

WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE

Deaf Studies Program Review
Associate of Arts Deaf Studies Degree and Certificate of Achievement
By: Ms. Cindy Frank, M.A.

Western Nevada College

Deaf Studies

Program Review Report

2005 – 2013

Western Nevada College

May 3, 2013

Program Name: Deaf Studies

Degree/Certificates: Associate of Applied Science
Certificate of Achievement – American Sign Language
Certificate of Completion – Interpreting

Academic Division: Communication/Fine Arts

Years Reviewed: 2005 -2013

Date of Previous Review: N/A

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Program Review Team: Mr. Joseph Baggs
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A. Program Descriptions

B. Mission Statements

College Mission Statement:

“Western Nevada College inspires success in our community through opportunities that cultivate creativity, intellectual growth and technological excellence, in an environment that nurtures individual potential and respects differences.”

Deaf Studies A.A.S. Mission Statement:

“The Mission of the Western Nevada College Deaf Studies Associate of Applied Science Degree Program and American Sign Language Certificate is to provide quality education to students by developing their expressive and receptive skills, comprehensively, in American Sign Language. Students completing this degree will exhibit fluency in signing, fingerspelling and the knowledge of the history and culture of people that are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The Deaf Studies A.A.S. Degree provides students the solid foundation needed to enter into the high-demand field of professionals competent to work with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population.”

Program Descriptions:

A.A.S. Deaf Studies

The Deaf Studies degree is designed to prepare students with a strong linguistic and cultural foundation to enter any professional career related to people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Students in this program will acquire fluency in American Sign Language, knowledge of the rich cultural and historic aspects of the Deaf Community, basic bilingual educational approaches in language development and the current issues facing people

who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Some of the courses embedded in the Deaf Studies Degree also meet the Nevada statutory regulations governing Deaf Educators/Interpreters.

Upon completing this Deaf Studies Degree, students can pursue professional fields such as Educational or Community Interpreters, Certified Deaf Interpreters, and obtain foundational skills that can lead them to being Teachers of the Deaf/HH, Speech and Language Pathologist, Social Workers, and Psychologists with specific skills and knowledge in working with the D/HH population.

ASL Certificate of Achievement:

Students completing the ASL Certificate of Completion will be able to demonstrate basic American Sign Language skills. This certificate reflects basic interpersonal conversational skills that can be used in any job that entails working with the general population, including people who are D/HH. Students who have completed this certificate demonstrate bilingual skills, but not to the level of interpreting. American Sign Language is the third most used language in United States, so employees that can converse with D/HH people are always in demand.

Interpreting Certificate of Completion:

In today's economy it is rare to find a field in which there is high demand, but Educational and Community Sign Language Interpreters are in very high demand in U.S. and Canada. Students who have finished the Interpreting Certificate of Completion, and it's related prerequisites, have strong preparation and readiness skills necessary for the NRS required Educational Interpreter's Performance Examination, aka E.I.P.A, (for Educational Interpreting) or the National Interpreters Certificate, aka N.I.C. (for Community Interpreters). The Deaf Studies Program and related Interpreting Program has nearly 200 students that have received employment. It is pertinent for students to gain the skills and knowledge necessary in this Certificate to pass the required test, however students must pass the related tests to gain employment. The courses also provide

working interpreters training, as required by law, until they are able to achieve an “Advance” level E.I.P.A. score (4.0+).

C. College and Program Goals:

| WNC Goal | Deaf Studies Program Goal |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Improve Student success in program completion and graduation rates</p> | <p>1. Provide oversight for Deaf Studies Programs</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Review articulation of Deaf Studies Courses within Nevada System of Higher Education</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Improve retention and graduation rates</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Measure student learning via standardized rubrics in all ASL courses (Attachment “A”)</p> |
| <p>2. Ensure institutional excellence in teaching programs and services</p> | <p>2. Assess Program</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Assess student learning outcomes for A.A.S. Degree and Certificates</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Measure student learning by continuing to use standardized mid-term and finals for like courses.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Host Bi-Annual meetings with all Deaf Studies P/T Faculty</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Update curriculum and train instructors as the field evolves.</p> |
| <p>3. Embrace our college’s many communities and respond to their diverse needs</p> | <p>4. Continue to work on outreach.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Work with local High Schools to teach about ASL fields.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Create Dual Credit for H.S. Students taking ASL</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Participate in Multi-Cultural Events</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Continue with ASL Club and “Open Hands” night.</p> <p>3. <i>Outcome:</i> Involve students in community service projects.</p> |

D. Short Description:

The purpose of the Deaf Studies A.A.S. degree is to provide students education and signing skills necessary to enter the field of Deaf education, interpreting, and other professions that serve the Deaf community. Students graduating with an A.A.S. degree in Deaf Studies will have completed 60 units, 36 of which are Deaf Studies courses.

Concerns and Trends Affecting the Program:

The legislature is constantly evolving and changing the needs for Deaf Children in Nevada, therefore it is imperative that the Deaf Studies Programs change and evolve as well, to meet the ever-growing needs of professionals in this field.

Significant Changes or Needs in the Next Five Years:

Our program is the only one of its kind in Northern Nevada, one full time professor is not enough to cover the needs of our students seeking foreign language, getting their degrees that lead them into multiple fields of professionals working with the Deaf, as well as training interpreters. Many similar programs have multiple full time instructors to address the various emphases within our programs.

E. Student Learning Outcomes/Required Course Matrix:

Deaf Studies, AA Degree

Program Outcomes Matrix

Upon completing the Deaf Studies program, students will be able to:

| Outcomes | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Produce basic expressive/receptive sign language communicative skills |
| 2 | Demonstrate appropriate ASL linguistic and grammatical structure in signing |
| 3 | Demonstrate functional language aptitude in American Sign Language |
| 4 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of personal heredity and cultural traditions |
| 5 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of biographic and autobiographic events |
| 6 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of number systems – functional & abstract |
| 7 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of major life activities and special occasions |
| 8 | Demonstrate knowledge of linguistic, cultural, educational and social aspects of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing |
| 9 | Demonstrate basic knowledge of historical, political, audiological, educational and linguistic in relation to the history of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. |
| 10 | Demonstrate basic fluency in receptive and expressive pragmatics and production of fingerspelling in ASL |

| Required Courses | | Outcomes | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Course # | Name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| AM 145 | American Sign Language I | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| AM 146 | American Sign Language II | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | |
| AM 147 | American Sign Language III | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | | |
| AM 148 | American Sign Language IV | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | |
| AM 151 | Fingerspelling in ASL I | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| AM 152 | Fingerspelling in ASL II | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| AM 153 | Deaf Culture | | | | | | | | 3 | | |
| AM 154 | Deaf History | | | | | | | | | 3 | |

Assign a value to which each outcome is represented in each required class: 1 = slightly, 2 = moderately, 3 = significantly

