

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ ENGLISH INTERPRETING, BS

UWM's four-year bachelor's program for interpreting is the only one of its kind in Wisconsin. Our American Sign Language/English Interpreting program goes beyond language, culture, and how to facilitate conversations. The program develops well-rounded interpreters who value and consider others' perspectives, and who are culturally sensitive and empathetic practitioners.

Interpreting is an exciting and in-demand career. In general, the interpreting and translation field is growing much faster than other occupations, and ASL interpreters are especially sought-after. Our Interpreting program is aligned with both state licenses, which offers graduates more options upon graduation in terms of employment.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements	30
	Program Requirements*	113
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>143</b>

\* Some program-required courses are approved as GER.

## Preparatory Coursework

Based on individual placement results, some students may be required to complete preparatory coursework before enrolling in the courses listed here. This may include English language or composition preparation, developmental math, introductory chemistry, and/or student support courses for students participating in the First Year Bridge program.

## General Education Requirements (GER)

UW-Milwaukee has General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/#generaleducationtext>) that must be met in order to earn a bachelor's or associate degree. They include at minimum 30 credits (10 courses) in six categories that are designed to assure basic student competencies and provide a broad body of knowledge as a context for specialization.

*Some degree requirements may fulfill GERs. Please review the requirements and consult with your academic advisor.*

Code	Title	Credits
<b>General Education Categories and Credits</b>		
	Civics and Perspectives (CP)	6
	Communication and Literacy (CL)	6
	Humanities and Arts (HA)	6
	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (MQR)	3
	Natural Science and Wellness (NSW/NSWL)	6
	Social and Behavioral Science (SBS)	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>30</b>

## Advance to ASL-English Interpreting Professional Sequence

Students must meet certain criteria and apply to their specific program in addition to admission to UWM. Please see information about minimum

credits, GPA, and other requirements at Advance to ASL-English Interpreting Professional Sequence. (p. 2)

## Program Core

American Sign Language I-VI courses in the Department of Teaching and Learning satisfy University foreign language requirements. For all programs that require American Sign Language, students with previous experience in American Sign Language can take a proficiency interview to determine appropriate placement level; see website (<https://uwm.edu/education/academics/american-sign-language-studies-bs/#tab-9gki-testing>) for information.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prior to Advancement to Professional Sequence</b>		
ASL 301	American Sign Language I*	3
ASL 302	American Sign Language II*	3
ASL 303	American Sign Language III <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 304	American Sign Language IV <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 305	American Sign Language V <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 306	American Sign Language VI <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 320	Introduction to Interpreting: English to American Sign Language <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 321	Introduction to Interpreting: American Sign Language to English <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 325	Skills Development: ASL V <sup>†</sup>	1
ASL 326	Skills Development: ASL VI <sup>†</sup>	1
ASL 327	Skills Development: Classifiers <sup>†</sup>	1
ASL 328	Skills Development: ASL Depiction <sup>†</sup>	1
ASL 330	Deaf History (GER-CP)*	3
ASL 348	Introduction to the Profession of Interpreting*	3
ASL 352	American Deaf Culture (GER-CP)*	3
ASL 500	Fingerspelling & Numbers*	3
ASL 510	Classifiers <sup>†</sup>	3
ASL 520	ASL Literature <sup>†</sup>	3
THEATRE 111	Theatre Games (GER-HA)*	3
COMMUN 103	Public Speaking (GER-CL)*	3
Highly recommended (choose one):		
LINGUIS 100	The Diversity of Human Language (GER-SBS)	
LINGUIS 210	Power of Words (GER-CP)	
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>52</b>

\* With a grade of C or better

† With a grade of B- or better

## Professional Sequence

Students must earn a grade of B- or better for the professional sequence courses and a minimum 2.75 GPA in all professional coursework.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Sequenced Courses</b>		
<i>Fall I</i>		
ASL 335	Educational Interpreting I	3
ASL 341	Functional Diversity in the Deaf Community	1

