

2013

ASLN 201-01 Intermediate American Sign Language I

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XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Department of Modern Languages
American Sign Language ASLN 201 01

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus.

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REQUIRED TEXT: VISTA Signing Naturally level 2, Student Workbook and Videotext by Smith, Lentz and Mikos. (1992) Dawn Sign Press.

Course Description and Objectives

This is a second level course in the visual, gesture language of American Sign Language (ASL). This course is designed to offer an overview of linguistic, cultural, and sociolinguistic information pertaining to ASL. This course will provide students with knowledge of basic signs used in a daily life in order to help students:

1. Develop use of signs in context, fingerspelling techniques and number sign skills.
2. Use signs, numbers and fingerspelling in meaningful ASL.
3. Have experience in both expressive and receptive communication modes.
4. Learn the linguistic and cultural material in the course readings and class presentation.

Classroom Etiquette

Use of voice in the classroom is strictly forbidden. If you want to talk to the teacher or your fellow students, please use sign language. Points will be reduced for voicing in class. You are not allowed to use your cellular phone. Your electronic devices must be turned off before you enter the classroom. If you truly need to answer an emergency call, please excuse yourself from the class to do so.

Attendance

Attendance is compulsory. Attending all classes is a key to successfully improving your expressive and receptive American Sign Language skills. You are allowed to miss only 2 classes (excused or unexcused). If you miss more than 2 classes for whatever reason, your final grade will be affected. With excessive absences, you will automatically receive a failing grade for the entire course. Arriving late and leaving early are not accepted because they are disruptive to class. Two late arrivals/early departures will equal one absence. 25 points will be taken off for each additional absence

Tests

There are NO make-up tests. You will take 3 tests and your lowest grade of the three will be dropped resulting in the final grade calculation that reflects the two high test scores. Each test is worth 50 points.

Typed assignments

When you are to turn in these typed assignments, please use the following standard: Times New Roman, font 12, one inch margins. 1-1 1/2 pages Points will be deducted for not adhering to the standard.

Deaf Event

You are to attend one activity in the Deaf Community, not just an interpreted event. You should interact with the Deaf people. My recommendation is to attend a silent dinner at an area mall on the 1st Friday of the month. You can also attend Deaf Coffee Chat at Starbucks on 2692 Madison Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45208. Type a 2 page reaction for the event. When you meet a Deaf person, ask the following questions: What is the onset of her/his deafness? Does/did she/he attend a mainstream or deaf school? Any challenges in a school or workplace? How does she/he communicate with friends and family? What language he/she uses to communicate? You can ask as many questions as possible. You will also include in your paper how easy it is that you communicate with a Deaf person and explain about anything you find significant with this Deaf person. PLEASE write your paper in an essay format. Attach the signature of a Deaf person, not an interpreter. I will update you on events as I become aware of them. This website will tell you the most up to date events. www.deaftattletale.weebly.com

Deaf Lab

You have the opportunity to work with Steve in the Deaf lab on the XU campus. This is an important part of your understanding of how ASL is used. I will let you know where the lab will be as soon as the location and time and day are assigned. You are required to attend 3 hours of Deaf Lab. Deaf lab is worth 75 points.

Workbook:

You are required to read assigned materials and complete video workbook exercises (Units 13, 14, 15). Workbook assignments MUST be completed prior to attending the class (see due assignments on class schedule). 25% will be reduced for turning in workbook assignment late.

Story Presentation

You will do one ASL story presentation in class as part of your project. Research and recite a copy of Deaf joke. Your performance will be graded on appropriate inclusion of ASL sentence structure, ASL grammatical syntax, facial expressions, ASL parameters, vocabulary, fluency, and overall preparation. You will do a 2-5 minute presentation of your Deaf joke. Points will be deducted if less than required time. The story presentation is worth 100 points.

Oral Exam:

Oral Exam will be a conversation between the student and instructor. Conversation will be based on materials (units 13, 14, 15) learned in class. Your oral exam will be graded based on your ability to:

1. Understand the instructor's signs
2. Produce signs correctly
3. Produce non-manual signals correctly
4. Produce signs clearly
5. Make correct sign choices
6. Incorporate ASL grammatical features

Receptive Written Exam

Exam questions will be based on previous tests, cultural and linguistic information and class discussion. The professor will sign and student will write the answers. The written portion of the final is worth 100 points.

COURSE EVALUATION

Deaf Event	50
Deaf Lab	60
Workbook units	40
Tests (2 at 50)	100
Story Presentation	100
Receptive Exam	100
Oral Exam	100

TOTAL	550
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Grading:

Your cumulative grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

A	=	93 –100%	C	=	73-76%
A –	=	90 – 92%	C-	=	70-72%
B+	=	87 – 89%	D+	=	67-69%
B	=	83 – 86%	D	=	63-66%
B –	=	80 – 82%	D-	=	60-62%
C+	=	77 – 79%	F	=	0-59%

ASL 201 Tentative Schedule

Due assignment

May 13	Introductions, Syllabus Vocabulary Unit 13 pp. 20-33	
May 15	Language in Practice pp. 2-3 Around the house	
May 16	Location of rooms, Arrangement of a room	
May 20	Fingerspelling, Numbers, Lost Shoe	
May 22	Test Unit 13, Design Your Own Room	
May 23	Vocabulary Unit 14 pp.50-58 Identify the alignment	Workbook Due pp. 4-14

May 27	Ask to Borrow a Truck p.35 Language in Practice pp.37-39	
May 29	Sign Production	
May 30	Fingerspelling, Numbers, One Fine Day	
June 3	Test Unit 14	
June 5	Vocabulary Unit 15 pp.77-86	Workbook Due pp. 41-43
June 6	Telling About Life Events	
June 10	Family Nationality Telling About Family History	
June 12	Story Presentation	
June 13	Personal History	
June 17	Test Unit 15 Review for final exams	Workbook Due pp. 65-72
June 19	Oral Exam	Deaf Event
June 20	Receptive Exam	