F. Degrees or Certificates offered:

Deaf Studies A.A.S. Degree

36 Credits in Major/Emphasis **36 Units:**

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| *AM 140 | American Sign Language I/II (OR AM 145 ASL I AND AM 146 ASL II) | 6 |
| **AM 141 | American Sign Language III/IV (OR AM 147 ASL III AND AM 148 ASL IV) | 6 |
| AM 149 | American Sign Language V | 4 |
| AM 150 | American Sign Language VI | 4 |
| AM 151 | Fingerspelling I | 1 |
| AM 152 | Fingerspelling II | 1 |
| AM 153 | Deaf Culture | 3 |
| AM 154 | Deaf History | 3 |
| AM 216 | Conversational ASL | 4 |
| AM 216 | Receptive ASL | 4 |

* Students can take AM 145 (ASL I) & AM 146 (ASL II) in lieu of AM 140 for slower paced courses

** Students can take AM 147 (ASL III) & AM 148 (ASL IV) in lieu of AM 141 for slower paced courses

*** Students taking individual courses in Lieu of combo courses will have 40 units in their Major/Emphasis

General Education Requirements **24 Units:**

| | |
|--|---|
| English/Communications Requirement: <i>Must include a writing course</i> | 6 |
| Human Relations Requirement | 3 |
| Humanities/Social Science Requirement | 3 |
| Science Requirement | 3 |
| U.S. and Nevada Constitutions Requirement | 3 |
| Math Requirement | 3 |
| General Elective (Theater 105 suggested) | 3 |

A list of all courses filling general education requirements for the Associate of Applied Science can be found on the Associate of Applied Science Page

American Sign Language Certificate of Achievement

Program Requirements

18 units:

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| *AM 140 | American Sign Language I/II | 6 |
| **AM 141 | American Sign Language III/IV | 6 |
| AM 151 | Fingerspelling I | 1 |
| AM 152 | Fingerspelling II | 1 |
| Any other AM course | | 4 |
| <i>* Students can take AM 145 (ASL I) & AM 146 (ASL II) in lieu of AM 140 for slower paced courses</i> | | |
| <i>** Students can take AM 147 (ASLIII) & AM 148 (ASL IV) in lieu of AM 141 for slower paced courses</i> | | |
| <i>*** Students taking individual courses in Lieu of combo courses will have 22 units in their Major/Emphasis</i> | | |

General Education Requirements

12 units:

| | |
|--|---|
| English/Communications Requirement: <i>Must include a writing course</i> | 6 |
| Human Relations Requirement | 3 |
| Math Requirement | 3 |

A list of all courses filling general education requirements for the Certificate of Achievement can be found on the Certificate of Achievement Page

WNC Certificate of Completion - Interpreting

Excluding General Education classes - 32 credits in total.

| <u>Semester I</u> | | <u>Semester II</u> | |
|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| AM 149 ASL 5 | (4) | AM 150 ASL 6 | (4) |
| AM 202 Interpreting II | (3) | AM 202 Interpreting II | (3) |
| AM 151 Fingerspelling I | (1) | Am 152 Fingerspelling II | (1) |
| | | AM 216 Receptive ASL | (4) |
| Credits | 8 | Credits | 8 |
| <u>Semester III</u> | | | |
| AM 215 Conversational ASL | (4) | | |
| AM 203 Interpreting III | (3) | | |

G. Niches Served:

Students that Gained Employment:

The Deaf Studies Programs at Western Nevada College have enjoyed a very close relationship with surrounding school districts, including Washoe County School District (WCSD), Carson City School District (CCSD), Lyon County School District (LCSD), Douglas County School District (DCSD), Storey County School District (VC), White Pine School District (Ely) and Elko County School District (Elko), providing them with interpreters, Teachers of the Deaf and interpreter training. WNC's Deaf studies program also works to provide interpreters and other professionals to colleges and Universities such as UNR, TMCC and LTCC. Our range also includes programs that work with D/HH clients, such as Vocational Rehabilitation, The Office of Aging and Disability Services and the Local Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Center, again, providing them with the personnel qualified to help them serve their clientele. The Deaf Studies program, being the only program of its kind in Northern Nevada, has provided interpreters, teachers, Speech and Language Pathologists, Mental Health workers, Psychologists and various other professionals to these institutions..

WNC has helped our students obtain nearly 200 jobs in the last five years. A confidential list can be provided upon qualified requestors.

G. Quality of Program:

I. Course Scheduling Matrix:

A.A.S. Deaf Studies Degree

4 Semester Sequence

| SEMESTER I (Fall) | Units 16 | SEMESTER III (Fall) | Units 14 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| *AM 140 American Sign Language I/II | 6 | AM 149 American Sign Language V | 4 |
| AM 151 Fingerspelling I | 1 | AM 215 Conversational ASL | 4 |
| AM 154 Deaf History | 3 | Math Course | 3 |
| English/Communications Course | 3 | U.S. & Nevada Constitution | 3 |
| Human Relations Course | 3 | | |
| SEMESTER II (Spring) | Units 16 | Semester IV (Spring) | Units 14 |
| **AM 141 American Sign Language I/II | 6 | AM 150 American Sign Language VI | 4 |
| AM 152 Fingerspelling II | 1 | AM 215 Conversational ASL | 4 |
| AM 153 Deaf Culture | 3 | Science Course | 3 |
| English/Communications Course | 3 | General Elective (Theater 105 Suggested) | 3 |
| Humanities/Social Science Course | 3 | | |

* Students can take AM 145 (ASL I) & AM 146 (ASL II) in lieu of AM 140 for slower paced courses

** Students can take AM 147 (ASLIII) & AM 148 (ASL IV) in lieu of AM 141 for slower paced courses

J. Evidence of Effectiveness

The Deaf Studies Program has enjoyed continued success and expansion, and is now the most studied foreign language at Western Nevada College.

In an informal survey, we have found that our students consistently score between the 2.8 – 3.8 range on the E.I.P.A. According to Colorado’s Interpreter Preparation Program, Interpreters should expect a 2.0 – 2.5 E.I.P.A. score upon completion. This sets us much higher than the national average.

K. Summary Data Sheet

2010-2011 Program Review Summary Data AA Deaf Studies

| | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| HEADCOUNT DECLARED MAJORS | | | | | | |
| Full-Time | 4 | 8 | 13 | 24 | 33 | 31 |
| Part-Time | 8 | 29 | 52 | 55 | 52 | 77 |
| Total Full-Time (pt credit/12 + ft) | 8 | 28 | 49 | 63 | 75 | 82 |
| SUCCESSFUL COURSE COMPLETION | | | | | | |
| % Grade A, B, C or P | 85 | 81 | 87 | 91 | 88 | 92 |
| DEGREES GRANTED | | | | | | |
| AA Deaf Studies | 2 | 5 | 7 | 13 | 10 | 9 |
| STUDENT CREDIT HOURS | | | | | | |
| Total Credit Hours | 810 | 1428 | 1327 | 1406 | 1678 | 1854 |
| % Credit Hours Taught by Full-Time Faculty | 44 | 37 | 49 | 22 | 20 | 23 |
| % Credit Hours Consumed by Non-Majors | 93 | 87 | 80 | 75 | 80 | 78 |
| FTE STUDENTS TAUGHT | | | | | | |
| Student FTE | 54 | 95 | 88 | 94 | 112 | 124 |

Program requirements (2010-2011 catalog): AM 145, 146, 147, 148, 151, 152, 153, and 154.

