

CURRICULUM VITAE

Merrilee R. Gietz, Ed. D.
Instructional Associate Professor

Professional Teaching Interests

Interpreting, Applied Linguistics in American Sign Language (ASL), American Sign Language (second-learning language), and American Sign Language Literature.

Educational Background

Ed.D.

Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
Deaf Studies and Deaf Education
August 2013

Dissertation: ASL Handshape Stories, Word Recognition and Signing Deaf Readers: An Exploratory Study

M.S.

McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College), Westminster, MD
Deaf Education, with a concentration in American Sign Language (1st and 2nd language teaching)
August 2003

B.A.

Gallaudet University, Washington, DC
History
May 1996

Professional Experience

Faculty:

2015 – Present	Instructional Assistant Professor, University of Houston, Houston, TX
2020—2021	Adjunct Graduate Professor (Summers only), University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO
2015 – 2016	Adjunct Online Professor (Summers only), William Woods University, Fulton, MO
2013 – 2015	Assistant Professor, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
2007 – 2013	Instructor, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
2011 – 2015	Adjunct Online Professor, Lone Star College System: Cy-Fair, Cypress, TX (Summers only)
2012	Adjunct Professor (Summer only), Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C.

2010	Adjunct Professor, Lone Star College System: North Harris, The Woodlands, TX (Summers only)
2007 & 2009	Adjunct Professor (Summers only), Austin Community College, Austin, TX
2006	Adjunct Professor, Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ
2000 – 2005	Adjunct Professor, Shoreline Community College, Shoreline, WA
1999 – 2005	Adjunct Professor, Seattle Central Community College, Seattle, WA

Other Professional Experiences:

2010 – Present	Communication Skills Workshop Facilitator (Summers only), Austin, TX
2017 – 2019	ASL Theatre Consultant for the Hobby Center of the Performing Arts, Houston, TX
2006 – 2007	Distance Learning Teacher, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX
2005 – 2006	American Sign Language Teacher (1 st and 2 nd language teaching), Sequoia School and Sequoia School for the Deaf, Mesa, AZ
2004 – 2005	Community Instructor, The Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center, Seattle, WA
2000 – 2005	American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) Rater, Western University, Monmouth, OR

Teaching Assignments:

University of Houston, Houston, TX:

ASLI 2301 Intermediate American Sign Language I
 ASLI 2302 Intermediate American Sign Language II
 ASLI 3360 Advanced American Sign Language
 ASLI 3460 Advanced American Sign Language (effective – Fall 2019)
 ASLI 4210 American Sign Language Literature (effective- Fall 2018)
 ASLI 4335 Advanced Interpreting
 ASLI 4346 Transliterating and Educational Settings
 ASLI 4368 Linguistics of American Sign Language
 ASLI 4368 Comparative Study of ASL and English Linguistics (effective – Spring 2018)
 ASLI 4397 Selected Topics in ASLI

University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO:

TASL 501 First and Second Language Acquisition in ASL
 TASL 506 Contemporary Professional Issues in Teaching ASL

William Woods University, Fulton, MO:

ASL 316 Linguistics of Non-Manual Markers in ASL
 ASL 430 American Sign Language Literature

Lamar University, Beaumont, TX:

DSDE 1371 American Sign Language I
DSDE 1372 American Sign Language II
DSDE 1374 Introduction to Deaf Studies
DSDE 2371 American Sign Language III
DSDE 2372 American Sign Language IV
DSDE 2373 Visual/Gesture Communication
DSDE 2377 Introduction to ASL Structure
DSDE 3301 American Sign Language V
DSDE 3302 American Sign Language VI
DSDE 3307 ASL Literature and Visual Media
DSDE 4308 Teaching ASL as Second Language
DSDE 4309 ASL Practicum
DSDE 4310 Sign Language and Sign Codes
DSDE 4311 ASL Linguistics

Lone Star Community District, Cy-Fair, Cypress, TX:

SLNG 1347 Deaf Culture

Gallaudet University, Washington, DC:

