American Sign Language (ASL) and Open Educational Resources (OER) – Survey Findings and Needs Assessment

December 4, 2022.

Webinar Description

- ASL faculty and other interested parties are invited to learn about the findings obtained from a survey conducted in spring of 2022 to assess the interest in and availability of OER for the ASL discipline. Join us to learn – and to share your OER interest and experience. An ASL interpreter will be present.

Overview

- What are OER?
- Survey Findings
- ASL in the CCCs
- Free Resources
- Free and Open Resources
- Possibilities – and challenges

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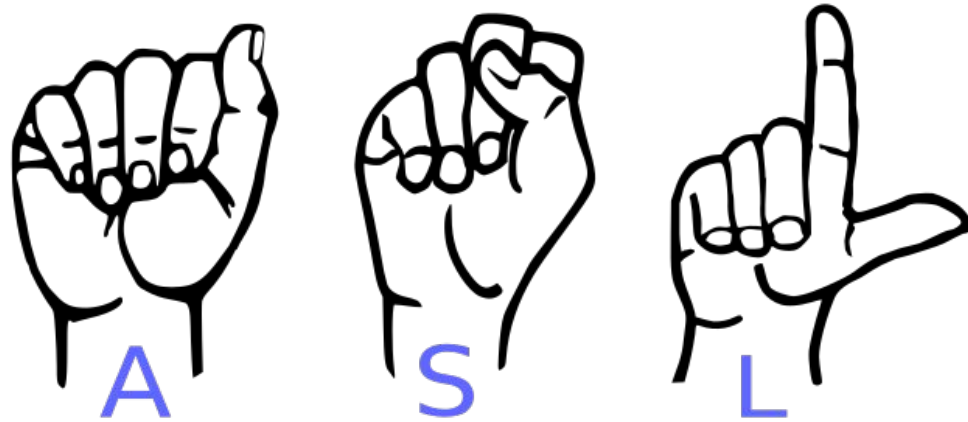
What are Open Educational Resources?

"OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or are released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others"

-- Hewlett Foundation

Examples of OER

- Textbooks

- Homework Systems

- Lab Manuals

- Writing Exercises

- Classroom Activities

- Video/Audio Resources

- Images

- Interactive Exercises

Examples of OER for ASL

- In order to inform this conversation, available OER have been identified.

- As with any discipline, the discipline faculty must determine whether the available OER are of value.

- The resources shared are for your consideration.

- This presentation will be available to you – posted on [the OERI website](). (asccc-oeri.org/webinars-and-events/)

OER Texts for ASL Interpreting

- [Integrated and Open Interpreter Education](#)

- The Open Educational Resource Reader and Workbook for Interpreters

- This Open Educational Resource (OER) on interpreting offers authors and readers free and open access to current, relevant, easy-to-access, and free materials. The editors have created a space where emerging scholars in the field of signed language interpreting make contributions with the ability to revise as the interpreting studies discipline and the scholars, themselves, develop and change. This OER provides faculty and students readings and practical application experiences that connect program specific coursework and concepts across the interpreter education curriculum emphasizing the holistic nature of the field of interpreting.

