2015

ASLN 101 American Sign Language

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INSTRUCTOR: Sarah Haven
EMAIL: havens@xavier.edu
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment only

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 tend to miss class often, then this is course may not be what you want.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Welcome to Xavier's first level course in the visual language of American Sign Language (ASL). This elementary sign language class is designed to build on the basic principles and skills. It includes principles, methods, and techniques for communicating with deaf individuals who sign. The focus is on development of receptive and expressive signing skills, manual alphabet, numbers, and vocabulary. An overview of syntax, grammar and culture are provided.

OBJECTIVES:

Students who satisfactorily complete this course should be able to:

1. Develop use of and expand knowledge of signs in context.
2. Develop manual alphabet and number sign skills.
3. Combine signs, numbers and fingerspelling in meaningful ASL, in both expressive and receptive communication modes.
4. Learn the linguistic and cultural material in the text and course readings.
5. Complete units 1-6 in the required textbook.

CORE CURRICULUM GOALS:

GOAL 1: Students will be effective communicators in writing and orally
Student Learning Outcomes for Goal 1 of the Core Curriculum:
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 exercises. An oral exam at the end of the semester will test students' manual and verbal fluency in a level-appropriate manner.

GOAL 3: Students will be creators of new knowledge and expression
Student Learning Outcomes for Goal 3 of the Core Curriculum:
3. Students will create, perform, and produce work that synthesizes technical execution and expressively communicates to its audience.
In this course, students will create, perform and produce a full-length music video expressively communicating the mastered skill of American Sign Language.

NOTE: SYLLABUS AND COURSE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
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._

“The study of a language other than your own is invaluable in today’s globalized world. Study of a foreign language also helps you to better understand your own language as you draw comparisons about grammatical structures and etymology. In reaching at least high beginning proficiency, you will find yourself able to communicate basic information in uncomplicated situations, and/or to read uncomplicated texts in another language. Though you may not realize it until later, you will also achieve greater facility with your own language, and your empathy for others from different linguistic backgrounds will grow.”

**PRE-REQUISITES:** NONE

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

_VISTA, Signing Naturally, Level 1 Student Workbook and DVD_

Authors: Smith, Lentz, and Mikos

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:**

Attendance for every class is crucial! You are expected to attend _ALL_ classes and be on time. It is imperative that you participate in class activities and dialogues as requested by your instructor. Attending all classes and being on time helps you to keep on track in the course and shows respect to the instructor and other students as well.

Please review the attendance policy below:

1. First absence is excused.
2. Each additional absence (void of valid excuse/proof of absence) will result in a 10-point decrease from your attendance/participation grade.
3. Tardies are unacceptable. Two tardies equals one absence, which will result in a 10-point decrease from your attendance/participation grade.
4. Athletes: It is your responsibility to make sure that I have a hard copy of your season schedule. You must remind me the day before so your absence is marked as excused.

During class, it is expected that cell phones be turned off during class. Computer usage is not allowed in the classroom!

**TYPED ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. All assignments must be turned in class on the given due dates.
2. Late assignments will be deducted 10 points of the assignment grade for each class day late.
3. If you are scheduled to be absent due to games or emergency reasons, it is your responsibility to turn in your assignment _prior_ to your absence!

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TYPED ASSIGNMENTS REQUIREMENTS:

All typed assignments must meet the following guidelines:

1. A cover page must be provided. Do NOT put your name, date, or other information on the first page of text.
2. The first page of text must begin at the top of the paper. It must be a full-page length.
3. Bibliography information is to be included on a separate paper at the end of your paper.
5. Do not add extra spaces between paragraphs.

LANGUAGE USE:

It is customary in the Deaf community to show respect by using sign language in the presence of Deaf individuals. As it is of the objectives of this course for students to learn how to practice the norms and behaviors of the Deaf community, it is an expectation to do so while in class. Therefore, you will not use your voices while in class and stretch your skills by using other, more visual, means for communication; such as, signing, gesturing, pointing, body language, facial expressions, writing, drawing, etc.

