

Course Information Sheet

Introduction to Deaf Awareness and BSL



Course Summary: Develop your understanding of deafness and Deaf culture, whilst learning basic British Sign Language (BSL) for effective communication.

Course Description:

This engaging 10-week course is your gateway to the vibrant world of Deafness. You'll gain a solid foundation in Deaf Awareness, exploring the experiences and perspectives of the Deaf community. Learn how to break down communication barriers and foster inclusivity. The course also offers a practical introduction to BSL, equipping you with everyday signs and fingerspelling skills for confident interaction.

What will I learn?

The course is structured around a series of interactive learning activities, delivered over 10 weeks:

- **Weeks 1-2:** Understanding Deafness - Explore the types and causes of deafness, dispel myths, and develop terminology awareness.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Deaf Culture & Communication - Discover the rich tapestry of Deaf culture, explore communication methods and strategies for effective interaction.
- **Weeks 5-8:** Introduction to BSL - Learn basic BSL signs covering greetings, introductions, and everyday vocabulary. Develop fingerspelling skills for clear communication.
- **Weeks 9-10:** Putting it into Practice - Apply your Deaf Awareness and BSL skills through role-playing scenarios and discussions. Explore resources and support networks within the Deaf community.

How will I be assessed?

Your learning will be continuously monitored through:

- **Formative assessment:** Class participation, quizzes, and practical exercises will provide ongoing feedback.
- **Summative assessment:** A final assessment may include a written assignment or a practical demonstration of your BSL skills.

Who is this course for?

This course is ideal for anyone who wants to develop their understanding of deafness and gain basic BSL skills. It's perfect for those in customer service roles, healthcare professions, education, or anyone who wants to broaden their communication skills and connect with the Deaf community.

Progression Opportunities:

This course is a stepping stone to further BSL qualifications. Consider accredited Entry 2 and Entry 3 BSL qualifications offered by awarding bodies like Signature [National Awarding Body for Sign Language]. Numerous online resources and local Deaf clubs provide further learning opportunities.

Career or Job Enhancement Pathways:

- Teacher of the Deaf
- Sign Language Interpreter
- Social Worker (Deaf Services)
- Customer Service Professional (Deaf Awareness)

How do I enrol?

The quickest way to enrol is online at www.oucoursesouthwest.co.uk, simply create an account and select 'Enrol now'. Alternatively, if you have any questions, please call our friendly customer service team on 01752 660713.

How will the course be delivered?

This is a practical course, and the sessions will include tutor-led demonstrations, learner-led group activities, instruction and repetition. These will form part of the delivery together with one-to-one support as required.

Will I need to practise outside the classroom?

You will be encouraged to review your notes between lessons to ensure maximum benefit from your course. It is always useful to practise your skills between sessions. Your tutor may encourage home learning, or independent research.

How will I know I'm making progress?

During the first session, your tutor will discuss your goals and current level in relation to the course. Based on this assessment, you will agree individual targets which you will record in your individual

learning plan (ILP). You and your tutor will review your targets regularly to ensure that you are making progress; these will be written in your individual learning plan.

What will I need?

Please bring a notepad, and pen to each session. You may wish to bring a file for any handouts. A laptop with internet access is required for completion of coursework and home learning outside of the classroom.

Please note:

Most courses attract a subsidy from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is a requirement of the ESFA that you complete various forms at different stages of your course, further information is available on request. Courses are subject to a minimum number of enrolments and could be cancelled if recruitment is low. In some cases, an alternative class at a different location may be offered.

Terms and conditions are available at

<https://www.oucoursesouthwest.co.uk/learner-information/essential-information-for-every-learner>

Room numbers are subject to change - please check when you arrive at the venue.