ASL 345	Foundations of English to ASL Interpreting	3
ASL 347	Foundations of ASL to English Interpreting	3
ASL 349	Field Work: Interacting in the Deaf Community I	3
ASL 358	ASL/English Linguistics I	3
<i>Spring I</i>		
ASL 338	Introduction to Healthcare Interpreting	3
ASL 340	Theatrical Interpreting	3
ASL 354	Field Work: Interacting in the Deaf Community II	3
ASL 357	Video Relay Services Interpreting	3
ASL 363	ASL/English Linguistics II	3
ASL 371	ASL-English Interpreter Knowledge Exam Preparation (1 credit course taken 3 times for preparation for 3 exams)	3
<i>Fall II</i>		
ASL 356	Postsecondary Interpreting	3
ASL 359	Fieldwork: Interacting in the Deaf Community III	3
ASL 360	Community Interpreting	3
ASL 365	Educational Interpreting II	3
ASL 368	Medical and Mental Healthcare Interpreting	3
<i>Spring II</i>		
ASL 364	Fieldwork: Interacting in the Deaf Community IV (In one semester or split over two semesters)	12
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>61</b>

## Requirements for Graduation

For information on credit, GPA, and other requirements for graduation, see UWM Degree Requirements (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/policies/undergraduate-policies/>).

## ASL/English Interpreting Major Completion Requirements

- Professional Requirements coursework minimum GPA of 2.75.
- Pass a written knowledge exam.
- Pass a performance exam.

## Second Degree Pathway

- Students follow the same pathway as first degree students with the exception of COMMUN 103 and THEATRE 111, although it is strongly recommended that students complete the following: THEATRE 111, LINGUIS 100 or LINGUIS 210, ENGLISH 201, and COMMUN 103.

## Interpreter License Requirements

- Individuals must hold a license from the Department of Public Instruction or the Department of Safety and Professional Services in order to enter the interpreting profession in Wisconsin. Successful completion of proficiency exams is required for these licenses. Consult with your advisor for details.

## Advance to Major

### Advance to ASL-English Interpreting Program Professional Sequence

- ASL 301, ASL 302, ASL 330, ASL 348, ASL 352, ASL 500, COMMUN 103 (except 2nd degree students), and THEATRE 111 (except 2nd degree students), with a grade of C or better.
- ASL 303, ASL 304, ASL 305, ASL 306, ASL 320, ASL 321, ASL 325, ASL 326, ASL 327, ASL 328, ASL 510, and ASL 520 with a grade of B- or better.
- Completion of a Criminal Background Check (CBC) and TB test.
- 58 credits complete.
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5, including transfer courses.
- Completion of Screening Interview, which occurs after application is submitted.
- For second degree candidates, a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

## Student Advising and Support Services

At the College of Community Engagement and Professions (CCEP), your success is our priority. Our dedicated student advising and support services team is here to help you navigate your academic journey, from your first semester through graduation.

Whether you're exploring majors, planning your course schedule, or preparing for your career, our advisors offer personalized guidance tailored to your goals. You'll also find a range of support services designed to help you thrive—academically, personally, and professionally. We're committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive environment where every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to succeed.

**For more information, visit the CCEP Student Advising & Support Services website** (<https://uwm.edu/community-engagement-professions/about/student-advising-support-services/>).

**Email:** [ccep-advising@uwm.edu](mailto:ccep-advising@uwm.edu) | **Phone:** 414-229-4707

## Graduate Advising

If you are a School of Education graduate student, you may schedule an appointment with your faculty advisor by contacting your faculty advisor directly. Faculty contact information can be found in the Directory (<https://uwm.edu/education/directory/>). Your faculty advisor will be listed in your PAWS account.

## Honors in the Department of Teaching and Learning

Departmental Honors are granted to students who have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester.

## College of Community Engagement and Professions Dean's Honor List

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student's GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

## Honors College Degree and Honors College Degree with Distinction

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/honors-college/>) section of this site.

## Commencement Honors

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is **not** rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

## Final Honors

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.