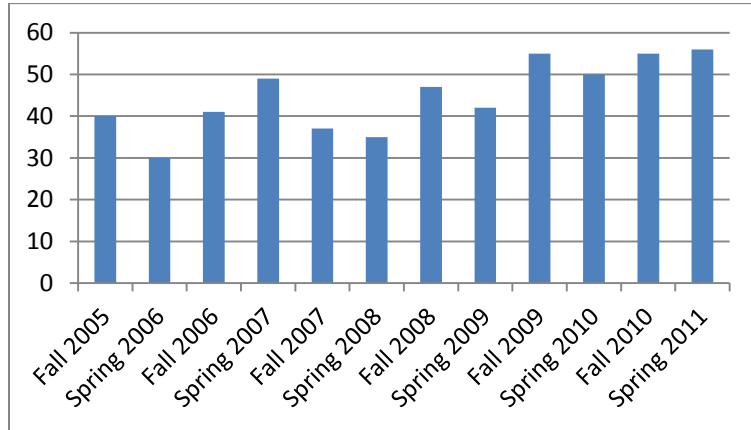
2010-2011 Program Review Summary Data ASL Certificate of Achievement

| | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2008-2009 | 2009-2010 | 2010-2011 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| HEADCOUNT DECLARED MAJORS | | | | | | |
| Full-Time | 0 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Part-Time | 5 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 11 |
| Total Full-Time (pt credit/12 + ft) | 2 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| SUCCESSFUL COURSE COMPLETION | | | | | | |
| % Grade A, B, C or P | 83 | 81 | 85 | 90 | 88 | 91 |
| CERTIFICATES GRANTED | | | | | | |
| ASL Certificate of Achievement | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| STUDENT CREDIT HOURS | | | | | | |
| Total Credit Hours | 690 | 1284 | 1147 | 1268 | 1510 | 1626 |
| % Credit Hours Taught by Full-Time Faculty | 34 | 30 | 41 | 14 | 22 | 19 |
| % Credit Hours Consumed by Non-Majors | 98 | 97 | 97 | 98 | 97 | 98 |
| FTE STUDENTS TAUGHT | | | | | | |
| Student FTE | 46 | 86 | 77 | 85 | 101 | 108 |

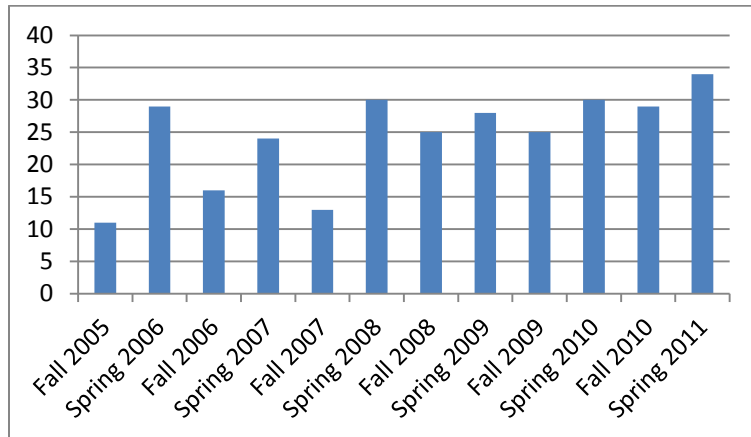
Subject requirements (2010-2011 catalog): AM 145, 146, 147, 148, 151, and 152.