- CC BY-NC
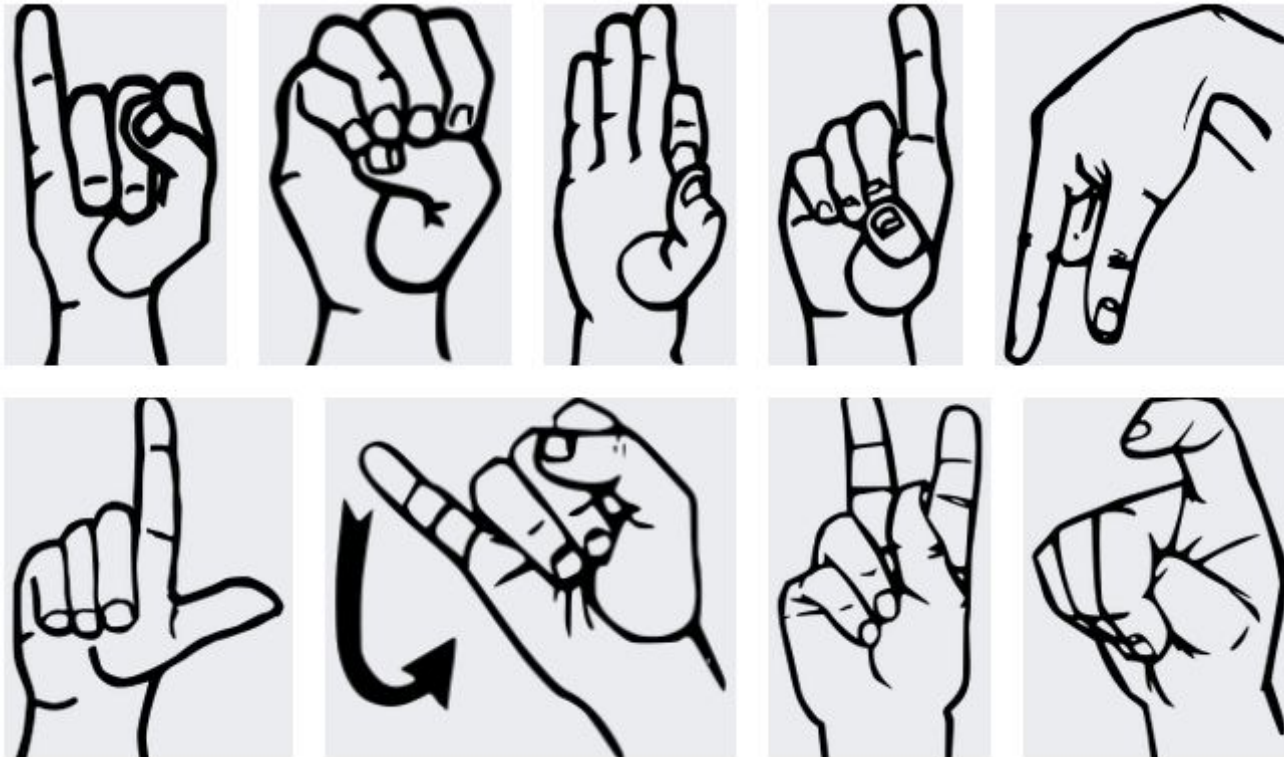
OER Resources for ASL 1 and 2

- [Open Course Library](#)

- YouTube, Google Drive

- CC BY

OER Images for ESL

- Images – <ins>Wikimedia Commons</ins>

ASL 2022 Spring Survey Summary

- Who was surveyed?

- [ASCCC Listservs used to distribute surveys](#)

- American Sign Language (ASL) list exists with only 10 subscribers

- The goal was to reach faculty teaching courses in TOP Code 085000 (Sign Language) and TOP Code 085010 (Sign Language Interpreting).

Survey Respondents

- 57 total
    - 53 CCC faculty
    - 2 CSU faculty
    - 1 UC faculty
    - 1 other (CCC and CSU)
    - One CCC faculty was from another discipline.
- Corrected data
    - 55 CCC
    - 1 UC
- 29 different CCCs represented. Both of the CSU respondents identified a CCC that they were associated with. The UC respondent was from UCSD.

Have you used OER in lieu of a commercial text for any of the courses you teach?

- Yes – 9, 16%

- No – 47, 84%

- Have you ever considered using OER for one or more of your courses?

  - Yes – 36%

  - No – 17%

  - I don't know enough about OER to have seriously considered its use – 47%

For what course(s) were you considering OER and what resources, if any, did you find that might be useful?

- ASL 1/Beginning ASL – 5
  - I did not find any developed by native signers and Deaf people. I did not find any that contained the rigor that the current published textbooks have.
  - Online ASL dictionary is available.

