

2016

## ASLN 101-01 American Sign Language

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**Xavier University**  
**Department of Modern Languages**  
**American Sign Language**  
**ASL 101 Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Michele Bailes, M.A. Director of Deaf Studies

**e-mail:** baileism@xavier.edu

**Phone:** Dept. of modern languages at 745 - 3464. Leave message with Pam Rose, secretary.

**Office hours:** Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 – 8:30 and 1:00 – 2:00 in CLC 405 and Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00 (please make appointments with me for Wednesday office hours).

**Prerequisites:** none

**Required Text:** VISTA Signing Naturally, Level 1 student workbook and videotext by Smith, Lentz and Mikos

*You must have an XU account (an e-mail account that ends with xavier.edu) and access to Canvas in order to receive course information and announcements. If you cannot access the course material, you cannot successfully complete this course. Enrollment in this course requires you to read, understand, and follow the procedures and policies below. Please be advised that this course has an attendance policy. If you are prone to miss class often, then this course may not be what you want to take.*

Welcome to Xavier's first level course in the visual language of American Sign Language (ASL). This elementary sign language class is designed to provide a foundation for beginning signers wishing to study ASL and learn about Deaf culture. It includes principles, methods and techniques for communicating with deaf individuals who sign. The focus is development of receptive and expressive sign skills, manual alphabet, numbers and sign vocabulary. An overview of syntax, grammar and culture is provided.

**Course Objectives:**

Students who satisfactorily complete this course should be able to:

Develop use of and expand knowledge of signs in context.

Develop manual alphabet and number sign skills.

Combine signs, numbers and fingerspelling into meaningful ASL, in both expressive and receptive communication modes.

Learn the linguistic and cultural material in the text and course readings.

Gain an understanding of Deaf culture in addition to basic language.

Complete Units 1 – 6 in Signing Naturally

Communicate basic to intermediate conversational patterns with deaf individuals

**Classroom rules:**

\* Absolutely no form of electronics allowed in class. This includes, but is not limited to; cell phones, laptops, I-pads and music sources. Head phones of any kind are not permitted to be in your ears during class time.

\* The teacher reserves the right to remove a student from class if their behavior is causing a distraction to the instructor, class as a whole or to an individual student.

\* Students caught cheating on a test and/or plagiarizing an assignment will be referred immediately to the Dean for discipline which may include referral to the Student Academic Affairs committee for additional discipline.

Please read the excerpt from the Student Handbook carefully:

**2.3.9.1. Academic Honesty (Student Handbook, 107-8)**

The pursuit of truth demands high standards of personal honesty. Academic and professional life requires a trust based upon integrity of the written and spoken word. Accordingly, violations of standards of ethical behavior will not be tolerated at Xavier University. These include but are not limited to cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance in assignments and tests, and the falsification of research results and material.

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.

All work submitted for academic evaluation must be the student's own. Certainly, the activities of other scholars will influence all students. However, the direct and unattributed use of another's efforts is prohibited as is the use of any work untruthfully submitted as one's own.

Penalties for violations of this policy may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: a zero for that assignment or test, an "F" in the course, and expulsion from Xavier. The Academic Dean of the college in which the student is enrolled is to be informed in writing of all acts of academic dishonesty, although the faculty member has authority to assign the grade for the assignment, test, or course. If disputes regarding the applicability or enforcement of this policy arise, the student, faculty member and department chair should attempt to resolve the issue. If this is unsatisfactory, the Academic Dean of the college will rule on the matter. As a final appeal, the Provost will call a committee of tenured faculty for the purpose of making a final determination.

**This course fulfills requirements and goals of the Core Curriculum and helps students achieve the following Core Curriculum Student Learning Outcomes:**

Student Learning Outcomes for Goal 1 of the Core Curriculum

GOAL 1: Students will be effective communicators in writing and orally

1. Students will organize and express their ideas in writing and orally

*In this course, students will effectively communicate to peers using the skill of ASL. Students will translate manual sign language into written sign language during unit exams and during daily class individual and group exercises.*

Student Learning Outcomes for Goal 5 of the Core Curriculum

GOAL 5: Students will be integrated individuals who articulate a coherent, ethical perspective on the world and their place in it

3. Students will use information and resources responsibly in their communication and research

*In this course, students will use information and resources responsibly while obtaining research data and information required for completion of the course Research Project requirement. Students are required to obtain research through visitation of facilities associated with their research topic.*

GOAL 6: Students will be aware global citizens

Student Learning Outcomes for Goal 6 of the Core Curriculum:

6. Students will communicate in a foreign language and read and interpret cultural materials related to the language studied

*In this course, we will continuously practice and evaluate communication, both visual/manually and through the use of written glossing, in American Sign Language.*

**Canvas/email:**

A) I submit all grades via the Canvas grading system. You are able to view your current grade in this class at all times throughout the semester.