L. STUDENT ENROLLMENT TRENDS

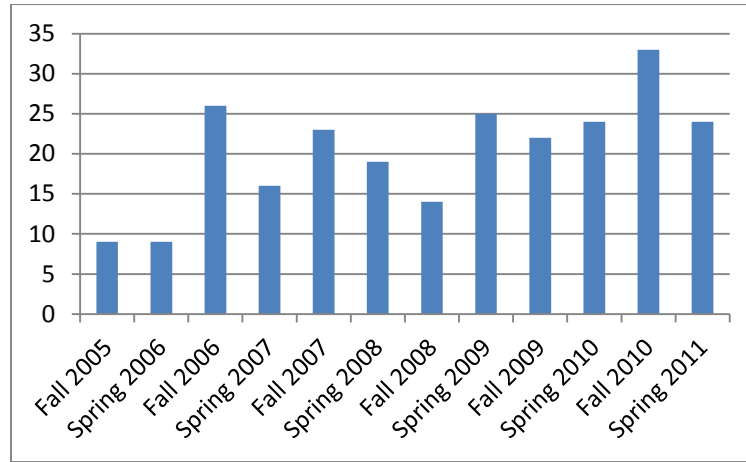
ASL I



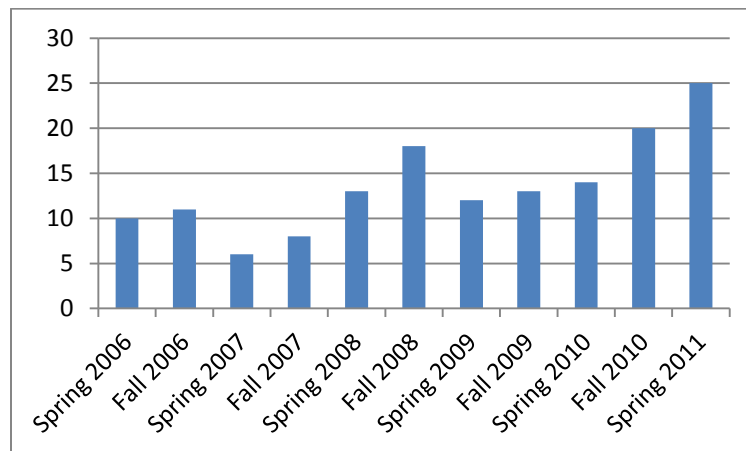
ASL II



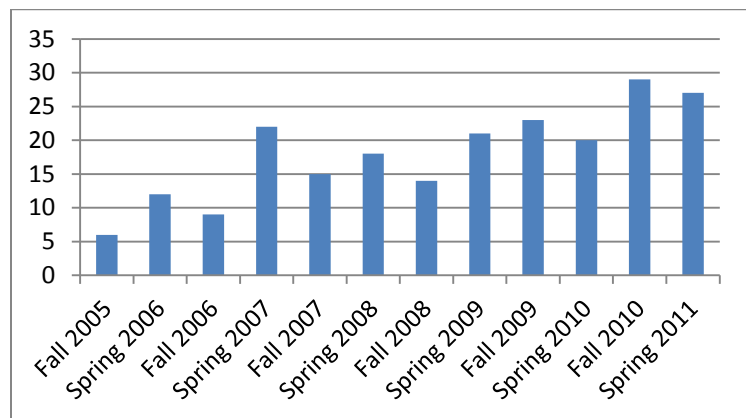
ASL III



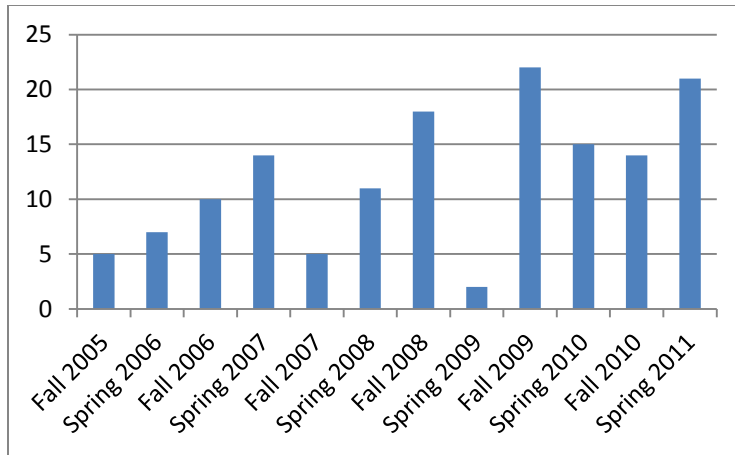
ASL IV



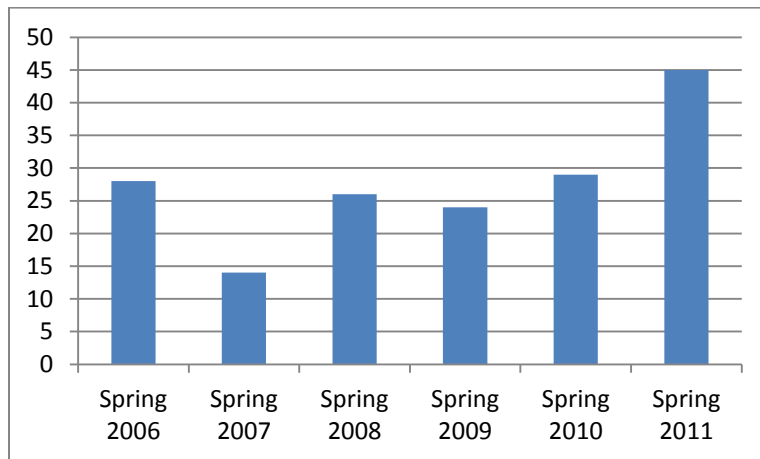
Fingerspelling I



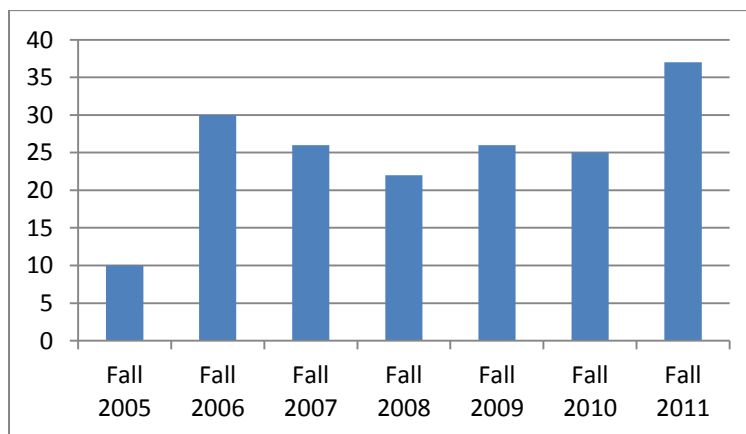
Fingerspelling II



Deaf Culture



Deaf History



Systematic Assessment:

M. 5 year Assessment Plan:

| Outcomes | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | Means of Assessment |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| 1. Improve Student Success on | met | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | Grades, Standardized Tests, Standardized Rubrics Data from Institutional Research |
| 2. Ensure Institutional excellence | | met | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | Obtain current materials/curriculum, assess teachers, assess grades, continue to have bi-annual meetings for instructors, change job description to require A.A. degree or better for P/T/ faculty |
| 3. Embrace WNC's many communities | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | ongoing | Deaf Club, Outreach to communities, Multicultural Day and Veterans events |
| 4. Change AA to AAS | | met | | | | |
| 5. Interpreting Certificate | | met | | | | Ensures students are ready to take the E.I.P.A. or N.I.C. |
| 6. Improve P/T faculty education | | met | | | | Require an A.A. degree or better for teachers, Job Description. Continue to meet bi-annually. Obtain Professional Development for entire faculty and staff. |

Comments/Reflections:

This recent 2012-2013 year, we were able to accomplish many of the outcomes listed in the Program Summary submitted to the Nevada Board of Regents in Summer of 2012.

Systematic Assessment:

Course evaluations were approximately 95% positive in overall mean score.

N. Certifications/Licensing:

Students who complete the Deaf Studies Program A.A.S. degree or equivalent are scoring at an approximate 2.8 – 3.8 score or higher on the National Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment, E.I.P.A. Approximately 20-25 students have continued on to obtain their Teaching License. Overall, over 200 students have obtained employment due to the skills acquired in our programs.

O. Need for the Program:

According to NRS 656A all working interpreters who do not meet the required score on the National Assessment (Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment) must have ongoing training and mentoring - 75 hours in a 3 year span- to remain in compliance with the NRS Statute.

For the last 8 years, the WNC has provided training, courses and Immersions to local and rural School Districts. These courses focuses on the areas of proficiency needed to meet the requirements of the EIPA and the individual and unique needs of the D/HH students in Northern Nevada. The WNC Deaf Studies Programs meets the legal, professional and academic needs of the professionals and students striving to serve our D/HH children. Our programs provide the training opportunity needed for the current and future professionals that serve the D/HH students of Northern Nevada. Currently there are very few interpreters for the Deaf that meet the NRS standard in N. Nevada. Deaf and Hard of Hearing students must have these quality interpreters and teachers to ensure Equal Access as outlined in IDEA. Northern Nevada is in dire need of more qualified interpreters and professionals in the field of deafness, to serve our students and this Immersion supports this endeavor.

In Carson, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill School Districts, only two interpreters for the Deaf are at the level required by NRS 656A. Training opportunities such as this Immersion is critical and has proved very successful by the increasingly higher scores of current interpreters.

P. Curriculum Review Summary:

The following report was submitted and approved by The WNC Curriculum Committee on December 12th, 2012:

Curriculum Review Report

WNC Deaf Studies A.A. Degree & American Sign Language Certificate Ms. Cindy Frank, Program Coordinator and Professor

- I. *Mission Statement and Student Outcomes:*
 - A. “The Mission of the Western Nevada College Deaf Studies Associate of Arts Degree Program and American Sign Language Certificate is to provide quality education to students by developing their expressive and receptive skills, comprehensively, in American Sign Language. Students completing this degree will exhibit fluency in signing, fingerspelling and the knowledge of the history and culture of people that are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The Deaf Studies A.A. Degree provides students the solid foundation needed to enter into the high-demand field of professionals competent to work with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population.”