PST 102 Classifiers I
PST 136 Beginning Fingerspelling
PST 304 American Sign Language IV

Lone Star Community District, North Harris, Woodlands, TX:

SGNL 1402 American Sign Language Beginning II

Austin Community College, Austin, TX:

SGNL 1401 American Sign Language I
SGNL 1402 American Sign Language II
SLNG 1317 Introduction to the Deaf Community

Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ:

SLG 101 American Sign Language I
SLG 202 American Sign Language IV

Seattle Central Community College, Seattle, WA:

ASL 121 American Sign Language I
ASL 122 American Sign Language II
ASL 123 American Sign Language III

ASL 221 American Sign Language IV
ASL 222 American Sign Language V
ASL 223 American Sign Language VI

Shoreline Community College, Shoreline, WA:

ASL 121 American Sign Language I
ASL 122 American Sign Language II
ASL 123 American Sign Language III

The Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center, Seattle, WA:

American Sign Language 1 (non-credit)
American Sign Language II (non-credit)

Course and Curriculum Development

Gietz, M., Brittain, T., & Pott, S. (2018 May/June). *ASLI 2302: Intermediate American Sign Language II-ASL Idioms and Phrases* [Video Production]. Houston, Texas: University of Houston Office of Educational Technology Studio.

Gietz, M., Brittain, T., & Pott, S. (2018 May/June). *ASLI 3360: Advanced American Sign Language-ASL Idioms and Phrases* [Video Production]. Houston, Texas: University of Houston Office of Educational Technology Studio.

Gietz, M, coordinator with two committees, Mr. Terrell Brittain and Mr. Scot Pott. (May/June 2018). *ASLI 3360: Advanced American Sign Language – ASL Idioms and Phrases* [Video production].

Gietz, M. (October, 2014). Online Course. \$4,500. ASL Linguistics. Center for Distance Education, Lamar University. Course development proposal accepted and was complete.

Gietz, M. (May, 2014). Online Course. \$4,500. Introduction to Deaf Studies. Center for Distance Education, Lamar University. Course development proposal accepted and completed in September 2014.

Gietz, M. (2001). Seattle Central Community College, Interpreting Training Program Articulation. Assisted with development of ASL curriculum and articulation with high schools in King County, WA.

Proposals:

Marchut, A., Clark, M.D., Pudans-Smith, K., Andrews, J., & Gietz, M. (2018). *Connecting the dots: Mentors, mentees, and deaf-authored publications*. Paper submitted and accepted for the Association of College Educators – Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACE-DHH) conference, 2019 Chicago, IL.

Gietz, M., Principal Investigator and Hill, S, Assistant Principal Investigator. (2017). Incorporating video projects in a hybrid course – Literature in American Sign Language, Proposal submitted to University of Houston, Teaching Innovation Program Grant. (not funded)

Publications:

Marchut, A., Pudans-Smith, K., **Gietz, M.**, Andrews, J., & Clark, D, (2021). A case study of mentoring Deaf academics: The PAH!* (Success) academic writing retreat, *Creative Education*, 12(1), pp.176-192. [Peer-reviewed article]

Gietz, M., Andrews, J., & Clark, D, (2020). ASL stories with handshape Rhyme: An exploratory intervention to support English vocabulary with signing deaf readers, *Archives of Psychology*, 4(2), 1-24. [Peer-reviewed article]

Gietz, M. (2018). Introducing Haiku poems: Utilizing American Sign Language for pedagogical purposes. In B. Eldredge & D. Stringham (Eds.) *Beyond Talk: Proceedings of the Fifth Biennial Deaf Studies Today! Conference* (pp. 55- 63). Orem, UT: Utah Valley University Press. [Book-Chapter]

Poster Sessions:

Gietz, M. (February, 2014). *ASL handshape stories, word recognition and signing deaf readers: An exploratory study*, submitted for the 2014 Association of College Educators – Deaf and Hard of Hearing Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

Gietz, M. (February, 2011). *Increasing American Sign Language (ASL) vocabulary using phonological handshapes for adult ASL L2 learners*, submitted for the 2011 Association of College Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conference in Fort Worth, TX.