B) I email information about our class on a regular basis. Be sure you have your Xavier email address forwarding emails to a personal email or check your XU email on a regular basis. You are expected to check for emails pertaining to our class on a regular basis.

**Course Requirements:**

**1) Attendance and participation:**

A language requires practice and study. Students are expected to attend **all** classes. Participation in class activities and dialogues is required along with completion of exercises in class workbook. In order to effectively learn the language, you must participate in all activities asked of you in class. You are expected to be on time to class. Every minute you are late effects your ability to understand the language and interrupts the concentration of the others in class. It is also rude

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and disrespectful to both the instructor and class if you are late. Attendance will be taken each class.

Attendance is mandatory for this class. Due to the nature of the curriculum, it is impossible to learn outside of the class setting. All information related to the course is explained and taught during class. Therefore, missing a class will set you considerably behind. Please review the attendance policy below:

- 1) Your first absence is excused, no proof of reason for absence required.
- 2) Each additional absence (void of valid excuse/proof of absence) will result in a 10 pt. decrease from your participation/attendance grade.
- 3) Being late to class is unacceptable. Two tardies = one absence, resulting in a 10 pt. decrease from your participation/attendance grade.
- 4) Leaving a class early is equivalent to not attending and your grade will reflect this. If a situation arises and you need to leave class early, it is expected you communicate the reasons why with the instructor.
- 5) If you are involved in sports, it is your responsibility to make me aware of the dates you will be absent. Providing me with a schedule pre-season is fine, but you are also required to remind me the class prior to any sport's absence so I can adequately mark your following absence as excused.

## **2) Assignments:**

- 1) All assignments must be handed to the instructor on the due dates.
- 2) Late assignments will be penalized 25% of assignment grade for each class date late.
- 3) If you have a planned absence due to a sport's activity or other excusable reason, on a date when an assignment is due, the assignment is due the class prior to your absence.
- 4) Assignments sent via email are not accepted. Please place assignments in the box outside of my office (705 Schott Hall) or send assignment with another student to class.

## **3) Tests:**

There are NO make-up tests. There are 6 tests, of which the lowest grade is dropped. If you miss a test, that will be the one dropped from your average. Because tests are signed by the instructor, it is impossible to leave the test with the registrar's office for make-up. Dropping a test grade allows for unplanned absences on test dates. Also, remember that missing a class, whether there is a test or not, will result in points deducted from your class participation grade.

## **4) Community Activity:**

You are required to attend one event of the Deaf community. After attending the event, a 3 page typed report on the activity must be turned in by the due date. In the paper, be sure to list the name of the event, the date you attended and where it was held. Discuss your experience and opinion of the event. Be as detailed as possible, especially regarding how you felt during the experience. You may attend an event at your convenience; however, paper MUST be turned in no later than the assigned date. Do not wait until the last week, as events are not always consistently offered in the Deaf community. No excuses will be accepted. Do not procrastinate! Specific information regarding the project, as well as options for community activities, will be provided in class.

While attending the event you must do the following:

- 1) Stay at the event for a minimum of one hour.
- 2) Interact with at least 3 different people, getting their names and additional information about them to include in your paper.
- 3) The Community Activity must be an event held in the Cincinnati area. Events attended outside of Cincinnati will not be accepted.
- 4) Providing misleading or false information related to this assignment is equivalent to cheating. Please refer to the Student Handbook information on cheating listed above.

It is your responsibility to check the announcements or calendar on the Hearing Speech & Deaf center of Greater Cincinnati website. Click on CSD Services for the Deaf (CSD), and click on the weekly updates for events.

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### **5) ASL Live Lab requirement**

You are required to attend **Four** hours in the ASL Live Lab, prior to the end of the semester. Upon completion of the four lab hours, please submit a three page reflection paper sharing your thoughts and experiences in the lab during your four hours of lab time. Using first person is appropriate, as you should be speaking directly about your experiences during the four hours. Be sure to follow all typing requirements as stated in the syllabus.

There is a strict limit of only 20 students allowed in each lab session. At the beginning of the semester, the labs will be less crowded. As the semester progresses, the labs become increasingly more crowded. Once 20 students are in lab, additional students will not be permitted into the lab. There are absolutely no excuses allowed for lab situations, especially if you are locked out of labs due to procrastination.

The lab requirement is worth a total of 100 points. These points include the submission of the required reflection paper.

