American Sign Language –
English Educational
Interpreting Certificate

Offered at the
University Center of Greenville

For Additional Information:

Financial Aid
www.clemson.edu/financial-aid

Clemson University Admissions
www.clemson.edu/admissions/

Modern Languages Program –
American Sign Language
www.clemson.edu/caah/languages/modern-languages/
american-sign-language.html

Tuition and Fees
www.clemson.edu/finance/student-financials/
tuition-fees/

University Center of Greenville
www.UCgreenville.org

Contact Information:

Stephen Fitzmaurice, MIP
NIC: A, CI, CT, NAD V, EIPA 4.5
Program Lead Faculty
(864) 431-7778
sfitzma@clemson.edu

Claire Cappio
Student Services Manager
University Center of Greenville
(864) 250-8880
cappio@clemson.edu
American Sign Language (ASL) is the primary means of communication among individuals who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing, and is the third most-used language in the United States. Federal laws require school districts to provide a “free appropriate public education.” As a result, the number of students who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing attending local schools has soared.

In order for students to fully participate in classroom activities, they need someone to interpret what they want to say to the teacher and the rest of the class, as well as interpret what the teacher and other students are saying to them. An Educational Interpreter brings these two groups together and facilitates the child’s participation as an equal member of the class.

This prevailing increase of students attending local schools has caused the need for sign language interpreters for educational settings to dramatically escalate. So much so that it has ultimately led to a national shortage of qualified ASL-English interpreters working in public schools. Nationwide, the shortage of qualified educational interpreters is critical.

The field of sign language interpreting is growing exponentially. The U.S. Department of Labor projects the growth of interpreter and translator employment to be 23.6% between 2006 and 2016, compared to 10.36% for ALL occupations combined.

The ASL-English Educational Interpreting Certificate aims to address this shortage by providing a post-graduate education in skills and knowledge competencies needed to work in an educational interpreting capacity.

Admission Requirements:
Entry into the ASL-English Educational Interpreting Certificate program requires functional fluency in American Sign Language at the intermediate level. Fluency in ASL will be assessed prior to admittance.

Educational interpreting requires individuals who enjoy working with children, are flexible, creative, and possess good manual and mental dexterity. Interpreting as a whole requires that individuals enjoy working in a variety of settings and situations.

Program Requirements:
- ASL 300 Fingerspelling and Numbers in ASL 1(1,0)
- ASL 315 Survey of Interpreting in Public Schools 3(3,0)
- ASL 320 ASL-English Interpreting in Elementary Schools I 3(3,0)
- ASL 325 ASL-English Interpreting in Secondary Schools I 3(3,0)
- ASL 420 ASL-English Interpreting in Elementary Schools II 3(3,0)
- ASL 425 ASL-English Interpreting in Secondary Schools II 3(3,0)

About the Program:
The ASL-English Educational Interpreting Certificate is a 16-credit hour program designed to prepare students as entry-level interpreters working with students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing in K-12 classrooms. Coursework focuses on interpreter processing skills, continued sign vocabulary development, and the transfer of meaning between languages, as well as a specialized focus on interpreting in the educational setting.