Q. Program Outcome Matrix

Deaf Studies, AA Degree

Program Outcomes Matrix

Upon completing the Deaf Studies program, students will be able to:

| Outcomes | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Produce basic expressive/receptive sign language communicative skills |
| 2 | Demonstrate appropriate ASL linguistic and grammatical structure in signing |
| 3 | Demonstrate functional language aptitude in American Sign Language |
| 4 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of personal heredity and cultural traditions |
| 5 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of biographic and autobiographic events |
| 6 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of number systems – functional & abstract |
| 7 | Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of major life activities and special occasions |
| 8 | Demonstrate knowledge of linguistic, cultural, educational and social aspects of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing |
| 9 | Demonstrate basic knowledge of historical, political, audiological, educational and linguistic in relation to the history of people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. |
| 10 | Demonstrate basic fluency in receptive and expressive pragmatics and production of fingerspelling in ASL |

| Required Courses | | Outcomes | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Course # | Name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| AM 145 | American Sign Language I | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| AM 146 | American Sign Language II | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | |
| AM 147 | American Sign Language III | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | | | |
| AM 148 | American Sign Language IV | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | |
| AM 151 | Fingerspelling in ASL I | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| AM 152 | Fingerspelling in ASL II | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| AM 153 | Deaf Culture | | | | | | | | 3 | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| AM 154 | Deaf History | | | | | | | | | | 3 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The aforementioned graph has assigned values to which each outcome is represented in each required class: 1 = slightly, 2 = moderately, 3 = significantly

R. Relevancy and Currency of Curriculum:

- a. American Sign Language is the most studied language in United States. It is the third most used foreign language in United States. The Deaf Studies Program remains in close contact with the Nevada Association of the Deaf, the Office of Disabilities, the Department of Education and Nevada Parents group. The program regularly receives newsletters and updates from the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, The American Sign Language Teachers Association and Gallaudet University – the leading University of this field.
- b. The Curriculum used in the Deaf Studies Program in constant states of adjusting, including new signs, updated information, visual aids and books. The Communication and Arts division of WNC has been outstanding in its support of the purchase of new material to add to our instruction.

S. Sequence of Offerings:

- a. The WNC Deaf Studies program emulates many highly successful Deaf Studies programs around the country with its sequence of course offerings. As indicated in the Program Guide and below, student learning is based on a scaffold model, wherein skills are developed in a sequential and meaningful manner.

DEAF STUDIES

Associate of Arts Degree

The Deaf Studies degree will prepare students for transfer to a bachelor's program/degree in Deaf Studies or a related academic field. Courses will help students develop knowledge about American Sign Language, cultural impacts related to being deaf or hard of hearing, and the state of Nevada statutory regulations which govern interpreting.

Salary: \$36,180-\$75,100 / year (Nevada)

Career Outlook: Faster than average growth

Good To Know: Interpreters may be paid by the day, often by the courts, schools or health care facilities. New laws may require more interpreters.

WNC Academic Division: Communication and Fine Arts

Total Requirements: 60 units

| Program Requirements | | 24 Units |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| AM 145 | American Sign Language I | 4 |
| AM 146 | American Sign Language II | 4 |
| AM 147 | American Sign Language III | 4 |
| AM 148 | American Sign Language IV | 4 |
| AM 151 | Fingerspelling I | 1 |
| AM 152 | Fingerspelling II | 1 |
| AM 153 | Deaf Culture | 3 |
| AM 154 | Deaf History | 3 |

General Education Requirements 36 Units

| | |
|---|---|
| English/Communications Requirements: ENG 101, ENG 102 | 6 |
| Fine Arts Requirement: Recommended: THTR 105 | 3 |
| Humanities Requirement | 6 |
| Mathematics Requirement: MATH 120 or higher | 3 |
| Science Requirement | 6 |
| Social Sciences Requirement | 3 |
| U.S. and Nevada Constitution Requirements | 3 |
| General Electives | 6 |

A list of all courses filling general education requirements for the Associate of Arts can be found on the Associate of Arts page.

DEAF STUDIES - Suggested Course Sequence

| FIRST SEMESTER | Completed | THIRD SEMESTER | Completed |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| AM 145 | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | AM 147 | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General Education Courses | 12 <input type="checkbox"/> | AM 151 | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | AM 154 | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | General Education Courses | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| SECOND SEMESTER | Completed | FOURTH SEMESTER | Completed |
| AM 146 | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | AM 148 | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| AM 153 | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | AM 152 | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General Education Courses | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> | General Education Courses | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> |

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS - DEAF STUDIES & AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT - Mission & Outcomes

Associate of Arts Mission: The mission of the Western Nevada College Deaf Studies A.A. Degree Program is to provide quality education to students, thus developing their comprehensive expressive/receptive skills in American Sign Language, fingerspelling fluency and knowledge of the history and culture of people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Students are provided a strong foundation in which to enter numerous high-demand professional fields that provide services to deaf or hard of hearing people.

Certificate of Achievement Mission: The mission of the Western Nevada College American Sign Language Certificate of Completion Program is to provide quality education to students, thus developing their comprehensive expressive/receptive skills in American Sign Language, fingerspelling fluency and general knowledge of deafness. Students are provided a linguistic foundation in which to enter numerous high-demand professional fields that provide services to deaf or hard of hearing people.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completing the Deaf Studies Associate of Arts program and/or American Sign Language Certificate of Achievement students will be able to:

- Produce basic expressive/receptive sign language communicative skills
- Demonstrate appropriate ASL linguistic and grammatical structure in signing
- Demonstrate functional language aptitude in American Sign Language
- Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of personal heredity and cultural traditions
- Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of biographic and autobiographic events
- Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of number systems - functional & abstract
- Produce basic expressive/receptive signing of major life activities and special occasions
- Demonstrate knowledge of linguistic, cultural, educational and social aspects of people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of historical, political, sociological, educational and linguistic in relation to the history of people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Demonstrate basic fluency in receptive and expressive pragmatics and production of fingerspelling in ASL.

TIP: WNC also offers . . .

Certificate of Achievement - American Sign Language • See page 31



Deaf Studies courses are scheduled in a comprehensive, multi-sequential manner. We offer the American Sign Language courses during the day and evening (AM 145, AM146, AM147 & AM 148). Fingerspelling courses (AM 151 & 152) are both offered each semester. Deaf History and Deaf Culture courses are offered once a year, Deaf History in the Fall (AM 154), and Deaf Culture in the Spring (AM 153). We also offer some courses at the Fallon and Douglas campuses.

First Semester (Fall):

Second Semester (Spring):

| | |
|---|--|
| AM 145: M/W 1-2:45 or T/TH 11-12:45 or T/TH 4-5:45 GENERAL ED COURSES | AM 146/ASL II: T/TH 1-2:45 or T/TH 4-5:45 AM 153/Deaf Culture: T/TH 9:30 – 10:45 GENERAL ED COURSES |
| <u>Third Semester (Fall):</u> AM 147/ASL III: M/W 1-2:45 T/TH 4-5:45 AM 154/Deaf Hist: T/TH 9:30 – 10:45 AM 151/FS T 12-12:50 GENERAL ED COURSES | <u>Fourth Semester (Spring):</u> AM 148/ASL IV: M/W 4-5:45 AM 151/FS TH 12-12:50 GENERAL ED COURSES |

- The Deaf Studies program has never undergone a formal Program Review. A Program Review Summary has already been submitted to the Board of Regents, which included current enrollment, graduation and retention data, as well as recommendations for the Deaf Studies Program.
- American Sign Language is the most common foreign language at our WNC campus. So the Deaf Studies program did undergo a General Education review, which included the aforementioned Program Outcome Matrix and Mission Statement.
- The Deaf Studies Program was included in a Common Course Numbering Review at the Board of Regents in Reno in 2008 (?).
- See attached Course Outlines for the courses in the Deaf Studies Degree.
- The Deaf Studies Program is accessible via WNC’s printed catalog and on line. There is a web site, posters around campus and flyers. WNC also has representatives attend various events at UNR and within the Deaf Community.

