Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages – American Sign Language

For Additional Information:

Financial Aid
www.clemson.edu/financial-aid

Undergraduate Admissions
www.clemson.edu/admissions/undergraduate

Modern Languages Program – American Sign Language
www.clemson.edu/ahha/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

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Clemson University is accredited by the Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the Baccalaureate, Master’s, Education Specialist, and Doctoral degrees. Questions related to accreditation should be directed to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges, 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; phone 404-679-4501.
**American Sign Language (ASL)** is a rich, complex language that uses signs made with the hands and other movements, including facial expressions and postures of the body. ASL is the predominant language used by an estimated 500,000 members of the Deaf Community in the United States and parts of Canada. This means ASL is the third most used language in the United States.

Like any spoken language, ASL is a language with its own unique rules of grammar and syntax. The linguistics of ASL are very different from English. As a visual language, the shape, placement, and movement of the hands, as well as facial expressions and body movements, all play important parts in conveying information.

American Sign Language is America’s fastest-growing language, according to the Modern Language Association (MLA). MLA data reports that enrollment in ASL courses experienced a 803% increase since 1998!

"Students find that studying an indigenous American language gives them another perspective on American life and culture. Those who receive advanced training and certification in sign language interpreting will also find that there is demand for highly qualified interpreters in education, government, and business."

(MLA, 2010).

According to the ASL Teachers Association (ASLTA), there are approximately 500,000 ASL users in the U.S. and Canada. Most use ASL as their primary language and are members of a rich, vibrant linguistic minority community who share a common set of social beliefs, behaviors, art, literary traditions, history, and values.

**Clemson University**—with its colleagues at the University of Virginia, the University of New Mexico, Stanford University, Yale University, and other premier institutions—recognizes ASL as a modern language. Clemson is the only four-year public institution in South Carolina that recognizes and offers ASL for modern language credit.

**At Clemson University, you are able to:**
- Earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern Languages with a concentration in ASL
- Study interpreting in Educational Settings
- Minor in ASL

Whether you are interested in a career as an interpreter, teacher, or in nursing, you can use your ASL skills in nearly any field!

The Clemson University ASL Program faculty have been recognized by the Deaf Community both statewide and nationally for its unique offerings and native-signer services. Clemson is actively invited to participate in statewide meetings because of its unique relationship with the Deaf Community.