

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
ASL 220 – COMPARATIVE LINGUISTICS: ASL & ENGLISH (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Provides an introductory overview of linguistic structures as they pertain to American Sign Language (ASL).

General Course Purpose

To emphasize on the comparison of signed and spoken languages.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: ASL 102 or permission of instructor

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe the difference between language and communication
- Describe all the major linguistics components of a language giving an example from both ASL and English
- Identify processes within each component giving examples from ASL and English
- Describe the differences between the structure of ASL and English providing some examples
- Describe how some ASL structures are unique to signed languages
- Describe previous notions of the structure of ASL and how those ideas have developed
- Support or refute previous and current claims regarding ASL
- Demonstrate comprehension of sociolinguistics and how the users influence the language
- Differentiate different types of variation
- Demonstrate comprehension of the role of ASL in the deaf community
- Demonstrate comprehension of the role of ASL and signing systems in deaf education

Major Topics to be included

- Role shifts rules
- Classifiers uses for background settings and actions
- Opening and closing techniques
- Use and manipulation of pauses, eye gazes and body movements
- Analysis of Deaf storytellers