Topic Clusters

1. **Leadership**
   - What it means
   - Leadership qualities
   - Different types of leadership
   - Leaders-vs-followers
   - Role modeling
   - Team-building

2. **Self-Determination and Advocacy**
   - Becoming an advocate in school and the community
   - Empowering yourself and others
   - Knowing your rights
   - Being proactive-vs-reactive
   - Navigating the system
   - Forming alliances
   - Understanding discrimination and minimizing it
   - Assertiveness-vs-aggressiveness

3. **Communication Skills**
   - Effective communication strategies
   - Problem solving and conflict management
   - Articulating your needs
   - Educating others on communication with deaf and hard of hearing individuals

4. **Achieving Goals**
   - How to plan, set, and attain realistic goals
   - Creating opportunities
   - Acting independently, accepting responsibility, and making choices
   - Building self-confidence
   - Inventoring your strengths and weaknesses

5. **Accommodations and Support Services in Postsecondary Education**
   - What are they?
   - Defining your needs and making them known
   - Exploring your options and navigating the system
   - Advocating for access to services and programs that are easily available to persons without hearing loss
   - Educating your professors
6. Employment and Work-based Learning
   - Seeking experiences related to job skill and readiness
   - Appropriate job behavior
   - Creating opportunities for work-based learning
   - Tying classroom experience with the ‘real world’
   - Advocacy

7. Deaf Culture
   - Defining deaf culture
   - Terminology
   - Norms, values, rules, behavior
   - Myths, perceptions and truths
   - Deafness as part of diversity