The breakdown is as follows:

Attend four labs = 100 points

Attend three labs = 75 points

Attend two labs = 50 points

Attend one lab = 25 points

Attend no labs = 0 points

You will be issued one yellow sign in form at the beginning of the semester. You are required to bring the yellow card to each lab you attend in order to receive a stamp on the card for attendance. If you lose the yellow card, you will be issued another one. However, no labs attended prior to receiving a second sign in card will count. You will forfeit all labs previously attended.

The lab schedule is below and will also be under the Files tab on Canvas.

### **FALL 2016 Lab Schedule:**

#### **9/6 Tuesday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

#### **9/7 Wednesday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

#### **9/11 Sunday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

#### **9/12 Monday**

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

#### **9/15 Thursday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

#### **9/19 Monday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.

**9/21 Wednesday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**9/25 Sunday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**9/ 27 Tuesday**

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**9/29 Thursday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**10/2 Sunday**

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**10/4 Tuesday**

3:00 – 4:00 101

4:00 – 5:00 101

5:00 – 6:00 201

**10/10 Monday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

**10/11 Tuesday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**10/12 Wednesday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

**10/17 Monday**

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

7:00 – 8:00 = 201

**10/18 Tuesday**

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**10/19 Wednesday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**10/23 Sunday**

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**10/25 Tuesday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

**10/27 Thursday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

**10/30 Sunday**

1:00 – 2:00 = 101

2:00 – 3:00 = 101

3:00 – 4:00 = 201

**11/1 Tuesday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 201

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

**11/3 Thursday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

**11/8 Tuesday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 201

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

**11/10 Thursday**

5:00 – 6:00 = 201

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

7:00 – 8:00 = 101

**11/13 Sunday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**11/14 Monday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**11/16 Wednesday**

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

7:00 – 8:00 = 102

**11/20 Sunday**

2:00 – 3:00 = 101

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.

**11/21 Monday**

4:00 – 5:00 = 101

5:00 – 6:00 = 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 201

**11/29 Tuesday**

3:00 – 4:00 = 101

4:00 – 5:00 = 201

**11/30 Wednesday**

4:00 - 5:00 = 201

5:00 – 6:00= 101

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

**12/4 Sunday**

5:00 – 6:00 201

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

7:00 – 8:00 = 101

**12/5 Monday**

6:00 – 7:00 = 101

7:00 – 8:00 = 201

**12/7 – Wednesday Last Lab**

3:00 – 4:00 201

4:00 – 5:00 101

5:00 – 6:00 101

**6) Deaf Forum Discussion Paper:**

The forum will include members of the Deaf community discussing topics related to the Deaf Culture and Community. You MUST attend the session and participate to receive credit. We will have an interpreter present to help facilitate communication smoothly. You will be granted an opportunity to give comments or ask questions. Please arrange your schedule accordingly, so you will attend the forum session. After the forum, you will type a 3-page reflection paper regarding to what you learned from the forum. The date of the forum has yet to be determined at time of typing this syllabus and will be announced at a later date.

**7) Research Project:**

Students will conduct a semester-long research experience based upon a topic chosen at the beginning of the semester. Unlike an internet researched based experience, this project will require you to interact directly with people related to your topic. In addition, you may need to visit and tour facilities in order to gain information for your paper. At the end of the semester, you will present your 6 – 8 page paper along with a Powerpoint presentation presented to the class on your research findings. More specific information about this project will be given out during the first few weeks of the semester.

**Grading System and Scale:**

Grades are given according to the University grading system.

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| ASL Live Lab hours (4 hours) | 100pts |
| Lab paper                    | 25 pts |
| Community Activity           | 75pts  |
| Community Activity Paper     | 25pts  |

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.



|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Research Paper/PowerPoint Presentation        | 125pts |
| Deaf Forum Attendance                         | 75pts  |
| Discussion Paper                              | 25 pts |
| Attendance/Participation                      | 75pts  |
| Units 1-6 Tests - pt total varies per test    |        |
| Final Receptive Exam – pt varies per semester |        |

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| 100-93     | A  |
| 90- 92.9   | A- |
| 88 -89.9   | B+ |
| 83 – 87.9  | B  |
| 80 – 82.9  | B- |
| 78 – 79.9  | C+ |
| 73 - 77.9  | C  |
| 70 – 72.9  | C- |
| 68 – 69.9  | D+ |
| 63 – 67.9  | D  |
| 60 – 62. 9 | D- |
| 62.4 – 0F  |    |

\*\* Instructor reserves the right to alter information included in the syllabus at any time.

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