Use of one’s voice during class time will be addressed in the following ways:
   1. First warning: Warning by the instructor during class.
   2. Second warning: Discussion with the instructor after class about student’s disregard for practicing Deaf behaviors.
   3. Third warning: Request to leave the remainder of the class for the day.
   4. Fourth warning: 5-point deduction from your attendance/participation grade.

UNIT 1-6 QUIZZES:

There are NO make-up quizzes. The instructor will sign the quizzes during class. There is a quiz for each unit, which is a total of 6 quizzes for the semester. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you are absent on the quiz day, that quiz will be dropped from your average. If you have already used the dropped quiz, and miss another quiz day, you will receive a zero on the quiz. Refer to course schedule for quiz days.

UNIT 1-6 EXPRESSIVE QUIZZES:

There are 6 expressive quizzes. The instructor will assign sentences for students to practice at home. The students must translate the English sentences into proper ASL Gloss. After the student has completed the ASL Gloss, the students must record themselves signing the sentences in ASL. The video must be submitted on Canvas.

Attire must be neutral and professional! No revealing clothing (tank-tops, muscle tops, etc.), no distracting designs or colors, and no jewelry. Failure to comply will result in a zero.

No make-ups! Refer to the course schedule for expressive quiz due dates.

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COMMUNITY EVENT AND REFLECTION PAPER:

You are required to attend **ONE** Deaf Community event. You must interact with the Deaf individual through ASL. After the event, you must type a two-page reflection paper. In the paper, you must include the event, date attended, and location. The reflection should be on what you learned, how you felt, a-ha moments, and et cetera. Please refrain from merely writing down what events took place.

Events must be in Cincinnati! Do not wait until the last minute, as events are limited! There will be NO EXTENSIONS! Refer to course schedule for due dates.

Check the announcements or calendar on the Hearing Speech & Deaf Center of Greater Cincinnati website at [www.hearingspeechdeaf.com](http://www.hearingspeechdeaf.com)

1) Click on "Community Services for the Deaf (CSD)" tab
2) Click on "CSD Weekly Updates" to see Deaf events

**Required** proof must be attached/stapled with the reflection paper. Here are some examples of proof:

1) Receipt of food bought at the silent dinner. Times and Dates must match!
2) Photograph of you at the location. The location must be clear for me to see.
3) Ticket of the event
4) Pamphlet or brochures
5) Please do not ask a deaf person for signatures!!!

ASL LIVE LAB:

During the first week, the instructor will hand out a yellow card and Live Lab schedule for you to keep. The live lab coordinator, Steve Phillips will stamp your card AFTER the lab session is completed. If the yellow card is lost, you will be required to start all over again. It is your responsibility to inform the instructor to get a new yellow card for you. After attending a total of 4 hours of lab, you must write a final reflection paper about your experience. Points for the lab will not be given if the final reflection paper is not turned in.

To receive full credit, you must attend 4 hours of lab. Each session is an hour long. Attendance is required. Refer to course schedule for due dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Hours</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>zero</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*IF YOU LOSE THE YELLOW CARD, YOU MUST OBTAIN ANOTHER YELLOW CARD FROM YOUR INSTRUCTOR. YOU WILL HAVE RE-DO ALL 4 LAB HOURS. STAMPS ON ANY OTHER PAPERS ASIDE FROM THE YELLOW CARD WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!*

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RESEARCH PAPER AND POWERPOINT PRESENTATION:

You will be required to do a research paper and presentation on a topic about Deafness given by your instructor. Upon completion of the research, you must discuss your findings in a formal paper. In the paper, you are to provide two perspectives, and explain the pros and cons regarding your topic. Bibliography must be included in your paper. After the paper is completed, you will be required to do a PowerPoint presentation regarding your research paper. The presentation will be presented in spoken English and will last 5 to 10 minutes long. An interpreter will be provided for the instructor to help facilitate communication. Please refer to the course schedule for due dates.

