester

Intermediate ASL II (*formerly Advanced ASL II*)
ASL Linguistics
English Composition II
Cultural Anthropology
Science elective

Year 2, Fall Semester

Advanced ASL I (*formerly Advanced ASL III*)
Deaf Culture
Science elective
Government elective
Ethics

Year 2, Spring Semester

Advanced ASL II (*formerly Advanced ASL IV*)
Deaf Literature and ASL Folklore
Introduction to the Interpreting Field
History Elective
Science Elective



PROPOSED COURSE SEQUENCE for NECC-FSU 2+2
Bachelor of Arts in ASL/English Interpreting
Years 1 and 2 NECC courses
Years 3 and 4 FSU courses

Year one - FALL NECC	Year one – SPRING NECC
ASL 111 Intermediate ASL I– 5 cr	ASL 112 Intermediate ASL II – 5 cr
DST 101 Intro to Deaf Community – 3 cr	ASL 203 ASL Linguistics – 3 cr
DST 191 Deaf Community Practicum – 2 cr	ENG 102 English Composition 2 – 3 cr
ENG 101 English Composition I – 3 cr	ANT 101 Cultural Anthropology – 3 cr
MAT 120 College Algebra – 3 cr	GOV 101 American Gov’t and Politics – 3 cr
Year two – FALL NECC	Year two – SPRING NECC
ASL 201 Advanced ASL I – 4 cr	ASL 202 Advanced ASL II – 4 cr
DST 205 Deaf Culture – 3 cr	ASL 205 Deaf Literature and Folklore – 3 cr
Physical science (chemistry, earth science, or physics) - 3/4 cr	Biological science – 3/4 cr
HIS 101 or 102 – US History I or II or HIS 122 World Civilization II – 3 cr	DST 102 Intro to the Interpreting Field – 4 cr
PHI 110 Ethics – 3 cr	
Year three – FALL FSU	Year three – SPRING FSU
ASL V – 4 cr	ASL VI – 4 cr
Interpreting I – 4 cr	Interpreting II – 4 cr
COMM 115 – Introduction to Speech Communication – 4 cr	COMM 213 Advanced Public Speaking – 4 cr
ENG 297 Eng Grammar: Structure/Analysis – 4 cr	Government or History Elective – 4 cr
Year four – FALL FSU	Year four – SPRING FSU
Interpreting III – 4 cr	Interpreting IV – 4 cr
Practicum I – 4 cr	Practicum II – 4 cr
ENG 284 Prose writing or another writing intensive elective 4 cr	Capstone Directed Study – 4 cr
Elective (COMM 260 Voice and Articulation recommended) – 4 cr	Elective (COMM 234 Intercultural Communication recommended) – 4 cr