Presentations:

Gietz, M. (July, 2022). *Spice up! [Spices- ASL Modifiers: Time, temporal aspect, subjects & object, negative & positive manners, degree & intensity, place/distance & space, frequency, & sizes & shapes.]* Face to Face workshop(s) presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA). (July 3-7, 2022; July 10-14, 2022; & July 24-28, 2022)

Gietz, M. (June, 2021). *The ASL alphabet: A linguistic introduction*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2021).

- Gietz, M. (June, 2021). *ASL numbers to everything*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2021).
- Gietz, M. (June, 2021). *ASL Mouth Morphemes 2021*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2021).
- Gietz, M. (May, 2020). *Use of Space: Tools*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2020).
- Gietz, M. (May, 2020). *Politics*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2020).
- Gietz, M. (May, 2020). *Social Media*. Virtual workshop presented at the Communication Skills Workshop online, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA), July 1-31, 2020).
- Gietz, M. (July, 2019). *ASL Morphemes*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA). (July 21-25, 2019)
- Gietz, M. (July, 2019). *The ASL- ABC [Alphabet]*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA). (July 14-18, 2019)
- Marchut, A., Clark, M.D., Pudans-Smith, K., Andrews, J., & **Gietz, M.** (February, 2019). *Connecting the dots: Mentors, mentees, and deaf-authored publications*. Paper presented at the Association of College Educators – Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACE-DHH) conference, Chicago, IL.
- Gietz, M. (July/August, 2018). *Interpreting Techniques: ASL Rhymes and Reason*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC- BEI) and Texas Education Agency (TEA). (July 22-26, 2018 and July 29-August 2, 2018)

Gietz, M. (June, 2018). *Houston Summer Institute – Statewide Training*, University of Houston, Houston, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services - Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC-BEI). (June 24-28, 2018)

Gietz, M. (July, 2017). *ASL Haiku*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services – Board for Evaluation of interpreters (DARS-BEI). (July 23-26, 2017)

Gietz, M. (August, 2017). *Houston Summer Institute – Statewide Training*, University of Houston, Houston, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (HHSC-BEI). (August 13-17, 2017)

Invited: Hill, S. & Gietz, M. (February, 2017,). *American Sign Language linguistics and deaf culture*. Rice University, Houston, TX.

Invited: Gietz, M. (October, 2016). *Build Your Mental Muscles: See the Message*. Green Belt Interpreters for the Deaf (GBID) at Lone Star Community College-Kingwood, TX.

Invited: Hill, S., Gietz, M., Pott, S., & Brittain, T. (September, 2016). *American Sign Language and Deaf culture*. Rice University, Houston, TX

Gietz, M. (August, 2016) *Houston Summer Institute – Statewide Training*, University of Houston, TX, funded by Texas Health and Human Services – Board for Evaluation of interpreters (HHSC-BEI). (August 7-11, 2016)

Gietz, M. (July, 2016). *ASL Haiku*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services – Board for Evaluation of interpreters (DARS-BEI). (July 31-August 3, 2016)

Invited: Gietz, M. (February, 2016). *Facilitating communication and learning with deaf students*. Texas Community College Teachers Association, 69th annual convention, Houston, TX.

Gietz, M. (July/August, 2015). *ASL Haiku*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX, funded by Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services – Board for Evaluation of interpreters (DARS-BEI). (July 12-16, 2015; July 19-23, 2015; & July 26-30)

Gietz, M. & Galloway-Gallego, A. (June, 2015). *The ramifications of American Sign Language semantics*. Submitted and presented to Texas Society of the Interpreters for the Deaf Conference, San Padre Island, Texas.

