

Term: **Fall 2025**

Course Title: **Special Studies: American Sign Language 1 (ASL 1)**

Course Number: **FNLT 1998.01**

CRN: **41624**

Units: **4**

Schedule: **Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 1:40 – 2:50 PM**

Instructor: **Benjamin Lewis**

This introductory course provides a foundation in American Sign Language (ASL) and an introduction to Deaf culture. Students will develop fundamental communication skills through the acquisition of basic ASL vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structures. Instruction emphasizes interactive, hands-on learning, fostering proficiency through practice, visual-gestural activities, and cultural immersion.

In addition to language development, students will explore key aspects of Deaf culture, including social norms, history, and community perspectives. By the end of the course, students will be able to engage in basic conversations in ASL and demonstrate an understanding of core cultural principles, preparing them for continued study in ASL and deeper engagement with the Deaf community.

Term: **Fall 2025**

Course Title: **Special Studies: American Sign Language 1 (ASL 2)**

Course Number: **FNLT 2998.01**

CRN: **41625**

Units: **4**

Schedule: **Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 3:05 – 4:15 PM**

Instructor: **Benjamin Lewis**

This course builds upon the foundational skills acquired in ASL 1, further developing students' proficiency in American Sign Language (ASL) and deepening their understanding of Deaf culture. Emphasis is placed on expanding vocabulary, refining grammatical structures, and enhancing conversational fluency through interactive, student-centered activities.

Students will engage in more complex dialogues, improve their expressive and receptive skills, and explore cultural topics related to the Deaf community, including historical influences and linguistic diversity. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in a wider range of everyday situations with increased confidence and accuracy, laying the groundwork for advanced ASL study.

Term	Fall 2025
Course Title	Italian Women Writers and Screenwriters
Course Number	ITAL 3580/FNLT3998
Time/Day	Mon. 16.30 – 19.50
Instructor	Aine O’Healy
Core Area	n/a

Course Description

This edition of Italian Women Writers examines the delayed emergence and rapidly increasing presence of women writers/directors in the Italian film industry. Historically, Italian women have been highly productive as screenwriters, yet mostly unknown to the public. While acknowledging the importance of Lilliana Cavani and Lina Wertmuller who succeeded in directing their own screenplays in the late 20th century, the course focuses mainly on the activity of contemporary women writers/directors. Attentive to the social, political, and cultural circumstances in which they emerged, we examine how their work has challenged traditional assumptions about family, gender, class, race and nation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed the required work students will

1. Understand the distinctive challenges faced by women writers and directors in Italy.
2. Deploy interdisciplinary approaches in the final research paper.
3. Demonstrate the skill of orally presenting the close analysis of a film clip.
4. Identify how the work of women writers and filmmakers challenge traditional assumptions about family, gender, class, race and nation.

Required Work

Weekly reading assignments, a screening journal, active participation in classroom discussions. Midterm, Two Short papers, Final Research Paper, Oral Presentation,

Required Texts: All texts are provided digitally on Brightspace.