

## Sign Language Option

Students earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in Psychology are required to demonstrate intermediate level proficiency in a foreign language. The Psychology Department accepts intermediate level proficiency in sign language as an option for meeting this requirement, and the courses listed below from Northern Essex Community College (NECC) will be accepted as fulfillment of this requirement:

ASL101 Elementary American Sign Language I (UML equivalent 53.197: American Sign Language 1; 4 contact hrs, 3 credits)—offered by NECC Fall, Spring (and sometimes Summer)\*

ASL102 Elementary American Sign Language II (UML equivalent 53.198: American Sign Language 2; 4 contact hrs, 3 credits)—offered by NECC Fall, Spring (and sometimes Summer)\*

ASL 111 Advanced American Sign Language (UML equivalent 53.295: Intensive ASL I; 6 contact hrs, 5 credits—*select section CRN 7568*). Students will be allowed to take this course ONLY if they have passed ASL 101 and 102 with a grade of 'B' or better, and they must obtain written permission in advance from the NECC Deaf Studies Coordinator, Kevin Fleece:

[kfleece@necc.mass.edu](mailto:kfleece@necc.mass.edu).

*In addition, effective Fall 2012, NECC will require all students taking ASL 111 to also take, or to have taken, DST (Deaf Studies) 101 (select section CRN 7675), Introduction to the Deaf Community, a 3-credit course that will transfer to UML as a free elective (possibly as a Gen Ed SSD elective)—ASL 111 and DST 101 are offered by NECC Fall only\*.*

\*UML has no control over NECC's scheduling of courses. To be assured of being able to complete the sequence, *you must should begin in the Fall semester of the year before the academic year in which you expect to graduate.* For information regarding the scheduled offering of these Northern Essex Community College (NECC) courses, go to <http://www.necc.mass.edu>

To have courses from other schools transferred to UMass Lowell you need to earn a grade of C- or higher in the courses, but be aware of the NECC requirement that ASL 111 may only be taken if you earned a grade of 'B' or better in both ASL 101 and 102. As you complete the courses, have an official NECC transcript of credits earned for these courses sent to the UMass Lowell Registrar's office.

If you take these NECC sign language courses during the Fall or Spring day semesters while registered full time at UMass Lowell (12 or more credits) you can apply for NECCUM Cross Registration (not available to Continuing Ed students). This means you will only need to pay a small fee for the sign language courses. You begin the process of NECCUM Cross Registration at the UMass Lowell Registrar's office. You will need to complete a form, have it signed by Psychology Chairperson and Registrar at UMass Lowell then take the form with you to register at NECC. For Summer, you need to complete and have the Psychology Chairperson sign the Authorization for Off-Campus Course form prior to taking the course. Note that for Residency purposes, ASL courses taken Fall and Spring through NECCUM will be treated as UML credits; ASL courses taken during the summer or evening are usually thought of as credits from a 2-year school and not UML credits, but if you need them to count toward UML residency, be sure to submit an Academic Petition along with the Authorization for Off-Campus Course form.

Please note that iSiS might not recognize ASL 111 as sufficient to satisfy your foreign language proficiency requirement. If that occurs, you will need to submit a Student Exception form to the Psychology department chair for signature.