

Articulation Agreement between Minot State University and Minnesota State Community & Technical College

Introduction: This articulation agreement formally recognizes that Minot State University (hereinafter MiSU) and Minnesota State Community and Technical College (hereinafter MSCTC) are educational institutions which agree to work together to provide educational opportunities for the students of their institutions.

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to provide clear and simple transfer pathway options from MSCTC to MiSU for students interested in American Sign Language (ASL) and/or Sign Language Interpreter Training (SLIT) programs. MSCTC students who earn a ASL Studies certificate or an Associate's (AA or AS) degree that contains the ASL Studies certificate, and wish to further their education can transfer to MiSU seamlessly and complete one or more of the following programs via distance delivery:

1. American Sign Language Studies Certificate
2. Sign Language Interpreter Training Certificate
3. One or both of the American Sign Language Studies Minor and/or Sign Language Interpreter Training Minor embedded in a Bachelor of Individualized Studies (BIS) or Bachelor of General Studies (BGS)

Goals and Activities:

The collaborative effort set forth in this articulation agreement serves the common goals of:

- Providing a range of quality educational opportunities for students to meet their personal and career goals.
- Preparing high quality professionals with knowledge of ASL and Deaf culture
- Preparing high quality professionals equipped to provide interpreting services for individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) in educational and other settings within the community.

These goals will be achieved by:

1. Offering MSCTC students an option to complete an advanced certificate in ASL Studies from MiSU.
2. Offering MSCTC students an option to complete an advanced certificate in ASL Studies from MiSU and a certificate in SLIT.
3. Offering MSCTC students a distance pathway to a Bachelor's degree completion after a) completing an ASL Studies certificate at MSCTC, or b) a 2+2 sequence after completion of an AA or AS degree that contains the ASL Studies certificate from MSCTC.
4. Providing candidates with a broad knowledge base in disciplines complimentary to the field of SLIT through Bachelor's level education.

5. Increasing the number of personnel available to deliver interpreting services for individuals who are DHH.

Accreditation: Both MiSU and MSCTC are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Longevity of Agreement: This agreement will begin for the 2023-24 academic year. This agreement will be in effect for five years and reviewed annually. Appendices can be updated as needed. If the program is terminated, students who have begun the program and are in the process of completion will be allowed to finish as stipulated by this memorandum. This document represents an ongoing commitment between the organizations and can be reviewed at any time at the request of either party.

Termination or Revisions: MiSU and MSCTC agree to provide at least 90 days advance written notification of their intent to terminate this agreement. All revisions and amendments to this agreement require written approval by those who sign this agreement or their successors.

Governance: This agreement shall be governed by and in compliance with the academic policies and procedures of MiSU, the ND University System and MSCTC, MinnState and the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission. The Program Directors at each institution, in consultation with their respective supervisors will work collaboratively to resolve any potential logistical challenges.

Advising: The Program Director at MSCTC (Ms. Kristi Hilton) and the Program Director at MiSU (Dr. Holly Pedersen) will collaboratively advise students preparing to transition from MSCTC to MiSU. Students seeking a Bachelor's degree will work collaboratively with Dr. Pedersen and the appropriate Bachelor's degree program director for advising.

Admission: In their final semester with MSCTC, students will make application to MiSU and become admitted students. Students must meet admissions requirements at MiSU and submit transcripts from all institutions they attended. Students may choose to study on the MiSU campus or at a distance.

Graduation Requirements: The specific courses of study for each program option at MiSU are outlined in the appendices. BIS and BGS degrees require a minimum of 120 semester hours of total credit. Course equivalencies and substitutions for MSCTC courses are noted in the programs of study.

Notices: All notices concerning this memorandum of agreement and understanding shall be in writing and will be considered to have been given at the time of receipt of notice by the other Party.

1. Notices to MSCTC:

Dr. Matthew Borcharding, Provost/ Vice President for Academic Affairs

2. Notices to MiSU:

Dr. Laurie Geller, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Holly Pedersen, Special Education Program Director

Insurance: The Parties agree to provide each other proof of insurance upon request.

