The American Sign Language and Deaf Studies program is open to both Deaf and non-deaf students and provides intensive preparation in:

- American Sign Language (ASL) and English
- an orientation to Deaf culture
- current social issues affecting Deaf people

The curriculum combines:

- opportunities to learn and practice ASL
- classroom teaching about the structure and features of ASL

Students will have the opportunity to:

- learn, understand and participate in basic conversations in ASL
- develop stronger skills in spoken and written English
- develop a basic understanding of the role of the ASL-English Interpreter

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. Communicate effectively in oral and written English.
2. Express and receive messages accurately in routine conversations using American Sign Language.
3. Apply basic knowledge of Deaf culture, the Deaf community, and the interpreter profession.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

**SEMESTER 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIGN1016</td>
<td>ASL I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM1022</td>
<td>English Foundations for ASL Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGN1060</td>
<td>Becoming an Ally</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SEMESTER 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SIGN1018</td>
<td>ASL II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSSC1129</td>
<td>Introduction to the Deaf Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM1007</td>
<td>College English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENERAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES**

**YOUR CAREER**

ASL skills facilitate communication with Deaf people in a wide variety of health-care, business, educational and social service settings.

Fluency in ASL is an asset for anyone who interacts with members of the Deaf community or with the general public. To broaden employment prospects, combine this certificate with:

- business
- early childhood education
- teaching
- nursing
- counselling
- other diplomas and degrees
Note that this program does not prepare you to be an ASL-English Interpreter, Deaf Culture Instructor, or ASL Instructor. Should students wish to pursue this profession, we encourage C114 graduates who meet program requirements to apply for the Honours Bachelor of Interpretation (American Sign Language – English) (C302) program at George Brown College.

**FUTURE STUDY OPTIONS**

Graduates may apply to the Honours Bachelor of Interpretation (American Sign Language – English) (C302) program at George Brown or similar programs at other colleges if they wish to become Sign Language Interpreters.

This program is a recommended prerequisite for the Honours Bachelor of Interpretation (American Sign Language-English) (C302).

For graduates wishing to work with the Deafblind, they can apply to George Brown’s Intervenor for Deafblind Persons (C108) program. The General Education Elective taken in C114 will count as credit toward the C108 program requirements.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants are selected on the basis of their academic achievement, including the required courses, and any other selection criteria outlined below.

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma or equivalent**
- Grade 12 English (C or U)
- Questionnaire

ASL and Deaf Studies program applicant questionnaire (C114)

**MATURE STUDENT STATUS (19 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AND NO OSSD)**

Mature Students may take the Admissions Assessment for English, OR may consider upgrading to achieve the credit(s) needed in English.

Please note that George Brown is committed to ensuring that applicants will succeed in their program of choice and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to the program. Applicants may be required to have grades higher than the minimum requirements stated.

**COURSE EXEMPTIONS**

College or university credits may qualify you for course exemptions. Please visit georgebrown.ca/transferguide for more information.

"The American Sign Language and Deaf Studies program at George Brown is a tremendous program whose rewards equal the effort that any participant invests in it. I was able to progress from knowing minimal ASL to being accepted into the Honours Bachelor of Interpretation program, also at George Brown College. The professors are generous, wonderful teachers who are patient but also ready to push eager students to achieve their goals. I highly recommend this program as a means to gaining insight into the fascinating and inspiring world of Deaf Culture in Canada through a key point of entry: American Sign Language."

Kate Alton (Graduate 2018, American Sign Language and Deaf Studies)

"The American Sign Language and Deaf Studies program was fantastic. The instructors gave me a strong foundation in American Sign Language by using a variety of effective teaching strategies and by giving constant feedback."

Heather O'Shea (Graduate 2002, American Sign Language and Deaf Studies)

**CONTACT US**

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Email communityservices@georgebrown.ca

Our office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wayne Nicholson, ASL & Deaf Studies Program Coordinator  
Email: wnichols@georgebrown.ca

**LINKS REFERENCE**

1https://collegeapply.ontariocolleges.ca/?collegeCode=GTBC&programCode=C114&lang=en  
5http://www.georgebrown.ca/programs/intervenor-for-deafblind-persons-program-c108/  
6http://www.georgebrown.ca/orientation/documents/applicant-questionnaire-C114.pdf  
7http://www.georgebrown.ca/assessment/admi-pre/  
8http://www.georgebrown.ca/upgrading-credits/english-diploma/

George Brown College is continually striving to improve its programs and their delivery. The information contained in this calendar is subject to change without notice. It should not be viewed as a representation, offer or warranty. Students are responsible for verifying George Brown College admission, graduation, and fee requirements as well as any requirements of outside institutions, industry associations, or other bodies that may award additional designations concurrently with, or after completion of, a George Brown College program.