

Assistant Professor of American Sign Language Studies [2 positions]

Recruitment #:	F2305
Review Date:	Review begins early Jan 2024 Open until filled
Department:	Division of Deaf Studies and Professional Studies
Salary Rate:	\$ 55,303 - \$100,749 See WOU Faculty Salary Schedule [CBA Article 16]
Start Date:	Fall 2024, earlier start date is negotiable

About Western Oregon University:

Western Oregon University is a regional public, mid-sized university – committed to changing lives, strengthening communities and transforming our world. Located in Monmouth, the heart of Oregon’s lush Willamette Valley, WOU is about 20 minutes from Salem, the state’s capital and about 75 minutes from Portland, the state’s cultural hub.

Western is one of Oregon’s oldest public institutions of higher education and was incorporated into the state system as a teacher training institution in 1882. The university offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in arts and sciences, education and professional areas. It’s known for small class sizes, a focus on sustainability and a diverse liberal arts education in a student-centered environment. Western is an emerging Hispanic Serving institution, with 37% of undergraduates being students of color.

Position Summary:

The American Sign Language Studies (ASL Studies) program in the Division of Deaf Studies and Professional Studies at Western Oregon University seeks qualified applicants for two full-time, 9-month, tenure-track, Assistant Professor positions. In addition, this applicant must have expertise in teaching ASL to second language and heritage users. Western Oregon University has a strong commitment to the diversity of its workforce. We encourage applications from individuals from diverse backgrounds. A supplementary summer appointment is possible, and an excellent benefits package is included.

The ASL Studies program was first established in 2007 and is the only University offering a 3rd year of formal ASL acquisition coursework on the West coast. The foundation of this program is the acquisition of ASL, and additional classes focus on Deaf culture and history, which helps students develop strong background knowledge skills suitable for pursuing careers in various fields using ASL. This program also is a feeder program for graduate programs in Interpreting Studies and other related graduate programs. Additionally, graduates use our program as a gateway to enhance their education at a higher level using the ASL foundational skills & knowledge received during their degree program.

We offer a mix of in-person and online courses as well as asynchronous and synchronous course formats. The majority of ASL course offerings would be in-person and on campus.

Attending campus meetings and in-person teaching are required; however, we also encourage flexible course delivery modalities and faculty may be able to work remotely as agreed upon by the program coordinator and Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Minimum Required Qualifications:

- An earned doctorate in Linguistics or a related field such as Curriculum and Instruction or Language and Teaching;
- Scholarship (e.g., publication, dissertation research, grants, presentation...etc) in areas relevant to teaching ASL, linguistics of ASL, and/or related areas;
- Evidence of teaching in ASL and related courses;
- Evidence of commitment to multicultural education, social justice, and working collaboratively with individuals from diverse backgrounds.

Preferred Qualifications:

- ASLTA Certified;
- Background in linguistics
- Evidence of program & curriculum development, coordination, and leadership experience;
- Experience of advising students
- Evidence of online program development and teaching effectiveness

Responsibilities:

- Teaching load is typically 36 quarter credits per year (courses are 3 or 4 credits each)
- Work collaboratively in establishing future directions for the program;
- Be forward thinking and engage in development of program innovations;
- Teach ASL Studies (language acquisition, linguistics, and/or cultural) courses as well as advise students;
- Participate in service and committee work at the division and university levels as well as professional organizations and conferences; and
- Engage in scholarly activity (e.g., research, publications, grants).

Required Application materials:

 You may submit all materials online at www.wou.edu/prostaffapp

1. WOU Employment Application form [available here](#) - unclassified/faculty
2. Letter of application that addresses each qualification of the position. Please include how your experience, education, and/or training might help us build a more inclusive, collaborative, and diverse community.
3. Current Curriculum Vitae
4. Teaching philosophy statement
5. Unofficial transcripts for the highest degree earned
6. Name and contact information for 3 professional references
7. Review the Board Statement on [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility](#) and respond to the following [Diversity questions](#)
8. Prior to the interview, applicants must provide:
 - Contact information for a minimum of three professional references
 - Three current letters of recommendation (All letters must address teaching and leadership qualifications.)
 - Evidence of scholarly activities (e.g., publications, presentation materials...etc)
 - Evidence of teaching (e.g., syllabi, lesson plans, evaluation data...etc)

Western Oregon University is looking for equity-minded applicants who demonstrate a sensitivity to and appreciation for the complexity of the world. We draw our strength as a community from our variety of backgrounds, abilities, cultural experiences, identities, knowledge domains and means of expression. Women, Black, Indigenous and people of color, veterans, people who identify as LGBTQIA+, and people with disabilities are highly encouraged to apply for this position. All interested individuals are encouraged to apply even if they do not meet every one of the preferred qualifications as listed.

Western Oregon University only considers visa support for Tenure Track employees placed in specialized positions that are continuing regular university appointments for multiple years.

Background/Education Check:

A criminal background check will be completed as a condition of employment. Education checks are processed for positions requiring a formal degree as a minimum requirement.

Benefits:

Western Oregon University offers an excellent benefits package which includes 95% premium paid healthcare, a generous pension/retirement package, internal grant funding for [travel and professional development](#) [also see [CBA Article 22](#)], start-up package for lab supplies and equipment, and reduced tuition rates for employee, spouse, and dependents at any of the Oregon Public Universities. <http://www.wou.edu/hr/benefits/>

Equal Employment Opportunity:

Western Oregon University is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace. We celebrate our inclusive work environment and encourage people of all backgrounds and perspectives to apply. We embrace our differences, and know that our diverse team is a strength that drives our success.

Accommodation Requests:

Western Oregon University is committed to developing a barrier-free recruitment process and work environment. If you require any accommodations, please email us at employment@wou.edu and we will work with you to meet your accessibility needs.

Veterans Preference

Applicants are eligible to use Veterans' Preference when applying with Western Oregon University in accordance with ORS 408.225, 408.230 and 408.235; and OAR 105-040-0010 and 105-040-0015. Preference will be given only if the applicant meets the minimum criteria of the position and electronically attach the required documentation at the time of application. For information regarding Veterans' Preference qualifications, visit <http://www.oregonjobs.org/DAS/STJOBS/vetpoints.shtml>

Contact information

Questions regarding the position may be directed to search committee chair, Dr. Chien-Chun Lin, linc@wou.edu or at 503-838-9305.

For questions regarding the application process or to submit your application documents, please contact Human Resources at 503-838-8552 or employment@wou.edu.

Please note that due to the volume of resumes received, we are unable to contact each applicant regarding the status of each position or reply to candidates' inquiries via phone or email.