

## Perspectives of Our Undergraduate Programs

“Hello, I’m Jenna. I am an undergraduate student and majoring in Elementary Education. Why do I want to become a teacher? Ever since I was a little girl, I’ve always wanted to be a teacher and a big part of that is because of my dad. He is a professor in the ASL department at Indiana University. He always took me to his ASL classes, interacting with hearing students and teaching them signs. I found myself enjoying teaching very much. I’m also the oldest of three siblings and I’ve always helped them with their homework. That teaching passion has stayed with me ever since. Now what made Gallaudet stand out to me? The first reason is unlimited communication access via ASL. Gallaudet is the only University in America where ASL is used as language of instruction in the classrooms. The next reason is diversity. In each class, I meet so many diverse students. Some of them are from other countries, which mean they are international students with diverse experiences and backgrounds. I’ve internalized their stories which will stay with me.”

“Hi! I’m Arjun. I’m from Nepal. I’m in my senior year, in a Self-Directed major specializing in Education and Linguistics. Why did I decide on an Education major? I used to be a teacher for a Deaf school in Nepal for a few years, and I was unsatisfied with how I was teaching. It was important to me to improve my teaching strategies, and understanding the whole child development. My goal as a teacher is to improve their reading and writing skills. I came to Gallaudet University in 2011 and have been here ever since. I’ve been learning so much about the development of reading and writing skills, how to differentiate instruction for diverse students, integrating other subjects such as Social Studies, Math... there’s so many to list. I’ve learned, developed and internalized skills and look forward to implementing what I’ve learned in Nepal. My goal is to continue improving reading and writing skills of Deaf children in my home country.”

“Hello!! I’m Mindy! I’m an undergraduate student at Gallaudet University. Why did I choose the Department of Education? Before I arrived on campus, I already knew of the reputation of this department. When I entered the program, the stories were true. The professors know their stuff. Everyone signs fluently therefore I have access everywhere. I feel very welcome here.”