WORKBOOK/DVD:

You will be required to read assigned materials and complete Units 1-6 in the workbook. Workbook assignments must be completed prior to class. You will be expected to understand the material via DVD and workbook before class. Failure to complete the work and videotext exercise will greatly affect your grade and your ability to comprehend the material in class. You must bring your workbook with you to every class.

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.

More details will be provided in class. Refer to course schedule for date and time.

EMAIL RESPONSE TIME:

Instructors and students are expected to utilize the email system. There is a 48-hour weekday response time and a 72-hour weekend response time for emails. Students, as well as instructors, are expected to respond to emails by abiding by the above listed guidelines.

GRADING SYSTEM AND SCALE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Unit Quizzes (65x6 – drop lowest for total)</td>
<td>325 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Expressive Quizzes (10x6)</td>
<td>60 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Receptive Exam</td>
<td>150 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Expressive Exam</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper/Presentation</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Deaf Community Event &amp; paper</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASL Live Lab Hours (4 hours)</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf Forum/Discussion Paper</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>75 PTS</td>
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<td>TOTAL: 1,110 PTS</td>
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</table>

NOTE: SYLLABUS AND COURSE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>80 - 82.9</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>68 - 69.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 - 92.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>78 - 79.9</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>63 - 67.9</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88 - 89.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>73 - 77.9</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>60 - 62.9</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 - 87.9</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>70 - 72.9</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>62.4 - 0</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

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.

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.
COURSE SCHEDULE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Materials Covered</th>
<th>Important Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 24th – Sept. 2nd</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 1</td>
<td>Unit 1 Quiz on Sept. 2nd, Expressive 1 Quiz on Sept. 4th before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 7th – Sept. 23rd</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 2</td>
<td>Unit 2 Quiz on Sept 23rd, Expressive 2 Quiz on Sept 25th before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 28th – Oct. 7th</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 3</td>
<td>Unit 3 Quiz on Oct. 7th, Expressive 3 Quiz on Oct. 9th before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 12th – Oct. 21st</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 4</td>
<td>Unit 4 Quiz on Oct. 21st, Expressive 4 Quiz on Oct. 23rd before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 26th – Nov. 4th</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 5</td>
<td>Unit 5 Quiz on Nov. 4th, Expressive 5 Quiz on Nov. 6th before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9th – Nov. 18th</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 6</td>
<td>Unit 6 Quiz on Nov. 18th, Expressive 6 Quiz on Nov. 20th before 11:59pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25th – Nov. 29th</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Complete Research paper and prepare for presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 30th</td>
<td>Presentations in class</td>
<td>Research paper due in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 2nd – Dec. 7th</td>
<td>Review for Finals</td>
<td>Study for Receptive Final</td>
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<td>Practice Dialogues</td>
<td>Yellow Lab Card due on Dec. 7th</td>
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<td>Community Paper due in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 9th (Final Receptive)</td>
<td><em>Signing Naturally</em> Unit 1-6</td>
<td>Prepare for Dialogue videos</td>
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<td>Dec. 14th</td>
<td>Study Day: No class</td>
<td>Prepare for Dialogue videos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 16th</td>
<td>Dialogue video due on</td>
<td>Have a great break!</td>
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<td>Canvas before 11:59pm</td>
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Deaf Forum event and Discussion Paper due date: TBA

XAVIER’S IMPORTANT DATES:

Aug. 24th: Full-term classes begin
Aug. 30th: Last day for late registrations and adding classes
Sept. 7th: Labor Day Holiday, University closed
Sept. 9th: Classes from 11:00am-1:00pm are suspended for Spirit Celebration
Oct. 2nd: Deadline to submit application for graduation for Fall 2015 graduation
Oct. 8th and 9th: Fall Holiday, day classes do not meet, 4:00pm and after do meet
Nov. 23rd: Final Day for withdrawal from full-term classes for UG students
Nov. 25th – 29th: Thanksgiving Holiday, University closed
Dec. 11th: Last day of class
Dec. 14th: Study day, classes do not meet
Dec. 15th – 18th: Final Exam Week
Dec. 18th: Last day of Fall Semester

NOTE: SYLLABUS AND COURSE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.