- Beyond ASL 1
  - I have done some OER searching... unfortunately, the ASL OERs currently available are not to our course expectations.
  - I use interactive online materials for ASL 1 AND 2 classes.
  - We don't have sufficient materials for ASL 1-4 for students and we need to do some more research in this area.

- Resource-related comments
  - Anything from Youtube that is related to Deaf culture and ASL. Also there are some websites that provide lesson in teaching ASL.

General OER Comments

- For target language and culture courses - presently available resources do not reflect quality we are looking for.

- I always consider OER but have yet to find anything that is set up visually in ASL using videos and interactive materials.

- I would like to add additional resources and reducing costs for textbooks towards a ZTC course.

- Periodically, I have looked through OER and did not find any ASL resources that contained the rigor I want for my courses.

- There aren't many OER resources for ASL that would be Deaf-centric, culturally-appropriate, and equity-minded.

Ancillaries needed?

- ASL videos, worksheets, tests, etc.

- PowerPoint or other presentation materials and homework support. Ideally, these would be best if compatible with Canvas learning systems.

- Videos that feature ASL signs and conversations. Real life usage.

- We need more variety of ASL BIPOC and LGBTQIA Deaf signers.

- We need to have more videos in ASL by deaf signers from their textbooks that includes homework, exam, practices etc...

ASL in the CCCs

- Faculty from 29 different CCCs responded to the Spring 2022 survey.

- How many colleges have ASL programs?

- 44 CCCs have ASL programs.

- 21 have CTE programs, 34 have programs that are not CTE, 10 have both

CCC with CTE and non-CTE ASL Programs

College	CTE	Non-CTE
BAKERSFIELD	CoA	AA
FRESNO CITY	CoA	AA
L.A. PIERCE	X (degree and CoA)	AA
PALOMAR	X	AA
AMERICAN RIVER	X	X
ANTELOPE VALLEY	X	X
OHLONE	X	X
RIO HONDO	X	X
SAN DIEGO MESA	X	X
SOLANO	X	AA

Colleges with ASL Courses – But not Programs

- An additional 43 colleges have courses in TOP 0850 (non CTE).

- In other words, at least 87 CCCs have ASL courses.

- What courses exist in the system?

- A look at data pulled last year…

Find your TOP Code

- Taxonomy of Program Code

- Example – American Sign Language

- tinyurl.com/CCCTOP

CCC Curriculum Inventory – "COCI"

- [Chancellor's Office Curriculum Inventory (COCI) System](#)

- https://coci2.ccctechcenter.org/

- Log in is not needed – from the main page, go to Courses

TOP Code 0850 (non-CTE)

- 950 entries without using any filters

Add filters

- Credit – Degree Applicable > 913

- Program Applicable > 787

- You can explore filters – or just download them all (Export to Excel)

- Sort by Status and remove "Inactive" ("Active" and "Approved" remain) > 430

- If your focus is specifically on courses with a particular unit value, you can sort by that

- Sort by title

- Deaf Culture

Colleges with a Deaf Culture course

- Keeping all titles that might be relevant – being very generous – 39 candidate courses

- Organized by college and then by title – 27 courses

What's available?

- Commercial resources

- Free and not open

- Free and open

- What's wrong with free and not open?

Issues with available resources

- Free and not open can go away at any time – you can't count on it being available.

- Free and open resources – potentially not ready-to-use – files in a Google drive, for example.

- YouTube ads.

- Resources that must be accessed online require Internet.

- Concerns about diversity and quality.

Resources Being Used for ASL 1, 2, 3, 4

- Christopher Pinto, Citrus College

- ASL 101 - (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0)

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J6Qr7_OAcvPqNfvwAdEsodfzcaZoA08V67IIh9n_sV0/edit?usp=sharing

- ASL 102 – (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0)

- https://docs.google.com/document/d/18sU7yt-d0Hdk9DvcSNTZyKrZ7N0by5czFL7ax-NA_Ms/edit

- Free and openly licensed, but not modifiable (ND)

Free, But Not Open

- [ASL University](#) – Free, but not open

- [ASL Connect](#) (Gallaudet) –Not intended to support an entire course
  - ASL Connect aims to equip individuals to be lifelong learners through an equity-centered, immersive virtual learning environment from Deaf professionals with multicultural backgrounds, to transform the world for greater human CONNECTions.
  - ASL Connect welcomes people from diverse communities to CONNECT to the richness of American Sign Language and Deaf culture with the aspiration that they will be agents of change for equality and respect for the Deaf community.

