

# ASL280

## THE AMERICAN DEAF COMMUNITY: LANGUAGE CULTURE, & SOCIETY

THE COURSE IS ONLY OFFERED IN THE SPRING!



The course will focus on the linguistic, cultural, and societal context of the Deaf Community in America. Both historical and contemporary aspects of Deaf identity will be included, with an emphasis on the central role that American Sign Language (ASL) plays in the lives of Deaf individuals. Selected basic structures of ASL will be introduced, and the overall structure of ASL will be compared with that of some other sign languages and spoken languages. Deaf people in American society and their cultural practices past and present will be compared with the corresponding societal roles and cultural practices of deaf people in other countries and with those of other minority groups in America. Students will be exposed to the genres of ASL literature and to its significance. ***This course does not require knowledge of***

**SPRING 2017: Tuesday & Thursday: 10:30 – 11:45a**

Sharon Borkowski is a Continuing Lecturer in the School of Languages & Cultures, teaching American Sign Language (ASL) as a second language. She holds a Masters in Sign Language Teaching/Education from Gallaudet University (2014) and has over 10 years experience in teaching ASL including the linguistics, culture, and historical aspects of the Deaf Community. Before coming to Purdue, Ms. Borkowski taught at IUPUI, led community classes for non-profit organizations and provided employee training for private sectors related to ASL and Deaf Culture. For more information, contact Sharon at [sborkow@purdue.edu](mailto:sborkow@purdue.edu).

This course fulfills the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Core Requirements of taking a 3-credit course of 'Other Cultures' - <https://www.cla.purdue.edu/students/academics/requirements/core.html>.