

Steve Bitzer – Sabbatical – Fall 2005

I have completed 16 units of sign language during my sabbatical and was an aid for William Wong in his basic math course. It has been a wonderful experience being able to interact with the Deaf students and help them in math. I also have made friends with other Deaf faculty since becoming proficient in ASL. I will continue to be an aid in William's basic math classes and help Deaf students for the remainder of my career at Ohlone. Being a student again has also helped me see the different styles of teaching and to experience these styles firsthand. I have picked up a lot of good ideas that will help me become a better teacher. One important idea I am going to try is to implement more activities during class and have less lecture-based material. The sabbatical has expanded my list of teaching techniques, improved my ASL tremendously, and expanded the student population that I can now help. I truly appreciate the opportunity I was given.