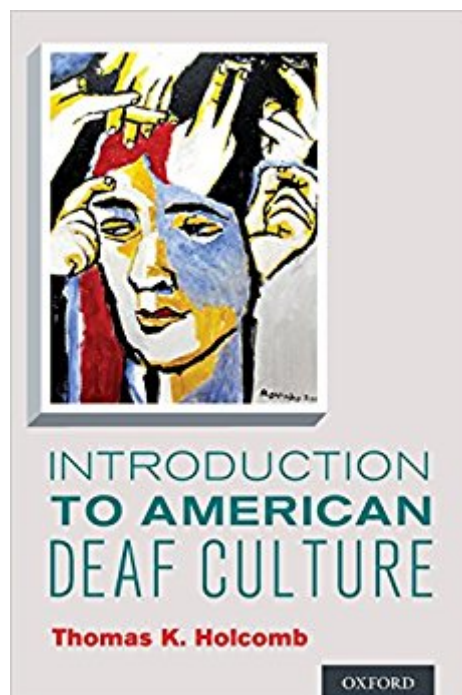


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# Introduction To American Deaf Culture (Professional Perspectives On Deafness: Evidence And Applications)



## Synopsis

Introduction to American Deaf Culture is the only comprehensive textbook that provides a broad, yet in-depth, exploration of how Deaf people are best understood from a cultural perspective, with coverage of topics such as how culture is defined, how the concept of culture can be applied to the Deaf experience, and how Deaf culture has evolved over the years. Among the issues included are an analysis of various segments of the Deaf community, Deaf cultural norms, the tension between the Deaf and disabled communities, Deaf art and literature (both written English and ASL forms), the solutions being offered by the Deaf community for effective living as Deaf individuals, and an analysis of the universality of the Deaf experience, including the enculturation process that many Deaf people undergo as they develop healthy identities. As a member of a multigenerational Deaf family with a lifetime of experience living bi-culturally among Deaf and hearing people, author Thomas K. Holcomb enhances the text with engaging stories interwoven throughout. In addition to being used in college-level courses, this book can also help parents and educators of Deaf children understand the world of Deaf culture. It offers a beautiful introduction to the ways Deaf people effectively manage their lives in a world full of people who can hear.

## Book Information

Age Range: 8 and up

Series: Professional Perspectives On Deafness: Evidence and Applications

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #9,355 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Disabled #25 in Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Clinical > Psychiatry #31 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Psychiatry

## Customer Reviews

"On balance, Holcomb's work offers a readable introduction to a community that has generally been

invisible to mainstream American culture, and the text constitutes a useful addition to the literature on deafness." -- PsycCRITIQUES

Thomas K. Holcomb is Professor of Deaf Studies at Ohlone College in Fremont, California, where he teaches both Deaf and hearing students in courses on Deaf culture, Deaf education, and ASL/English Interpretation. Holcomb's family -- his parents, grandparents, children, and grandson -- are all Deaf. With over 30 years of teaching experience, as well as several publications, training packages, and DVDs to his name, Holcomb is considered a leading authority on Deaf culture. He has presented in 45 states and several different countries, including Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Japan, and Sweden. His academic credentials include a bachelor's degree from Gallaudet University, a master's degree from Rochester Institute of Technology, and a PhD from the University of Rochester.

I am writing this review as a second year Communication Sciences and Disorders major with an emphasis in education and Deaf studies. I am currently enrolled in a class entitled Orientation to Deafness and this book, Introduction to American Deaf Culture written by Thomas K. Holcomb, is the primary text used for the class. It has been a refreshing addition to the many monotonous textbooks I have been collecting as it's 15 chapters are thoughtfully written and give an honest depiction of Deaf culture along with it's stereotypes, language, art, and literature to name a few. As a professor of Deaf culture classes for 30 years, Holcomb includes anecdotes from his personal life and experiences as a Deaf individual as well as the experiences of his students, children, and colleagues, providing an understandable and comprehensive guide to American Deaf Culture. This book is a great choice as a textbook to provide the basic knowledge you need to begin learning about Deaf culture. He uses pictures, charts, and graphs throughout the book in order to provide better understanding and my personal favorite aspect is the how he uses a poem written by a Deaf person to conclude each chapter. They are thought provoking and give the reader an opportunity to connect with the content in an alternative and interesting way. I use Introduction to American Deaf Culture weekly in order to answer a number of discussion questions. This book not only makes it much less painful to complete the assignments but it makes me truly want to learn more about Deaf culture and its community. I write this as a person who not only actually enjoys a required text but as a person who would recommend this book to anyone who might be taking, or considering taking, an ASL course. I would be willing to say it should be required for students in ASL courses to have an understanding of the community whose language you are learning to use. I personally am taking

Beginning ASL I, using the textbook Master ASL! by Jason Zinza, and Introduction to American Deaf Culture has helped me tremendously simply by providing background knowledge on the signs and language I am learning. Required or not it is an interesting read for anyone interested in Deaf culture, it is truly fascinating and all too often overlooked. I have already learned so much! Overall, I give this book 5 stars based on its interesting qualities and readability. I recommend it, as well as Deaf studies in general, to everyone!

This book was written much more formally than I expected when I decided to purchase it. It is still for the most part interesting, but it is a much more difficult read than I had initially expected because of how formally it is written. It is a great source with lots of interesting information, but it has to be something you are really interested in or you won't be able to get in to it.

Interesting read. Was needed for a class.

It's fine, just a textbook

Exactly as advertised and precisely what I needed for class! I'm looking forward to diving into it!

Needed this for my ASL class. It was in good condition. Actually satisfying to read

As described.

very happy when received and packaging was sufficient. The item itself was in perfect condition.  
very happy with my purchase.

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