T. Findings and Recommendations:

Commendations

- The Deaf Studies Program is the only academic program of its kind in Northern Nevada, providing the knowledge and signing foundation to students who will eventually meet the dire need for teachers, interpreters, and professionals for the Deaf and hard of hearing.
- WNC's Deaf Studies courses provide the training required by NRS 656A to serve Deaf and hard-of-hearing students in the Washoe, Carson, Douglas, Lyon, Churchill, Elko, and White Pine school districts.
- WNC is the preferred college for many D/HH students as communication is so readily available.
- Nearly 200 WNC students have gained employment in the field of deafness since 2005.
- Parents of Deaf and hard-of-hearing children rely on the courses offered in WNC's Deaf Studies program to communicate and understand the needs of their Deaf children, often free of charge, through the WNC Foundation's ASL Fund.
- The A.A.S. in Deaf Studies provides the training necessary for interpreters to serve the Deaf and hard-of-hearing population in hospitals, courts, social services, housing, and other agencies that serve the critical needs of the population.
- Deaf Studies staff, students and faculty are involved in fund-raising and community events, such as College Day, the Multicultural Festival, "Open Hands Night" and Deaf Pride Day.
- WNC's American Sign Language Advisory Committee helps the college serve the community by meeting and working with the Nevada Department of Education, Nevada's Disability Services Unit, Nevada PEP, the Nevada Association of the Deaf, and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center.
- Students in the Deaf Studies program have established the Deaf Pride Club through the Associated Students of Western Nevada. They meet weekly, inviting members of the Deaf community as well as students from the University of Nevada, Reno; Truckee Meadows Community College; and Lake Tahoe Community College.
- WNC hosts numerous trainings for working interpreters as well as for students, such as the summer two-week ASL Immersion.

- WNC is the only testing site in Northern Nevada for the nationally recognized Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA). This test is required by law for educational interpreters.
- WNC has collaborated with Carson High School to offer the first ever dual-credit American Sign Language class at a Carson High School.

Recommendations

- Hire an additional full-time instructor to help meet the demand for the degree and ASL courses.
- Hire a full-time support staff member who can proctor tests, assist with academic scheduling, help establish the dual-credit program, order books, and provide job placement assistance.
- Change Common Course numbering within the A.A.S. Deaf Studies degree and Interpreting Certificate of Completion to represent the true level of the courses. For Example, ASL 6 should be a 300 level class.
- Increase Deaf Community Activities and/or fundraising to benefit students as well as contribute to the WNC Foundation ASL Fund.
- Work with Facilities department to ensure D/HH students have appropriate ADA required access in classrooms and security measures. For example, there are no flashing lights in the classrooms that signify any emergency except fire.
- Offer the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview to Deaf, Hearing and Hard of Hearing Students to demonstrate signing capability, thus allowing students to satisfy the prerequisite of many jobs outside of interpreting.
- Obtain Video Relay Services within classrooms to ensure access for our D/HH students and enhance Linguistic and Cultural growth within the classroom.
- Work closely with Vocational Rehabilitation to ensure course completion for our Deaf/HH students.
- Apply for grants.
- Increase professional development opportunities for faculty and staff.
- Increase media exposure and marketing.
- Web Enhance courses
- Offer AM 201 on line

Course Outlines for Deaf Studies A.A.S. and ASL Certificate:

AM 140
American Sign Language I & II
Revised 1-24-2013

Number of Credits: 6

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

Introduces ASL and focuses on the development of basic conversational skills, emphasizing receptive abilities. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- A. At the conclusion of the course students will be able to sign the following:
- Recognize, produce and utilize signs (basic vocabulary) of American Sign Language.
 - Recognize, produce and utilize basic sentence structure including: object + subject + verb, sentences with identifying nouns, using “finish” directional verbs, and verbs with classifiers.
 - Recognize, produce and utilize language functions and grammar of standard American Sign Language including: confirming information, correcting information, negative markers, yes/no questions, Wh-questions, personal pronouns, spatial referencing and numbering.
 - Introductions, exchanging personal information, describing surroundings, telling where you live
 - discussing family, activities and corresponding basic vocabulary
 - understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
 - have effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information
 - Giving Directions
 - Describing people and things
 - Making requests
 - Talking about family and occupations
 - Attributing qualities to others
 - Discussing routines

B. Students will also learn:

- Basic aspects of Deaf Culture with emphasis on educational practices, laws, and challenges the Deaf Community Faces.
- Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf.
- Understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Have effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 145 (American Sign Language I) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
 - Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

AM 145
American Sign Language I
Revised 12-6-12

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

Introduces ASL and focuses on the development of basic conversational skills, emphasizing receptive abilities. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- Recognize, produce and utilize signs (basic vocabulary) of American Sign Language.
- Recognize, produce and utilize basic sentence structure including: object + subject + verb, sentences with identifying nouns, using “finish” directional verbs, and verbs with classifiers.
- Recognize, produce and utilize language functions and grammar of standard American Sign Language including: confirming information, correcting information, negative markers, yes/no questions, Wh-questions, personal pronouns, spatial referencing and numbering.
- Introductions, exchanging personal information, describing surroundings, telling where you live
- discussing family, activities and corresponding basic vocabulary
- understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- have effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 145 (American Sign Language I) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf
- Analysis:

- Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
- Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 146

American Sign Language II

Revised 12-6-12

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

Continues to stress the development of basic conversational skills with emphasis on expanding vocabulary and expressive skills

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- At the conclusion of the course students will be able to sign the following:
 - Giving Directions
 - Describing people and things
 - Making requests
 - Talking about family and occupations
 - Attributing qualities to others
 - Discussing routines
- Basic aspects of Deaf Culture with emphasis on educational practices, laws, and challenges the Deaf Community Faces.
- Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf.
- Understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Have effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 146 (American Sign Language II) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf
- Analysis:

- Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
- Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 141 (ASL III & IV)

Revised 1-24-2013

Number of Credits: 6

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

American Sign Language III promotes the shift from comprehension to production of ASL to bring the students current ASL fluency to a point of self-generated ASL. American Sign Language IV encourages the student to expand his or her command of discourse in ASL on various everyday topics. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- Students in this course will learn how to effectively sign the following linguistic categories:
 - Locating things in a room
 - Numbering (100+, time, etc.)
 - Handshape Stories
 - Inflections
 - Spatial Agreements
 - Exchanging personal information, Life events
 - Life activities, vacations and special occasions
 - Their life story
 - Heredity and family traditions
 - Functional Numbering: Dates, addresses, and prices of items
 - Receptive practice
 - Poetry in ASL
 - Directions
 - Descriptive classifies
 - Various foods

- Students will also acquire the following skills:
 - Understanding basic aspects of Deaf Culture with emphasis on educational practices, laws, and challenges the Deaf Community Faces.
 - Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf.
 - Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
 - Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 147 (American Sign Language III) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
 - Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 147
American Sign Language III
Revised 12-6-12

