

# Heather Nowicki, M.A.

Brown University  
Center for Language Studies  
Lecturer of American Sign Language



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## **Academic Credentials**

### **Gallaudet University, Washington D.C.**

- Master in Sign Language Education
- Degree completed: August 2017

### **Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York**

- Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies
- Minor / Concentration in Psychology
- Degree completed: November, 2002

### **American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) Certification**

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## **Relevant Professional Experience**

**August 2018 – Present**

**Center for Language Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI  
Visiting Lecturer & Lecturer of American Sign Language**

- Provided ASL instruction and cultural awareness as elective credits.
- Apply heritage knowledge to frame discussion about Deaf Culture and ASL Literature.
- Determine instruction in ways that maximize student needs and learning.
- Create and modify teaching methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.
- Plan the development of communication skills and assess student performance to meet criteria.
- Transition from face-to-face to remote learning in synchronous and asynchronous setting.

**Jan. 2019 – June 2020**

**Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Online Instructor of American Sign Language**

- Provided ASL instruction and cultural awareness to enhanced the skills and opportunity to expand career opportunity.
- Conduct teaching and learning method in synchronous and asynchronous setting.
- Determine instruction in ways that maximize student needs and learning.
- Plan the development of communication skills and assess student performance to meet criteria.

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Jan. 2008 – May 2018

Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Adjunct Professor of American Sign Language

- Provided ASL instruction and cultural awareness in Interpreter Training Program and Deaf Studies
- Taught ASL 1 – 4 and Advanced ASL focusing on 7 expansion features of ASL discourse, ASL idioms, non-manual marker / modifiers by identifying lexical, global and visually-motivated.
- Modified instructional methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.
- Assess student placement in appropriate ASL level course

Aug. 2017 – May 2018

College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL  
Adjunct Instructor of American Sign Language

- Provided ASL instruction and cultural awareness in Interpreter Training Program
- Produce and practice Fingerspelling & Numbers course.
- Planned and organized instruction in ways that maximize student learning
- Modified instructional methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.

Jan. 2015 – Dec. 2015

Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL  
Adjunct Instructor of American Sign Language

- Provided American Sign Language instruction and cultural awareness
- Planned and organized instruction in ways that maximize student learning
- Modified instructional methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.
- Encouraged the development of communication skills and assess student performance.

Jan. 2008 – June 2011

Columbia College, Chicago, IL  
American Sign Language Tutor

- Provided student a level-appropriate language practice.
- Demonstrate and practice translating ASL to English and English to ASL to meet that maximize student learning and needs.
- Create new activities, observe and participate in different level of classes.
- Observe ASL classes (ASL I, II, III, IV and Advanced) to better meet students' needs

Aug. – Dec. 2008 & 2010

Harper College, Palatine, IL  
Adjunct Instructor of American Sign Language

- Provided American Sign Language instruction and cultural awareness in Interpreter Training Program.
- Planned and organized instruction in ways that maximize student learning
- Modified instructional methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.
- Encouraged the development of communication skills and assess student performance.

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April 2006 – June 2007

The Learning Center for the Deaf, Framingham, MA  
Community Instructor of American Sign Language

- Provided ASL instruction and cultural awareness to enhanced the skills and opportunity to expand career opportunity.
  - Planned and organized instruction in ways that maximize student learning.
  - Modified instructional methods and strategies to meet diverse students' needs.
  - Encouraged the development of communication skills and apply to real world.
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## **Additional Professional Experience**

**Center for Language Studies**  
**Brown University**

Aug. 2018 - Present

- Construct and articulate lesson plans to Teaching Assistants.
- Act as a liaison for Brown Sign Language Society organization.
- Facilitate meetings with Teacher Assistants and the Brown Sign Language Society.
- Provided support/guidance for student's Independent Study.

**ASL Mentor**  
**Columbia College Chicago**

Sept. – Dec. 2016

- Serve as a role model as adjunct faculty in American Sign Language Department.
- Responsible for weekly meeting with assigned mentee.
- Provided supports to their teaching course.

