

# American Sign Language Program

Mercedes Cacho

Submitted by Ignacio Ponce

Mercedes has truly exemplified what it means to be an exceptional student, making remarkable contributions to our learning community. As President of the ASL Club during the 2024-2025 academic year, she led the club to become one of the most influential and successful organizations on campus. Under her leadership, the ASL Club organized a series of educational events that provided students with invaluable opportunities for growth—blending pedagogical insights, professional development, and community engagement. Despite balancing a full-time job, Mercedes consistently maintained outstanding academic performance in ASL while also inspiring her peers to do the same through her active involvement in extracurricular activities.

When I reflect on the vision of Santa Barbara City College, I think of Mercedes as the embodiment of a "socially conscious community where knowledge and respect empower individuals to transform our world." It has been a privilege to have Mercedes in my American Sign Language classes.

-Ignacio Ponce