American Sign Language
for Ratchasuda College
2.21.05 – 3.4.05

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended for students who have no or minimal American Sign Language (ASL) skills. The class focuses on ASL vocabulary, linguistic features, and cultural protocols to enable students to function in survival level ASL conversations with a focus on work-related communication. Students learn to (1) ask and answer questions, (2) exchange personal information, (3) sign about their jobs, their families, where they are from, and (4) share personal information.

TEXT/MATERIALS (provided)

- Newell, W., Holcomb, S., Holcomb, B., Campbell, C., Caccamise, F. & Peterson, R. American Sign Language Level 1A Student Materials, Units 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7. National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)

SUGGESTED VOCABULARY REFERENCE BOOK (provided)


COURSE GOALS

1. To develop basic conversational fluency in ASL using appropriate vocabulary, grammar, and cultural behaviors.

2. To develop basic knowledge of ASL linguistic structure.

3. To gain an understanding of Deaf Culture, Deaf Community, and the value of ASL in Deaf Culture.

4. To gain a basic understanding of various perspectives on the deaf experience; that is, cultural, linguistic, educational, medical, social, and political and how these various perspectives interact with each other and impact on Deaf people and their language.
STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

1. To demonstrate ability to understand classroom interaction with the instructor through basic ASL and gestural communication

2. To demonstrate comprehension of survival-level questions and statements by producing short-phrase and one-two sentence utterances, and to ask questions within conversational interactions involving introduction of self, exchange of personal information, signing about work, family, friends, and personal likes/dislikes.

3. To demonstrate culturally appropriate communication behaviors, including responding/confirming with OH-I-SEE, correcting information using “wave-no,” and maintaining and breaking eye contact as appropriate.

4. To demonstrate comprehension of classmates’ names and other commonly spelled words of 3-4 letters when fingerspelled at a normal rate.

5. To fingerspell the names of classmates and commonly fingerspelled words of 3 to 4 letters at a moderate-to-normal rate.

6. To receive and express numbers 1-30.

7. To demonstrate in writing and through classroom interaction knowledge of the history and basic linguistic structure of ASL, Deaf Culture, and Deaf people in America.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1: Introducing Ourselves
Unit 2: Learning ASL
Unit 3: People At Work
Unit 6: Sharing Personal Information
Unit 7: Where People Live

STUDENT EVALUATION

Midterm (2.25.05) and Final (3.3.05) examinations for receptive skill, ASL History, Deaf Culture, Deaf Community, and ASL Linguistic Structure

A Final Expressive Evaluation consisting of a 2-3 minute expressive presentation to the class.

1. Class attendance and participation are required.

2. Completion of all assignments, lab work and other class activities.
Tentative Schedule

Monday, February 21 (1-4pm)
  Intro
  Unit 1

Tuesday, February 22 (1-4pm)
  Unit 1
  Unit 2

Wednesday, February 23 (9-12) and (1-2)
  Unit 2
  Unit 3

Thursday, February 24 (1-4pm)
  Unit 3
  Deaf Culture in the United States

Friday, February 25 (1-4pm)
  Midterm Examination
  Midterm Course Evaluation

Monday, February 28 (9-12)
  Unit 6

Tuesday, March 1 (9-12)
  Unit 6
  Unit 7

Wednesday, March 2 (9-12) and (1-2)
  Unit 7
  Examination Review / Preparation
Thursday, March 3 (1-4)
Final Examination

Friday, March 4 (9-12)
Wrap up
Course Evaluation
Unit 1 – Introducing Ourselves

In this unit you learn to introduce yourself, to converse about your work or college major, and how to open a conversation politely. Also, you learn to express the numbers 0-to-10, you learn basic fingerspelling principles, and you are introduced to the cultural practice of giving “name signs.”

Learning Outcomes

1. Introduce yourself
2. Ask about and state your work or college major
3. Open and close a conversation politely
4. Count to 10
5. Fingerspell the first names of classmates
6. Learn the meanings of the terms Deaf culture and Deaf community
7. Learn about name signs for people and places

Unit 2 – Learning ASL

In this unit you learn to talk about learning American Sign Language (ASL). Also, you learn to identify people who are present, to indicate understanding, to show plural, and you begin to learn to use conversational regulators.

Learning Outcomes

1. Introduce yourself
2. Ask about and state your work or college major
3. Open and close a conversation politely
4. Count to 10
5. Fingerspell the first names of classmates
6. Learn the meanings of the terms Deaf culture and Deaf community
7. Learn about name signs for people and places
**Unit 3 – People at Work**

In this unit you learn to communicate about people in the workplace and you learn how to request and give directions to nearby locations. You also learn about an important historic event in the lives of Deaf people.

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Ask about co-workers
2. Request and give directions to nearby locations
3. Sign numbers from 11-20
4. Express negative statements using “none” and “not”
5. Ask and tell about people who are not present
6. Contrast and compare two people, places, or things
7. Learn about an important event in the lives of Deaf people

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**Unit 6 – Sharing Personal Information**

In this unit you learn to talk about your family and you learn that signs sharing a common element of meaning often share a common production parameter. You also learn the special place that Deaf children of Deaf parents hold in Deaf culture and the high value placed on personal and social relationships with other Deaf people.

**Learning Outcomes**

2. Ask about and tell others about family
3. Show the birth order of children and/or brothers and sisters
4. Learn that signs sharing a common element of meaning often share a common production parameter
5. Learn about the special place Deaf children of Deaf parents hold in the Deaf culture and community
Unit 7 – Where People Live

In this unit you learn to talk about where you were born and raised, where you live now, and about forms of transportation. You also learn to ask how things are done. In addition, you learn how Deaf people make connections with other Deaf people and about types of schools for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

Learning Outcomes

1. Talk about where one was born, raised, and has lived
2. Talk about means of transportation
3. Ask how something is done or how something works
4. Learn how Deaf people make connections with one another
5. Learn about types of schools for deaf and hard-of-hearing students.