I. Introduction: The ASL/Deaf Studies Area Group offers courses leading to a minor in American Sign Language and a BA in Deaf Studies as well as an ASL certificate. Additionally, the Area Group provides coursework that counts toward the undergraduate language requirement; this coursework is part of all of the above mentioned programs. This assessment will focus on the successful completion of the beginning course sequence (EDS 151 and EDS 152).

II. Assessment tools (course outcomes) and data reports used for 2007-2008:

A. EDS 151 - students will be able to make introductions and share personal information about self, family, basic desires and interests. Students will also learn how to talk about their surroundings, by giving directions and sharing information about where they live.

B. EDS 152 - students will also develop discourse skills appropriate for establishing connections with Deaf acquaintances and handling a variety of interruptions.

III. Summary

A. Key findings – Students who successfully meet the key course outcome review passing grades of B or better. The majority of the students taking EDS 151 and EDS 152 received passing grades of B or better during the 2007-2008 academic year.

B. Ways in which findings were used or will be used to enhance program quality: Findings used by faculty to reflect on the overall program and to plan for new students; additionally the findings support the use of a direct teaching method.
C. **Significant insights:** Faculty will continue to use the designated teaching method and text.

D. **Next steps in implementation of this program assessment process:** Continue to collect student data, especially student outcome data.

**NOTE:** Learning objectives for EDS 151 as well as EDS 152 are available on request.