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

American Sign Language III promotes the shift from comprehension to production of ASL to bring the students current ASL fluency to a point of self generated ASL. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- Students in this course will learn how to effectively sign the following linguistic categories:
 - Locating things in a room
 - Numbering (100+, time, etc.)
 - Handshape Stories
 - Inflections
 - Spatial Agreements
 - Exchanging personal information, Life events
- Understanding basic aspects of Deaf Culture with emphasis on educational practices, laws, and challenges the Deaf Community Faces.
- Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 147 (American Sign Language III) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf

- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
 - Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 148
American Sign Language IV
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Foreign Language and Elective Transferability

I. Course Description:

American Sign Language IV encourages the student to expand his or her command of discourse in ASL on various everyday topics. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

- Students in this course will learn how to effectively sign and expand on the following linguistic categories, students will demonstrate skill in signing:
 - Life activities, vacations and special occasions
 - Their life story
 - Heredity and family traditions
 - Functional Numbering: Dates, addresses, and prices of items
 - Receptive practice
 - Poetry in ASL
 - Directions
 - Descriptive classifies
 - Various foods
- Understanding basic aspects of Deaf Culture with emphasis on cultural aspects of the Deaf Community.
- Knowledge of technology and accommodations available for the Deaf.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 148 (American Sign Language IV) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Communicate with persons who use sign language
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf

- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between English and ASL
 - Locate and evaluate information

- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to use a different modality and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL

- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 149
American Sign Language V
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Transfers as a foreign language or elective

Prerequisites: AM 145-148

I. Course Description

This course has a strong emphasis on conversational fluency in American Sign Language. Identification of discourse styles in ASL, which will lead to the ability to initiate, maintain and conclude conversational interactions with various deaf language styles and/or preference. This ASL course satisfies the requirement for Foreign Language.

II. Course Objectives

- Upon completion of ASL V, student will incorporate the following skills into their conversational and conventional signing skills: role shifting, maintaining spatial agreement, properly sequence classifiers, appropriate reactions and appropriate elaborations with stories that include descriptions, sharing thoughts and reasoning.
- In regards to translation skills students will be able to, by the end of the course, develop good interpretations of written texts, demonstrate of relationships between characters and clearly present facts by explaining rephrasing, demonstrating or drawing conclusions.
- Upon the conclusion of this course students will also be able to give clear instructions or explanations using classifiers, conditional sentences, rhetorical questions and relative clauses.
- Finally, upon completion of the class, students will demonstrate a developed set of essential skills for telling a story successfully. Through sequencing, appropriate use of classifiers, timely reactions and suitable role shifting, the students will possess the skills necessary to successfully tell or re-tell a story.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with fluency in American Sign Language which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Analysis** – During the course of AM 149, students will enhance their ability to analyze both English and American Sign Language from a linguistic, as well as cultural perspective.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.
- **Community Commitment** – Students in this course will be asked to participate in many cultural and community events, thus demonstrating their enhanced knowledge of the Deaf Community and its corresponding language, American Sign Language.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 150
American Sign Language VI
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Transfers as a an elective or foreign language

Prerequisites: AM 145-149

I. Course Description

This final course in the American Sign Language series is a culmination of all signs, pragmatics, grammar and fingerspelling skills acquired thus far. Emphasis is on utilizing all ASL skills simultaneously and fluency.

II. Course Objectives

Upon completion of ASL V, student will incorporate the following skills into their conversational and conventional signing skills:

- Appropriate signed output of monetary vocabulary and financial transactions.
- Signing major life events and decision making, with appropriate grammar, vocabulary and pragmatic use of ASL.
- Use appropriate vocabulary and signed output for health and medical terminology and related situations
- Mastering the advanced techniques used in storytelling with emphasis on combining all ASL linguistic mechanics into signed stories.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with fluency in American Sign Language which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Analysis** – During the course of AM 149, students will enhance their ability to analyze both English and American Sign Language from a linguistic, as well as cultural perspective.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.

- **Community Commitment** – Students in this course will be asked to participate in many cultural and community events, thus demonstrating their enhanced knowledge of the Deaf Community and its corresponding language, American Sign Language.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

Deaf Culture

Revised 4-30-2013

Number of Credits: 3

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Deaf Studies and ASL Certificate

I. Course Description:

Deaf Culture offers a study of people who are deafened. This course includes clinical, cultural, social, linguistic and medical descriptions of deafness and its course.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

- Describe the Culture of Deaf people;
- Define basic elements of how deaf children are raised in our society;
- List prominent Educational practices of Deaf children, based on research; pertaining to the educational success of Deaf children;
- Describe the language of most Deaf people and related research;
- Associations for the Deaf;
- Issues within the Deaf Community regarding the support of the Deaf community by some and the eradication of the Deaf Community;
- Technology advancements as well as service provided to the Deaf;
- Understanding laws and research that impact the Deaf Community;
- Understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world;
- Understand and apply social science principles, including an appreciation of participation in civic affairs;
- Have problem solving, creative and critical thinking skills;
- Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf;
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information.

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 153 (Deaf Culture) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major focal areas:

- Communication:
 - Understand how to best communicate with persons who use sign language and those who have various levels of hearing
 - Demonstrate knowledge of cultural aspects of persons who are deaf
- Analysis:

- Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between American Deaf and Hearing cultures
- Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to interact with those who have a different culture and language
 - Develop knowledge of a different cultural and linguistic minority
 - Expand communication to include users of ASL
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 154
Deaf History
Revised 4-30-2013

Number of Credits: 3

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Deaf Studies and ASL Certificate

I. Course Description:

This course examines segments of the history of people who are deaf and the Deaf Community, as well as the deaf experience from a historical perspective.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge:

- The major historical events impacting Deaf people
- Causes of deafness
- Early to Present methods for education Deaf people
- Associations for the Deaf
- Issues within the Deaf Community historically including intermarriage, peddling, interpreters
- Methodologies and Languages used within the community
- Major events impacting the community that occurred between 1890's and today, with emphasis on each decade.
- Technology advancements as well as service provided to the Deaf
- Understanding laws and research that impact the Deaf Community
- Understand the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world.
- Understand and apply social science principles, including an appreciation of participation in civic affairs.
- Have problem solving, creative and critical thinking skills
- Knowledge of agencies and services available for the Deaf.
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 154 (Deaf History) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:

- Understand how to best communicate with persons who use sign language and those who have various levels of hearing
- Demonstrate knowledge of historical aspects of persons who are deaf and the oppression they have faced and issues they face today
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between American/European Deaf and Hearing histories
 - Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to interact with those who have a different culture and language
 - Develop knowledge of the history of people different cultural and linguistic backgrounds
 - Understand oppression, eugenics, and how to accept people with different communication and cultural backgrounds
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 151
Fingerspelling I
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 1

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Deaf Studies Degree or ASL Certificate

Prerequisites: none

IV. Course Description

Develops basic skills in expressive and receptive fingerspelling.

