

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND INTERPRETING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Bachelor of Science

Intensive study paired with a focus on community and culture

The American Sign Language-English Interpreting major instills awareness about Deaf, hard of hearing, and DeafBlind people's rich contributions to our diverse, multicultural, and multilingual society. Our Experiential Liberal Arts education model will help you acquire competence in American Sign Language, develop an understanding of the American Deaf Community and its culture, and apply your linguistic and cultural skills and knowledge to a particular academic area of study. Graduates of this program will be prepared to pursue national certification in ASL interpreting, or to work in related professions to advance social equity and resilience in the American Deaf Community.

A rigorous curriculum to develop linguistic competency

Co-op Opportunities

The co-op program enables you to graduate with up to 18 months of professional or research experience in interpreting or a related field already on your resume. Previous co-ops include:

- Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- The Learning Center for Deaf Children
- DEAF Inc.
- The Children's Center for Communication at Beverly School for the Deaf
- Deaf and Hearing Network LLC
- Horace Mann School for the Deaf
- DeafBlind Community Access Network (DBCAN)

Accreditation and Expansive Resources

We are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Interpreter Education (CCIE), the official accreditation board for interpreter education programs. Northeastern's American Sign Language Program was awarded a \$2 million U.S. Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration grant to establish the Center for Atypical Language Interpreting (CALI).

Center for Atypical Language Interpreting

The Center for Atypical Language Interpreting (CALI) addresses the growing demand for interpreters with specialized skills to serve Deaf and Deaf-Blind persons with atypical language. The five-year project officially launched in 2017. One of the initial endeavors is to record samples of atypical ASL. A language analysis team analyzed the samples and created a matrix of indicants and descriptors of atypical language.

The team has developed an annotated bibliography of print and video media dealing with atypical language, language dysfluency, and language deprivation.



Featured Courses

- Elementary ASL
- Intermediate ASL
- Advanced ASL
- Deaf People in Society
- Deaf History and Culture
- ASL Linguistics
- The Interpreting Profession
- Interpreting Expository Texts
- Interpreting Scripted Texts
- Ethical Decision-Making
- Interpreting Practicum
- Interpreting Research Capstone



After taking ASL as my language requirement in high school, I became imbued with a passion for such a beautiful language, culture, and people. After investigating the highly credentialed program here at Northeastern, I decided it would be a good fit. In the future, I plan on pursuing a career as a trilingual interpreter in ASL, Spanish, and English and establishing a non-profit that seeks to eliminate barriers to generational wealth building for Deaf Black folk."

Chantel Haigler '22, ASL and Psychology
Double Major

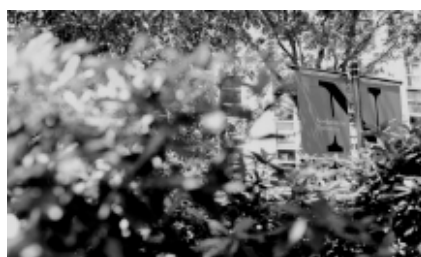


Chloe Frey '25

American Sign Language & Interpreting Education



Chloe completed a co-op at WORK Inc. as a direct support specialist/pre-ets intern, supervising Deaf clients with multiple disabilities on a day-to-day basis and supporting clients in community outings.



Chloe took “Interpreting Scripted Texts” with Professors Rachel Bergman and Nicole Sasson, and learned to analyze, interpret, and perform frozen texts (plays, poems, and ceremonial scripts).



From 2021-2022, she served as treasurer for Signing Huskies, the ASL and Deaf culture club on campus. Chloe is now the club’s president.

cssh.northeastern.edu/student/chloe-frey

N Northeastern University College of Social Sciences and Humanities

As a leader in the Experiential Liberal Arts, Northeastern’s College of Social Sciences and Humanities combines experiential learning with the rigorous study of culture, society, policy, and ethics. To explore the past and shape policies for a better tomorrow, we practice humanics: the integration of traditional liberal arts capacities with quantitative tools and new digital proficiencies. In fields ranging from English and economics to philosophy, criminology and public policy, we focus on the key issues of today: how to shape public spheres, how to build resilient and sustainable communities, and how to engage with cultures past and present.

N Northeastern University

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experience-powered lifelong learning. Our world-renowned experiential approach empowers our students, faculty, alumni, and partners to create impact far beyond the confines of discipline, degree, and campus.

Our locations—in Boston; the Massachusetts communities of Burlington and Nahant; Charlotte, North Carolina; the San Francisco Bay Area; Seattle; London; Toronto; and Vancouver—are nodes in our growing global university system. Through this network, we expand opportunities for flexible, student-centered learning and collaborative, solutions-focused research.

Northeastern’s comprehensive array of undergraduate and graduate programs—in on-campus, online, and hybrid formats—lead to degrees through the doctorate in nine colleges and schools. Among these, we offer more than 140 multidisciplinary majors and degrees designed to prepare students for purposeful lives and careers.