

Beginner-Level Standards

Communication—Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

- Use receptive skills to comprehend simple statements and questions in standard dialect
 - Understand age-appropriate narratives, including stories, folktales, and other expressions of the Deaf culture.
 - Use repetition and rephrasing to sustain comprehension with more skilled signers
- Express basic needs and compose statements, questions, and short messages to signers of the same age group and to familiar adults
 - Use gestures to compose simple statements and questions
 - Use appropriate vocabulary and structure when communicating with native ASL signers
 - Make messages comprehensible to fluent signers through repetition and rephrasing
- Initiate and engage in simple face-to-face conversations
 - Carry on informal, interactive, face-to-face conversations with familiar individuals who are Deaf

Cultures & Comparisons—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Use key cultural traits that exist in settings where American Sign Language is used
 - Correctly use and interpret cultural manifestations for communication about daily activities

Communities—Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Become aware of cultural patterns, learned through the use of American Sign Language, that characterize Deaf culture
 - Become aware of the implications when a culture exists within a larger culture

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures

Intermediate-Level Standards

Communication— Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

- Comprehend messages and short conversations when they contain frequently used grammatical features and word order patterns
 - Ask for directions to a nearby café, shopping center, Deaf club, etc.
- Understand some main ideas and some discrete information when watching signed television broadcasts, instructional videotapes, and films on topics of interest to them or to the general public
 - Relay the main ideas of a newspaper or magazine article
- Express themselves with confidence on a range of topics that include issues related to everyday life, the content of programs on television and videotapes; the content of articles in newspapers or magazines for the general public; and stories and excerpts from Deaf literature
 - Make appointments, using present, past, and future time frames
 - Use appropriate learned vocabulary and structures, although limited control of more complex structures may interfere with communication
- Engage in extended discourse with native ASL signers on a broad range of topics that extends beyond the students' interest to those of general interest to members of the Deaf culture
 - Employ simple and complex sentences and all conversational tenses that enable them to communicate in all time frames
 - Use culturally appropriate behaviors of the Deaf community

Cultures & Communities—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Demonstrate more comprehensive knowledge of the Deaf culture
 - Participate in a discussion about cultural patterns learned through the use of American Sign Language
 - Understand how daily life in the Deaf culture requires making adjustments to living in a hearing world
 - Role play daily activities incorporating appropriate cultural behaviors
 - Can be understood by a fluent signer of ASL using repetition and rephrasing

Comparisons—Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Draw comparisons about different societies both within the Deaf culture and other cultures

- Recognize important linguistic and cultural variations among different groups within the culture and in the various states and Canadian provinces where American Sign Language is used
 - Identify regional differences in the signed language

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures

Advanced-Level Standards

Communication— Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes.

- Understand a wide range of registers delivered with some repetition and paraphrasing by fluent ASL signers, comprehension may be hindered when the topics are unfamiliar or when more advanced signed communication is being used
 - Determine the essential content of face-to-face discussions or presentations, of signed feature films, and of signed programs on television and videotape
 - Understand communications on a wide range of topics, and on issues of concern globally and in Deaf culture
 - Recognize learned vocabulary and structures as well as those acquired through independent exposure to the language
 - Use culturally appropriate behaviors regularly
- Organize presentations on everyday topics
- Express complex ideas with confidence
 - Demonstrate good control of the morphology of the language and of the most frequently used syntactic structures, although errors may still occur

Cultures & Communities—Interact with cultural competence and understanding. Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

- Produce behaviors that are consistent with the Deaf culture
 - Use appropriate visual gestures and body language to enrich the signed language
 - Maintain conversation with individuals who are fluent signers of ASL

Comparisons—Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence.

- Reflect a wide variety of different contexts within the Deaf culture
 - Observe and understand a signed play or performance

Connections—Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations.

- Build, reinforce, and expand knowledge of other disciplines while using the language to develop critical thinking and solve problems creatively
- Access and evaluate information and diverse perspectives that are available through the language and its cultures