

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** ASL 125

**Credits:** 3

**Course Title:** History and Culture of the U.S. Deaf Community I

**Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)**

Presents an overview of various aspects of Deaf culture, including educational and legal issues. Examines the history of the Deaf Community. Prerequisite: Placement for ENG 111. Lecture 3 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose**

To expand upon the history and culture of Deaf people in America, serving as a portion of the preparation for the National Interpreting Certification (NIC) Knowledge exam.

**Course Prerequisites/Corequisites** (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

Placement for ENG 111.

**Course Objectives** (Each item should complete the following sentence.)

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Describe the major forces behind the foundation and continuation of the Deaf Community in America.
- b. Provide a general description of American Deaf culture, focusing on how this viewpoint contrasts with that of the general American public, and support same with real-life examples.
- c. Describe the general linguistic and social similarities and differences between ASL, English, Cued Speech and manually coded forms of English (MCEs).
- d. Identify the major events of the last two centuries that have impacted members of the American Deaf Community.
- e. Parallel the experience of Deaf Americans with that of other cultural and linguistic minorities, including the Native American and various immigrant groups.

**Major Topics to be Included**

- a. The formation/existence of Deaf communities and the natural development of a viewpoint centered from members of Deaf communities (i.e., Deaf culture).
- b. Varying societal views of persons who are Deaf and resulting educational, legislative, religious and social outcomes.
- c. The study, identification and recognition of American Sign Language (ASL), in contrast with English and manually coded forms of English (MCEs).
- d. Examples of literature and art within the U.S. Deaf Community.

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year):** April 10, 2009