- [ASL Online](#) – University of Texas at Austin

- YouTube – [ASL That](#)
 - "ASL lessons. ASL vocabulary. Topics in ASL and Deaf Culture."

Free, But Licensing Unclear

- American Sign Language Dictionary (https://www.signasl.org/)
  - "Search and compare thousands of words and phrases in American Sign Language (ASL). The largest collection of video signs online."
  - Videos from a variety of sources – these sources may be other places to look.
  - Texas Math Sign Language Dictionary – CC BY-NC
  - StartASL
  - ASL Search
  - SMARTSign Dictionary
  - Elemental ASL Concepts
  - DeafTec
  - VL2 Parent Toolkit
  - And more…

GIPHY

- Giphy, styled as GIPHY, is an American online database and search engine that allows users to search for and share short looping videos with no sound that resemble animated GIF files. [Wikipedia](#)

- [Sign with Robert](#)

- Invest in Access

  - Invest In Access (IIA), is a 501c3 non-profit organization, dedicated to furthering social equity for individuals living with physical and psychological differences. By focusing our services on adaptations to workplace culture, we provide organizations with tangible accessibility outcomes that increase inclusivity for all. What you'll find here: GIFs related to physical and psychological wellbeing. Invest In Access is female and minority owned. Founder & CEO: Angela Johnson.

Invest in Access - GIPHY
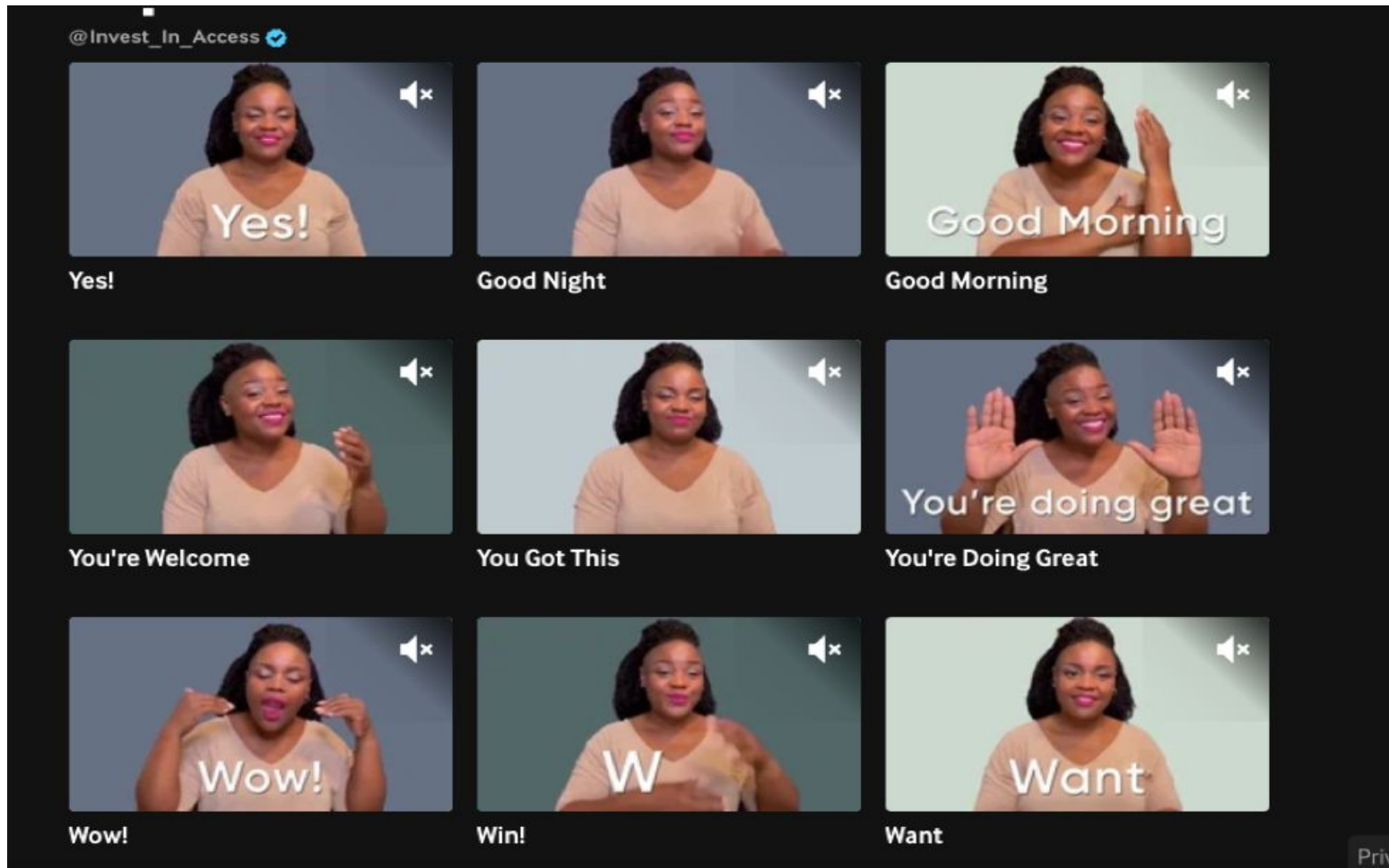
Deaf Culture Resources?