**Deaf Mentor**  
**Columbia College Chicago**

April 2017

- Beyond the Book Silent Weekend
  - Provided supports to student's comprehension and signing skills
  - Responsible to oversee and assist in creating activities
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## **American Sign Language Curriculum Development**

- Numbers in American Sign Language curriculum

## **Curriculum Materials Taught**

- TWA: TRUE-WAY ASL Digital
- Signing Naturally Level 1, Unit 1-12
- Signing Naturally Level 2, Unit 13 – 17
- Signing Naturally Level 3, Unit 18 – 22

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- Signing Naturally Unit 1 – 6
- Signing Naturally Unit 7 – 12
- Numbering in American Sign Language: Number Signs for Everyone
- Numbering in American Sign Language
- Fingerspelling in American Sign Language
- One, Two, Buckle Your Shoe: Numbering Systems in ASL
- American Sign Language: A Teacher's Resource Text on Grammar and Culture
- Introduction to American Deaf Culture
- Deaf Culture: Exploring Deaf Communities in the United States
- A Sing of Respect: Strategies for Effective Deaf / Hearing Interaction
- Deaf Gain: Raising the stakes for human diversity
- A Journey into the Deaf-World
- Signing the Body Poetic
- Tales from a clubroom
- Sign me Alice & Laurent Clerc
- The HeART of Deaf Culture: Literary & Artistic Expressions of Deafhood

## Digital Pedagogy and Assessment Tools

- GoReact
- Canvas
- Zoom
- Blackboard
- iMovie
- Final Pro Cut X
- Quicktime
- Photobooth
- PowerPoint
- Keynote
- iBook Authors
- YouTube
- Adobe
- Giphy
- Google Drive
- Google Form
- JamBoard

## Presentations

### **DEAF Inc., American Sign Language Workshops**

- Nowicki, H. (2021, April). Classifiers Workshops. Deaf Inc., Boston, Massachusetts.

### **Brown University: Center of Language Studies Technology Workshop**

- Nowicki, H. (2019, November). Performing, Presenting, and Assessing Language Learning with Video. *Center for Language Studies Technology Workshop*. Brown University, Providence, RI

### **College of DuPage ASL Immersion Day**

- Nowicki, H. (2018, April). OM: Yoga using Classifiers Workshop. *ASL Immersion Day*. College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL

### **Columbia College Chicago ASL Department**

- Nowicki, H. (2015, April). OM with Classifiers: Yoga Workshop. *Beyond the Book Silent Weekend*. Frankfort, IL

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## Professional Development



### **Brown University, Center of Language Studies Professional Development Workshop**

- Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning (CLTL), Annual Symposium  
April 29, 2022
  - Translation and language teaching by Sonia Colina, Regents Professor and Director of the National Center for Interpretation (Arizona).
  - Imagining the future for language, literacy, and technology by Rick Kern, Director of the Berkeley Language Center (UC Berkeley).
  - Heritage language teaching: Where should we be heading and how can we get there? by Kim Potowski, Professor of Spanish Linguistics (UI – Chicago)
  - Adaptive, agentive, and amplifying affordances for language learning by Steven Thorne, Professor of Second Language Acquisition (Portland State University).
  - Access and Articulation through Proficiency: Second Language Teaching and Learning at the Post-secondary Level by Bridget Yaden, Past President of ACTFL, Language Resource Center Director (Pacific Lutheran University).
- Digital Literacies in the Language Classroom: Participatory, Multifarious, and Everyday by Jonathon Reinhardt from University of Arizona.  
March 22, 2021
- Integrating Social Justice Education with the College Language Curriculum by Pamela Wesley, Associate Professor of ESL and Foreign Language Education at University of Iowa.  
Dec. 9, 2020
- Communication in the L2 Classroom by Chelsea Timlin  
Nov. 16, 2020
- Digital Portfolios and Online Presence in and Beyond the Academic by Chelsea Timlin  
Oct. 23, 2020
- Some Considerations for Social Justice Teaching in a World Language Setting: From Self to Students World by Michelle Nicola from The University of Arizona CERCLL, Center for Education Resources in Culture, Language and Literacy.  
Oct. 17, 2020

