

Auslan Instruction

Auslan (Australian Sign Language) is the native language of the Australian Deaf Community. It was brought to Australia in the mid 1800's when Deaf people came from England, Scotland and Ireland during the Gold Rush. While Auslan has its roots in British Sign Language, over the years the language has evolved and continues to do so as with any community language. The Australian Federal Government recognised Auslan as a community language in the early 1990's and since then many non-deaf people have come to appreciate the complexity and beauty of a language previously demeaned by the general community.

Basic Auslan instruction provided by SLSA will introduce the learner to elementary grammatical structures that are quite different to those found in English grammar. Activities will be included to provide opportunities for students to practice their newly acquired Auslan skills in a 'safe' environment. By the end of the first course learners will be able to communicate at a basic level with members of the Deaf community and have some idea of cultural differences between the Deaf and hearing worlds.

The courses run from eight weeks – 3 hours per week.

Relevant handouts will be provided to students.

Courses can be tailored to suit the workplace needs of government and non-government organisations. These individual requirements need to be discussed with the SLSA Director so appropriate training packages can be developed.

Fees are subject to change and will need to be discussed with the SLSA Director.