

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
 Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies
 109 Satterfield Hall
 Kent Campus
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Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in American Sign Language presents American sign language as a culture- and community-based language that interacts with other world languages. Through techniques—including immersion and bilingual-bicultural comparison classes, community interaction, research, lab activities and use of digital video technology—students gain documented proficiency in American sign language, validity within the deaf community and networking within the professional community.

Fully Offered At:

- Kent Campus

Accreditation

The B.A. degree in American Sign Language is accredited by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and the National Council on the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

Freshman Students on the Kent Campus: The freshman admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon the following: cumulative grade point average, ACT and/or SAT scores, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. The Admissions Office at the Kent Campus may defer the admission of students who do not meet admissions criteria but who demonstrate areas of promise for successful college study. Deferred applicants may begin their college coursework at one of seven regional campuses of Kent State University. For more information on admissions, including additional requirements for some academic programs, visit the admissions website for new freshmen.

Freshman Students on the Regional Campuses: Kent State campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg, have open enrollment admission for students who hold a high school diploma, GED or equivalent.

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score or minimum 48 PTE score, or by

completing the ESL level 112 Intensive Program. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education’s admission website.

Transfer, Transitioning and Former Students: For more information about admission criteria for transfer, transitioning and former students, please visit the admissions website.

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor’s degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Destination Kent State: First Year Experience	1
Course is not required for students with 25 transfer credits, excluding College Credit Plus, or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 (or 42)
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate. Students in a B.A. and/or B.S. degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 42 upper-division credit hours.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120
Some bachelor’s degrees require students to complete more than 120 credit hours.	

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Prerequisite Requirements ¹		
ASL 19201	ELEMENTARY AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I	
ASL 19202	ELEMENTARY AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II	
ASL 29201	INTERMEDIATE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I	
ASL 29202	INTERMEDIATE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II	
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ASL 19401	EXPLORATION OF DEAF CULTURE	3

ASL 39201	ADVANCED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I	3
ASL 39202	ADVANCED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II	3
ASL 39223	SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY (WIC) ²	3
or ASL 49309	INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES (ELR) (WIC)	
ASL 49108	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS I	3
ASL 49201	ADVANCED PROFICIENCY	3
American Sign Language Electives		6
ASL 29212	APPLIED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE GRAMMAR	
or ASL 29213	FINGERSPELLING, NUMBERS AND DEPICTION	
ASL 39095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	
ASL 39223	SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY (WIC) ²	
ASL 49091	SEMINAR IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS	
ASL 49092	PRACTICUM IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ELR)	
ASL 49109	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS II	
ASL 49309	INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES (ELR) (WIC) ²	
ASL 49350	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LITERATURE	
ASL 49401	DEAF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY	
ASL 49601	ACTIVITY DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION	
Major Electives, choose from the following:		9
ANTH 48214	POLITICS OF CULTURE (ELR) (WIC) ²	
ASL 39095	SPECIAL TOPICS IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	
ASL 39223	SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY (WIC) ²	
ASL 49091	SEMINAR IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS	
ASL 49092	PRACTICUM IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ELR)	
ASL 49109	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS II	
ASL 49309	INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES (ELR) (WIC) ²	
ASL 49350	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LITERATURE	
ASL 49401	DEAF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY	
ASL 49601	ACTIVITY DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION	
MCLS 30420	FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND CULTURE STUDIES	
SOC 32570	INEQUALITY IN SOCIETIES (DIVD)	
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6
Kent Core Additional		6
College General Requirements (must be from Kent Core Basic Sciences) ³		3
College General Requirements (must be from Kent Core Social Sciences) ⁴		3

General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 42 upper-division credit hours) 44

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

- Students with previous study in American sign language study should take the American Sign Language Placement Test and enroll in the correct course based on their score. Students who must enroll in any of prerequisite course based on their placement test score will earn general elective credit hours toward the degree.
- A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.
- One additional course taken from the Kent Core Basic Science courses in the following Arts and Sciences disciplines: Anthropology (ANTH), Biological Sciences (BSCI), Chemistry (CHEM), Geography (GEOG), Geology (GEOL) or Physics (PHY). The course may not be from the student's major.
- One additional course taken from the Kent Core Social Sciences courses in the following Arts and Sciences disciplines: Anthropology (ANTH), Geography (GEOG), Criminology and Justice Studies (CRIM), Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS), Political Science (POL), Psychology (PSYC) or Sociology (SOC). The course may not be from the student's major.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

- To earn the degree, students must successfully complete community service projects in ASL 29202, ASL 39201 and ASL 39202; show documentation of a proficiency level of Intermediate or above on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (administered off-site); and successfully complete the capstone project in ASL 49201.
- Some courses in the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies are offered on a rotating basis, and course availability may change at any time. Visit the department's website for course offering projections and advising with course planning.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Course	Title	Credits
Semester One		
ASL 19401	EXPLORATION OF DEAF CULTURE	3
UC 10097	DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE	1
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
!	Prerequisite or General Elective	3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Two		
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
!	Prerequisite or General Elective	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Three		
!	ASL 39201 ADVANCED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		
!	ASL 39202 ADVANCED AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	College General Requirements	3
	College General Requirements	3
	General Elective	3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		
!	ASL 49108 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS I	3
	Major or American Sign Language Elective	6
	General Electives	6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		
	Major or American Sign Language Electives	6
	General Electives	8
Credit Hours		14
Semester Seven		
	ASL 39223 SOCIOLINGUISTICS OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY or (WIC) ASL 49309 or INTRODUCTION TO DEAF STUDIES (ELR) (WIC)	3
!	ASL 49201 ADVANCED PROFICIENCY	3
	Major or American Sign Language Electives	3
	General Electives	6
Credit Hours		15

Semester Eight	
General Electives	15
Credit Hours	15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	120