### **TRUE-BIZ ASL Certificate Maintenance Program**

- “L2 Signers Learn Depiction? Can!” by Alisha Bronk  
Dec. 9, 2020

### **Deafhood Lecture**

- “Deafhood, Deaf Culture and the Wall of Silence” by Dr. Paddy Ladd  
Oct. 31, 2020

### **Boston University Wheelock College of Education & Human Development**

- “Deaf World Lecture Series, Committing to an Equity and Inclusion Lens in Our Work” by Kyle Amber Clark  
Oct. 9, 2020

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## **TWA Workshop, Boston, Massachusetts**

- TRUE+WAY ASL Curriculum

June 1 – 2, 2019

## **Deafhood Foundation, Hinsdale, Illinois**

- “Deafhood 101” by Butch Zein
- “Deafhood 201” by Butch Zein

Sept. 14 – 17, 2017  
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3, 2017

## **American Sign Language Teacher Association Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah**

June 28 – July 1, 2017

- Goreact workshops – 2
- “Mastering the ASL Conversation-Teaching and Discussing ASL Conversation Regulators” by Christine Multra Kraft
- “200 Years of American Sign Language: An Odyssey” by Dr. Sam Suppalla
- “Finding and Applying ASL Videotexts for Classroom Use” by Keith Gamache Jr.
- “Encouraging Language Development Through Activities, Games, and Experiences” by Casey Bond
- “Required Deaf Event Attendance A Burden on the Deaf Community?” by Dr. Thomas Holcomb
- “What the Best ASL Teachers Do\_ Examining Traits and Characteristics of the Best ASL Teachers” by Joseph Featherstone
- “ASL COURSE, ME DEVELOP ONLINE ME???” by Elizabeth Siebert and Bradley Neubarth
- “Changemaker: ASL Online vs in Class” by Dr. Curt Radford
- “The Use of L1 as a Tool to Teach L2 American Sign Language (ASL)” by Dr. Jason Listman
- “ASLTA Certification” by Dr. Amy Rowley and Arlene Garcia Gunderson
- “Teaching ASL Grammar for Student Success” by Keri Brooks
- Teacher Shreshop Session, ASL Round Table

## **Illinois Association for the Deaf / Illinois Registry of Interpreter for the Deaf Conference, Naperville, Illinois**

June 22 – 25, 2017

- “Deconstructing Disabilities” by Ryan Commerson
- “Secrets and Not So Secrets: Inside the Interpreter World” June Prusak, CDI, CLIP-R
- “Communication Access at Hospitals and at Doctor Offices” by Andres J. Gallegoes, ESQ.
- “Owning Our Privilege: Building Skills to Foster an Inclusive Work Environments” by Elke Weinbrenner

## **Great Lakes ADA Center, Chicago, Illinois**

- “Our ADA Rights” by Shannon Moutinho and Robin Jones

August 2016

## **Relevant Courses**

### **Gallaudet University**

- Sign Language Media Production
- Curriculum Development for Sign Language Education
- Sign Language Linguistics for Sign Language Professionals
- Method of Sign Language Teaching
- Introduction to First and Second Language Acquisition

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- Sign Language Planning and Advocacy
- Assessing Sign Language Skills
- Sign Language Teaching, Culture and History
- Literary Traditions in the Deaf Community
- Critical Pedagogy
- Seminar in Sign Language Education e-Portfolio
- Sign Language Practicum

## **Columbia College Chicago**

- Creativity and ASL
- Deaf Education
- ASL Literature
- Language and Translation
- Linguistic of American Sign Language

## **Community Involvement**

- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Columbia College Chicago Committee
- Deafhood Panel Committee: Dimension of Deaf Lives
- Deaf Women of Chicago: Vagina Monologue Committee
- Columbia College Chicago Committee: Patti Phadke Memorial Service & Funds
- ASL Community: 8-week program
- American Sign Language Teacher Association Member
- Illinois Association for the Deaf Member
- West Suburban Association for the Deaf Member
- West Suburban Association for the Deaf Women Basketball League
- West Suburban Association for the Deaf Flag Football League
- New England Association for the Deaf Basketball League
- Illinois Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- The Learning Center for the Deaf, Walden School
- Advocates Inc.
- Camp Mark Seven
- Aspen Camp for the Deaf