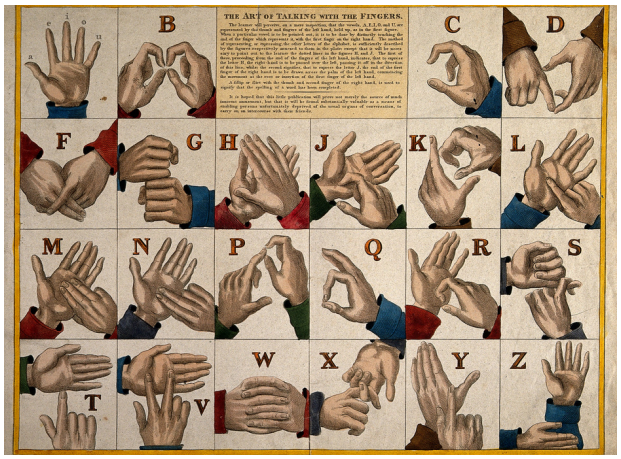
Osher Online™

A program of the Osher National Resource Center
at Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

WINTER2027

Deaf History and Culture

In this course, we will introduce key aspects of Deaf Culture in the United States and explore what defines the Deaf community as a cultural minority. We will examine cultural identity, group norms, social interaction, values, and traditions, while emphasizing awareness, diversity, and language preservation. We will investigate how modern technology shapes community life, along with emerging issues, trends, and advocacy. We will also discuss communication, terminology, educational alternatives, legislation, and community resources.



Click here to view course promo video

YOUR INSTRUCTOR:Matt Cooper



Matthew Cooper is an Assistant Professor of American Sign Language at the University of Tulsa and adjunct faculty at Tulsa Community College. Born to two Deaf parents, Cooper grew up a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) in a family who were leaders and active participants in the Deaf community. In 2025, Cooper was a TEDx Editor's Pick for his TEDx Talk titled Between Two Worlds: A CODA's Perspective. He is currently writing a book about the modern CODA experience.

THURSDAYS, JANUARY 21 THROUGH FEBRUARY 25

2pmPT | 3pmMT | 4pmCT | 5pmET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Thursday, January 21
- Thursday, January 28
- Thursday, February 4
- Thursday, February 11
- Thursday, February 18
- Thursday, February 25

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.