- Hall, K. (2015). An Evolution of Deaf Culture. *Journal of American Sign Languages and Literatures.*
  - JASLL is a website for scholarly works to be published in a video-based medium, using signed language as the primary language of the journal.

- [National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes](#) – some resources openly licensed.

- [The Deaf Resource Library](#) An online collection of reference material and links intended to educate and inform people about Deaf cultures worldwide.

- [Deaf Linx: Deaf Culture and Community](#) Provides information on Deaf Culture, and to get connected with the Deaf community.

- [National Association of the Deaf](#) NAD is a non-profit organization designed to empower Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals.

ASL in LibreTexts

- LibreTexts is an OER everything platform.

- If you find openly licensed resources that you want to use, you can have them "harvested" – brought into LibreTexts.

American Sign Language

Last updated: Oct 5, 2022, 6:54 PM by Delmar Larsen   Page restriction: Public   Page ID: 57843   ☆ Don

American Sign Language is a natural language that serves as the predominant sign language of Deaf communities in the United States and most of Anglophone Canada.

Fingerspelling - A Mindful Approach (Johnston)

This text shows us how to build a foundation of mindfulness and then ways of consciously and intentionally building our fingerspelling skills for the improvement of our ASL communication. We will tap into our innate desire and answer the question—how do we take a nuance of language, like fingerspelling, and with gentle persistent attention, strive toward clarity and understanding?

📄 Front Matter

📄 1: The Basics

Integrated and Open Interpreter Education (Maroney et al.)

The goal of this OER is to offer faculty and students readings and practical application experiences that connect program specific coursework and concepts across the interpreter education curriculum emphasizing the holistic nature of the field of interpreting. Additionally, there are different needs for those students who are native English speakers and those who are native/primary users of ASL. We also envision other interpreter educators using the materials.

Possibilities – and Challenges

- While complete and ready-to-go resources do not appear to be readily available, some resources do exist that could serve as a starting point.

- The need for video is a challenge – but not an insurmountable one.

- If seeking funding, it is critical to establish a scope of work that is reasonable.

Questions and Answers

Photo by Nic Rosenau on Unsplash

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More Information

- ASCCC OERI Website (asccc-oeri.org)

  - Resources

  - Webinars and Events

- ASCCC OER E-Mail (oeri@asccc.org)