



## INDIANA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AT IUPUI

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ENGLISH INTERPRETING

*See the world through different eyes.*

The Program in ASL/English Interpreting at IUPUI is designed to prepare students to become entry-level interpreters with analytical skills, a breadth of knowledge, and ability to assess and synthesize diverse and complex aspects of human language behavior in society.

Interpreting for people who do not speak a common language is a linguistic and social act of communication. An interpreter relays messages and manages the process of talking back-and-forth for people who speak different languages. An interpreter's role is an engaged one, aimed at an overall understanding of the entire communicative situation, requiring fluency in the languages, the ability to know how meaning is constructed, and skills in managing the cross-cultural flow of talk.

Through the efforts of Deaf citizens and their community, interpreting has come to be required by law at most federal, state, and local levels within societal institutions such as the legal, health care, educational, employment and social welfare systems.

### WHY CHOOSE ASL?

IUPUI is proud to be one of the few universities that offer ASL/English Interpreting at the bachelor's level. Students progress through courses in basic interpretation, consecutive and simultaneous interpreting all the while learning about interpreting as a face-to-face, conversational process. Students are trained to listen and to understand, and, considering their audience, to communicate clearly.

Faculty members are interpreters, educators and researchers. Faculty are certified, practicing interpreters or qualified ASL instructors; several also conduct research and have published on the topic. In this way, students are assured of learning from teachers who use current and innovative strategies.

In addition to classroom instruction, the program offers an interactive language classroom so that students can practice interpreting skills with recorded or live material.

Students are prepared to enter the profession of interpreting which serves diverse populations and encompasses a wide range of topics and settings.

### GENERAL EDUCATION SKILLS

A comprehensive general education curriculum based on IUPUI's Principles of Undergraduate Learning facilitates the development of the skills of an educated person. Students learn to:

- Express ideas effectively
- Make efficient use of information technology
- Think critically and analytically about complex issues
- Apply knowledge from various disciplines
- Appreciate our own culture and others
- Work comfortably in collaborative settings
- Identify talents needed by society
- Operate from an ethical framework

### CAREER SKILLS IN INTERPRETING

Upon completion of the program, students will be ready to begin work as community interpreters in educational, medical, legal, and social service settings, among others. Students are trained to:

- Understand issues from a variety of linguistic and humanistic perspectives
- Understand the role of an interpreter
- Acquire basic interpreting skills
- Operate from a professional and ethical framework
- Have an awareness of the culture of the Deaf Community and of how to mediate between Deaf and hearing culture
- Demonstrate sensitivity toward the cultural traditions of the Deaf Community
- Understand how language is used by diverse populations within Deaf and hearing communities
- Take the written portion of the national certification examination for interpreters
- Work with a variety of resources that will enhance their ability to become nationally certified interpreters

### DEGREE

Students can begin the Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in the ASL/English Interpreting program at IUPUI as freshman. Alternatively, the ASL/EIP is a continuation of the Associate of Arts degree in American Sign Language offered by Vincennes University (VU) in Indianapolis. The program is also open to students who demonstrate equivalent competence in ASL, Deaf culture and linguistics who already have bachelor's degrees.

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- 36 hours of coursework in the major
- Completion of all general education requirements in the School of Liberal Arts
- 120 hours of course work
- 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Residence requirements of the IU School of Liberal Arts

Please see the reverse of this page for information on core courses and program sequence.

### CONTACT US

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## CORE COURSES

ASL I301 Introduction to Interpreting  
Current theories and approaches to interpreting.

ASL 305 Text Analysis  
Isolate various cognitive processes and components of translation and interpreting.

ASL L340 Interpreting Discourse  
ASL to English Record, transcribe, and analyze different genres of ASL for the purpose of interpretation into spoken English

ASL L342 Interpreting Discourse  
English to ASL Record, transcribe and analyze different genres of English for the purpose of interpretation into ASL.

ASL I361 Theory & Process of Interpreting I  
Prepare for interpreting by practicing discourse mapping and preparing interpretations.

ASL I363 Theory & Process of Interpreting II  
Develop analytical skills for consecutive interpreting.

ASL I365 Theory & Process of Interpreting III  
Develop analytical skills for simultaneous interpreting.

ASL I405 Practicum  
Practice interpreting in the community.

ASL A219 History and Culture of the American Deaf Community  
Study cultural aspects of and issues important to the American Deaf Community

ASL A321 Linguistics of American Sign Language  
Analyze linguistics features of ASL

ENG Z205 Introduction to the English Language  
Analyze linguistic features of English

## TYPICAL PROGRAM SEQUENCE

During the Freshman and Sophomore years students are expected to have completed the following classes along with any classes in ASL they might need:

ASL A219  
ASL A321  
ENG Z205  
ASL I301

Typically, students begin courses in interpreting beginning with the fall of their Junior year, as follows:

Fall Semester, Junior Year:  
ASL I305, ASL I361

Spring Semester, Junior Year:  
ASL L340, ASL L342, ASL I363

Fall Semester, Senior Year:  
ASL I365

Spring Semester, Senior Year:  
ASL I405

Students who already have a bachelor's degree may take the interpreting courses, as long as they meet fluency and course work prerequisites. They will earn a post-baccalaureate certificate in Interpreting.