

All public Virginia colleges and universities accept American Sign Language as fulfillment of the world language entrance requirement; however, some Virginia private colleges and out-of-state institutions of higher education do not accept American Sign Language courses for world language credit.

American Sign Language I (ASL)

380000 Grade(s): 9-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

Students learn basic ASL vocabulary and acquire knowledge of the manual alphabet. They also study the history of American Sign Language and the Deaf culture. Expressive and receptive language skills are practiced within the context of meaningful and experiential activities related to home, school, and community environments.

American Sign Language II

382000 Grade(s): 10-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: ASL I

Building on the rudiments learned in ASL I, students expand their vocabulary and increase their proficiency in expressive and receptive conversational skills using more complex grammatical structures.

Students continue their study of Deaf heritage and culture and are encouraged to interact with Deaf people.

American Sign Language III

383000 Grade(s): 11-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: ASL II

Through spiraling of concepts, structures, and functions acquired in ASL II, students improve their skills in functional contexts.

Students analyze authentic ASL literature such as storytelling, folklore, poetry, and drama. The study of the evolution of ASL and the maintenance of interpersonal relations with the Deaf community are an integral part of ASL III.

American Sign Language IV Honors

384800 Grade(s): 11-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: ASL III or teacher recommendation

In this advanced level course, students develop communicative and interactive competencies in the language through the use of major ASL grammatical features and expand knowledge of the Deaf community culture. The course will focus on ASL literature by incorporating ASL story analysis and storytelling techniques such as space, role-shifting, classifiers, idiomatic expressions, and non-manual signals. Culture is learning through readings and classroom discussions on global themes and topics. Contact with the Deaf community is required once per quarter to enhance linguistic and cultural knowledge.

American Sign Language DE

384506 Grade(s): 11-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: ASL III or teacher recommendation

In this advanced level course, students develop communicative and interactive competencies in the language through the use of major ASL grammatical features and expand knowledge of the Deaf community culture. The course will focus on ASL literature by incorporating ASL story analysis and storytelling techniques such as space, role-shifting, classifiers, idiomatic expressions, and non-manual signals. Culture is learning through readings and classroom discussions on global themes and topics. Contact with the Deaf community is required once per quarter to enhance linguistic and cultural knowledge.