Independence of the Parties: The Parties are independent contractors. Nothing contained in this Agreement will constitute either Party the agent, partner, or legal representative of the other Party for any purpose or constitute the Parties as partners. Neither Party has any right, power, or authority to create any obligation or responsibility on behalf of the other.

Effective Date: This Memorandum of Understanding is effective on the date signed below.

Signatures:

For Minnesota State Community & Technical College:

Matthew Borcharding 01/03/2024
6951E284DB5685F26543FC5A2932FDD7 ready
Dr. Matthew Borcharding, Provost/ Vice President for Academic Affairs Date

Kristi Hilton 01/09/2024
8E25122F033E54554C756715921B1ED6 ready
Ms. Kristi Hilton, Program Director Date

For Minot State University:

Dr. Steven Shirley 01/10/2024
BEB9F02CE011355D36DD2E9C41330938 ready
Dr. Steven W. Shirley, President Date

Laurie Geller 01/10/2024
D28EDDEC700D80940A53E6A78D92423 ready
Dr. Laurie Geller, Vice President for Academic Affairs Date

Holly F. Pedersen 01/09/2024
24A39A5B278C01895CG5F218A37B84C3 ready
Dr. Holly F. Pedersen, Special Education Program Coordinator Date

Appendix A

MSCTC ASL Studies Certificate

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
ASL1101	American Sign Language and Deaf Culture I	3
ASL1102	American Sign Language and Deaf Culture II	3
ASL1103	American Sign Language and Deaf Culture III	3
ASL1104	American Sign Language and Deaf Culture IV	3
ASL1105	Advanced Fingerspelling and Numbers	3
COMM2200	Intercultural Communication	3

Appendix B

MiSU ASL Studies Minor/Certificate

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Semester Offered	MSCTC Equivalent/Substitute
SPED 113	American Sign Language I	3	F, Sp, Su	MSCTC ASL 1101
SPED 115	American Sign Language II	3	F, Sp	MSCTC ASL 1102
SPED 213	American Sign Language III	3	F, Sp	MSCTC ASL 1103
SPED 312	Intermediate Sign Language	3	Sp	MSCTC ASL 1104
SPED 330	Survey of Deaf Culture	3	F	MSCTC ASL 1100
SPED 412	Advanced Sign Language	3	F	
Total Hours		18		

Appendix C

MiSU Sign Language Interpreter Training Minor/Certificate

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Semester Offered	MSCTC Equivalent/Substitute
SPED 116	Intro to Interpreting	3	Sp or Su	Yes
SPED 215	Interpreting I	3	F	
SPED 216	Interpreting II	3	Sp	
SPED 303	ASL Specialized Vocabulary, Fingerspelling & Numbers	3	F	MSCTC ASL 1105
SPED 318	Advanced Interpreting	3	F	
SPED 433	Advanced Field Experience	2	Sp, F	
Total Hours		17		

Appendix D

MiSU Bachelor of Individualized Studies (2+2)

MSCTC students transferring with an AA or AS degree will meet MiSU general education requirements and may complete the BGS (or BIS*) through the following example. Students who are not general education complete upon transfer to MiSU will have their program of study individualized to include any additional courses required to meet general education requirements.

General Education (36-38 credits)

Individualized Studies Core (6-8 credits)

BGS or BIS Academic Plan (56 credits)

Electives (18-21 credits)

Fall I	Spring I
SPED 412 Advanced Sign Language (3)	SPED 216 Interpreting II (3)
SPED 215 Interpreting I (3)	IDS 360 Directed Project (2-4)
IDS 240 Intro to Interdisciplinary Studies (2)	Additional academic plan and elective courses
Additional academic plan and elective courses	
Fall II	Spring II
SPED 318 Advanced Interpreting (3)	SPED 433 Field Exp (2)
Additional academic plan and elective courses	IDS 480 Senior Capstone (2)
	Additional academic plan and elective courses

*More information describing the BIS and BGS degrees and the differences between these options can be found here <https://www.minotstateu.edu/bis/about.shtml>.