V. Course Objectives

- Students will acquire skill in the fingerspelling of:
Proper nouns: names, places, foods, and books, songs & movie titles
- Understand and apply research based techniques in the production and comprehension of fingerspelled words
- Understand how Deaf people fingerspell
- Understand the importance of fingerspelling in the Deaf Community & related research.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world

VI. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with fluency in Fingerspelling which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 152
Fingerspelling II
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 1

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Deaf Studies Degree or ASL Certificate

Prerequisites: none

VII. Course Description

Improves receptive and expressive fingerspelling skills to intermediate/advanced levels.

VIII. Course Objectives

- Students will acquire advanced skill in the fingerspelling of:
Proper nouns: names, places, foods, and books, songs & movie titles
- Understand and apply research based techniques in the production and comprehension of fingerspelled words
- Understand how Deaf people fingerspell
- Understand the importance of fingerspelling in the Deaf Community & related research.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world

IX. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with fluency in Fingerspelling which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 215
Conversational ASL

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Transfers as a an elective

Prerequisites: AM 147

X. Course Description

This course focuses on the natural use of American Sign Language. Appropriate use of ASL grammar and vocabulary in conversational situations is stressed. Students master appropriate pragmatics, use of facial expressions, space, fingerspelling and classifiers, simultaneously for conversational fluency.

XI. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, student will incorporate the following skills into their conversational and conventional signing skills:

- Conversational fluency, accurate ASL grammar and appropriate ASL pragmatics
- Appropriate use of fingerspelling.
- Use of Sociolinguistic cues used during conversational ASL.
- Combining all five domains of ASL language in fluent signed output.
- Participation and conversation with various Deaf/HH people.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

XII. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with fluency in American Sign Language which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Analysis** – During the course of AM 215, students will enhance their ability to conversationally master American Sign Language from a linguistic, as well as cultural perspective.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.
- **Community Commitment** – Students in this course will be asked to participate in many cultural and community events, thus demonstrating their enhanced knowledge of the Deaf Community and its corresponding language, American Sign Language.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

AM 216
Receptive ASL
Revised 2-8-08

Number of Credits: 4

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Transfers as a an elective

Prerequisites: AM 147

XIII. Course Description

This course aims to provide opportunities for students to develop receptive skills with a wide variety of signers. Receptive language of children, teens, adults with various socio-economic levels, and senior signers will be developed. Acquisition and comprehension of regional signs, "slang" signs, and generational signs will also be emphasized in this course.

XIV. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, student will incorporate the following skills into their conversational and conventional signing skills:

- Receptive fluency with a wide variety of signers from different backgrounds, ages, cultures and regions.
- Strategies for understanding messages using the Cloze procedure.
- Knowledge of various methods for requesting clarification, repetition or fingerspelling comprehension.
- Expansion of vocabulary to include slang, regional and social signs.
- Understanding the importance of cultural traditions, diversity and ethics in the modern world
- Acquiring effective and efficient learning skills, including the location and evaluation of information

XV. Linkage of course to Educational Program Mission and at least one educational program outcome.

- **Communication** – Students will leave the course with receptive understanding of American Sign Language which will enhance their ability to communicate with members of general society that are Deaf and/or users of American Sign Language.
- **Analysis** – During the course of AM 216, students will enhance their ability to understand users of American Sign Language linguistically, as well as culturally. Students will be required to analyze the vocabulary and signed output of various D/HH signers.
- **Personal Development** – Throughout the course students will be demonstrating applied knowledge, personal skills development in both languages and apply current research to their daily professional and personal interactions.

- **Community Commitment** – Students in this course will be asked to participate in many cultural and community events, thus demonstrating their enhanced knowledge of the Deaf Community and its corresponding language, American Sign Language.

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

Course Outlines - Interpreting Certificate of Completion:

AM 201
Interpreting I
Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 3

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Elective, Interpreting Certificate or Degree

I. Course Description:

Interpreting I exposes students to the profession of sign language interpretation as a whole, providing an opportunity to determine their interest in the field prior to pursuing additional coursework. The course emphasizes the code of conduct used by interpreters in which to function professionally. Students will learn to manipulate environmental factors which enhance the work situation, learn of professional organizations and the certification criteria and processes.

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the Code of Conduct according to the National Interpreter Certification and be able to apply this code to hypothetical situations;
- Describe environmental factors which have an impact on the process of interpretation/transliteration;
- Demonstrate strategies to manipulate environmental factors in order to facilitate and maximize communication;
- Identify specific linguistic characteristics which may be observed at various points along the communication continuum;
- Identify at least five settings and four populations of deaf clients, who might be involved, where interpreting services are frequently provided;
- Explain the certification system used by the NIC, including components of the examination, evaluating members, and level of competency required for each type of certificate; and
- Create a beginning portfolio of interpreting experience and education documentation.

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 154 (Deaf History) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major target areas:

- Communication:
 - Understand how to best communicate with persons who use sign language and those who have various levels of hearing
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between American/European Deaf and Hearing histories
 - Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to interact with those who have a different culture and language
 - Develop knowledge of the history of people different cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to participate and possibly assist in equal opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 202
Interpreting III
Revised 12-6-12

Number of Credits: 3

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Elective

I. Course Description:

Interpreting II develops the student's basic receptive and expressive skills in interpreting for deaf individuals leading from consecutive sign language interpreting skills to simultaneous interpretation skills (sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign).

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge:

- Produce accurate ASL representation of English and vice versa in various environmental registers;
- Simultaneously interpret at least five text (ASL to English and vice versa);
- Recognize and identify culturally linked information within texts, both ASL and English.
- Produce and justify linguistic assessments of selected interpretation models and corresponding transcriptions

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 203 (Interpreting III) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major focal areas:

- Communication:
 - Understand how to best communicate with persons who use sign language and those who have various levels of hearing;
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between American Sign Language/English;
 - Locate and evaluate information;
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to interact with those who have a different culture and language;

- Develop knowledge of people different cultural and linguistic backgrounds;
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened;
 - Use information presented in class to facilitate equal access communication opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date

AM 203

Interpreting III

Revised 12-6-2012

Number of Credits: 3

Transferability of Course within Nevada: Elective, Interpreting Degree or Certificate

I. Course Description:

Interpreting III develops the student's receptive and expressive skills in interpreting for deaf individuals leading from consecutive sign language interpreting skills to simultaneous interpretation skills (sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign).

II. Course Objectives or Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following knowledge:

- Produce accurate ASL representation of English and vice versa in various environmental registers;
- Simultaneously interpret at least three text (ASL to English and vice versa);
- Recognize and Identify culturally linked information within texts, both ASL and English.
- Produce and justify linguistic assessments of selected interpretation models and corresponding transcriptions

III. Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome:

The General Education Mission is to provide a core of critical life skills. AM 203 (Interpreting III) addresses four specific general education student learning outcomes from all four major areas:

- Communication:
 - Understand how to best communicate with persons who use sign language and those who have various levels of hearing
- Analysis:
 - Compare and analyze the similarities and differences between American Sign Language/English

- Locate and evaluate information
- Personal Development:
 - Demonstrate ability to interact with those who have a different culture and language
 - Develop knowledge of people different cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- Community Commitment:
 - Understand the diverse needs of Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafened
 - Use information presented in class to facilitate equal access communication opportunities for members of the Deaf Community

IV. Signature of Person Preparing the Course Outline and Date of Completion:

Cindy A. Frank

Date