- Gietz, M. (July/August, 2014). *Depicting verbs*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M. (April, 2014). *Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) - Languages other than English (LOTE) American Sign Language in Fall 2014 - What's new?* Paper presented at the DFW–American Sign Language Teachers Association Mini Conference, University of Texas, Arlington, TX.
- Gietz, M. (April, 2014). *Haiku poems: Utilizing ASL handshapes for pedagogical purposes*. Paper presented at the DFW–American Sign Language Teachers Association Mini Conference, University of Texas, Arlington, TX.
- Gietz, M. (July, 2013). *Introducing Haiku poems: Utilizing American Sign Language handshapes for pedagogical purposes*. Presentation proposal accepted for the American Sign Language Association's 7th Biennial National Professional Development Conference, Charlotte, NC.
- Gietz, M. (July/August). *Depicting verbs*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M. (July, 2012). *American Sign Language depiction: Storytelling techniques*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M. (April, 2012). *Introducing Haiku poems in utilizing some American Sign Language handshapes for pedagogical purposes*. Presentation proposal accepted for the Deaf Studies Today! Conference, Orem, UT.
- Gietz, M. (July, 2011). *American Sign Language linguistics jeopardy*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M. (July, 2011). *Computer techniques for using Edmodo in the ASL classroom*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M. (July, 2010). *Techniques for ASL and English language usage in the ASL classroom*. Paper presented at the Communication Skills Workshop, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX.
- Gietz, M., & Moore, M. (April 2010). *Techniques for allocating ASL and English language usage for students in the ASL classroom*. Paper presented at the Deaf Studies Today! Conference, Orem, UT.
- Gietz, M. (October, 2009). *Friendly approach to Deaf clients and their rights*. Paper presented to the Speech and Hearing Department, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas.

Rusher, M., Jackson, K., & Gietz, M. (March, 2009). *Where's the Deaf in deaf education?* Paper and presented accepted at the Association of Council Educators of Deaf and Hard of Hearing conference, New Orleans, LA.

Dissertation Committee:

Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

May 2015, Fang-Hui Ku, Department of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education
The Effect of Using Taiwan Sign Language Handshape Stories to Increase Word Recognition Skills in Taiwanese Deaf Children.

Master's Thesis Committee Chair:

University of Houston, Houston, TX

May 2020, Gloria M. Ramos, Communication Sciences & Disorders
Communication Sciences and Disorders Student Beliefs About ASL, English and Deaf Culture

Grant:

Training Grant. *Connecting eTools, Learning Styles, and Student Success.* Seattle Central Community College District, Summer Institute, Seattle, WA, 2004. Received a grant for project on Deaf norms and etiquette.

Awards:

2013: Recognition in Service. Served in recognition of five years of service at Lamar University,

2004: Service to Education Award. Presented in recognition of five years of service. Seattle Central Community College District, Seattle, WA.

University Service:

University

2019 – 2021, Center for Students with Disabilities Advisory Board, University of Houston

Department (COMD) – American Sign Language Interpreting Program (ASLI)

2015 – Present:

Committee, F-APAR

Advisor, Interpreting students (juniors and seniors) in ASLI program

ASLI Website Updates

Administrate UH-ASLI Polo Shirts and accessories

ASLI Curriculum Development

ASLI Admission Interview (annual)

ASLI Senior Review (annual)

Recruitment and Exhibition (annual)
ASLI Annual Program and Annual Reviews (APAR)
Chairperson, ASLI – ASL Hollywood Show (every Spring term)
ASLI Program – Advising meetings (majors) (every Fall and Spring terms)

Community Services:

April 2022 – Present: Co-chair, the 12th International Deaf Academics and Researchers Conference, 2025 will be hosted at University of Houston (main) campus.

Fall 2020 – March 2022: Committee, the bidding host and preparation for the 12th International Deaf Academics and Researchers Conference (DAC), 2025 (Lamar University and University of Houston representatives won this bid in July 19-23, 2021 during the 10th DAC 2021 conference).

January 2021 – Present: Committee focusing on interpreting issues in elementary, middle and high schools in the State of Texas for the Texas Association of the Deaf – Subcommittee: Education.

2007–2010; 2019-Present: Board committee, Houston Community College, American Sign Language Program and Interpreting Training Program

Fall 2015 – Present: Board Committee, Lone Star College Advisory, Interpreter Training Technology Program

Fall 2018 – Spring 2022: Appointed: Advisory Committee, Board of Evaluation for the Interpreters (BEI) – Statewide, Texas Human and Health Service (HHSC, former DARS)

Fall 2019 – Fall 2021: Regional Representative #4 (areas of Houston, Beaumont, and Tyler), Texas Association of the Deaf

February 13, 2019: Career and Recovery Resources – Deafshop Series: Supported and participated with student interns for the workshop, *Working with Interpreters*.

January 25, 2019: UH ASLI coordinator for the US Anthem major students and ASLI students at the Rockets Basketball Game.

December 2018: The *Beast and Beauty* performance at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: ASL Theatre consultant with two theatre interpreters

October 2018 – April 2019: Research Mentor to a student working on research project, *Unspoken anxiety in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community* at the Carnegie Vanguard High School, Houston, TX.

September 2018 – *Oklahoma!* performance at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: ASL Theatre consultant with two theatre interpreters, September 2018

December 2018: The *Beast and Beauty* performance at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: ASL Theatre consultant with two theatre interpreters.

March 23, 2018: Invited: Mentored and supported with three interpreter students for booth information about our ASLI program at ASL Honor Society Banquet, Katy High School

May 2018: *Hamilton* performance at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: ASL Theatre consultant with three theatre interpreters

Spring 2018: *Aleeah* at the Main Street Theater for substituting for S. Hill's class and support inputs to students on their performance practice

October 2017: *The Secret Garden* at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: ASL Theatre consultant with two theatre interpreters

Fall 2017: Volunteer as a Deaf interpreter for those Deaf Harvey homeless victims for two days at the NRG stadium

June/July, 2017: *King Lion* at The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts: Practiced and consulted with four interpreters several times and I also performed in ASL interpretation on same time for the Deaf audience at the play on July 9, 2017

April, 2017: Deaf Seniors Association Conference: Mentored and taught student interns at the Exhibition Booth

October 21, 2016: Lone Star College: Cy-Fair: Job Fair - UH ASLI Program Booth

August 11, 2016: As an American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (from Gallaudet University) proctor for the interviewee on the UH campus

March 4, 2016: ASL Judge for high school students' competition at Ross Sterling High School (Baytown ISD) High School

Fall 2014: Member: Search Committee for the Chair of College of the Fine Arts and Communications

Fall 2013–2015: Member: Committee of Academic Lecture Series in the College of Fine Arts and Communications, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

2011–2015: Librarian representative: Serve as representative for Department of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

2008–2011: Member: Committee of Fine Arts and Communications Curriculum, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

2011 – 2013: Advisor: Deaf Cardinal student organization

Fall 2010: Member: Search Committee for Assistant Professor for the Deaf Studies and Deaf Education Department, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX.

Spring 2008: Member: Search Committee for Assistant Professor for the BA-ASL program, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX

Fall 2013–March 2014: Chairperson, Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf (TSID) Student Conference

Spring 2013: Language Other Than English (LOTE) Review Committee for the State Board of Education in Texas, American Sign Language, High School, I–VII.

2011–2012: Online Moderator, American Sign Language Greater Houston Faculty: standard curriculum for ASL I and II

2007–2010: 2019-Present: Board committee, Houston Community College, American Sign Language Program and Interpreting Training Program

Certifications:

2021, Quality Matters – Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR) Certification (National)

2018, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Harris County, Texas

2015, The Moodle Training Certification (MT202)

Certified Online Professor (DL2), Lone Star College District, TX

Deaf-Blind Service Center Support Service Provider Training Certification, Seattle, WA

Memberships/Affiliations:

American Sign Language Teacher Association (ASLTA)

Houston Black Deaf Advocates (HBDA)

Texas Association of the Deaf (TAD)

Texas Society of the Interpreters for the Deaf (TSID)