ASLN 102-01 American Sign Language

Alphonse Nsumbu
nsumbuk@xavier.edu

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Instructor: ALPHONSE Kiombo Nsumbu
E-mail: nsumbuk@xavier.edu

Office Hours
Monday: 1:00pm-2:00pm; Wednesday/Thursday: By Appointment Only
705 SCHOTT HALL

REQUIRED TEXT:

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 Rule:
Use of voice in the classroom is strictly prohibited. You must abide by the rule. If you want to talk to the teacher or your fellow students, please use sign language. You are not allowed to use your cellular phone. Your device must be turned off before entering the classroom. If there is an emergency situation that requires you to use your phone, please excuse yourself from the classroom in order to do so. If you are reading text messages, you are missing class. Points will be reduced for using voice and cellphone in class.

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 ONE class. If you miss more then one class for whatever reason, points will be taken off from your attendance, 10 points for each additional absence. With excessive absences, you will automatically receive a failing grade for the entire course. Arriving late and/or leaving early are not accepted because they are disruptive to class. Two late arrivals/early departures will equal one absence. Doing so will result in your points being taken off.

Tests:
You will take 6 tests. Your lowest grade of the six will be dropped resulting in the final grade calculation that reflects the five high test scores. Each test is worth 50 points. There are no make-up tests

Homework Assignments:
You are required to read assigned materials and complete video workbook exercises (Units 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11). Workbook assignments MUST be completed prior to attending the class (see assignments due on class schedule). Late assignments will not be accepted.

Deaf Event:
You are to attend a Deaf event. You must interact with Deaf people. My recommendation is to attend a silent dinner at the mall held the 1st Friday of the month. You can also attend Deaf Coffee Chat at Starbucks coffee in Rookwood on the 3rd Saturday of the month. You must spend a minimum of 15 minutes conversing with a Deaf person. You MUST bring either a piece of paper signed by a Deaf person (not an interpreter) or take a picture of you with a Deaf person and bring it to class as proof of your attending the Deaf event. You will receive a zero for not bringing the signature or photo. After attending the event, write a 2 page typed report on the activity and turn it 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 and what happened during the experience. You may attend an event at your convenience; however, attendance and 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.

Deaf Lab:
You have the opportunity to work with Steve Philips in the Deaf lab on the XU campus. This is an important part of your understanding of how ASL is used. The lab is located on the 4th floor of CLC in room 403. You are required to attend 4 hours of Deaf Lab.

Final Project:
Your final project will be a video presentation. You are to google and find a famous Deaf person from the US. In your presentation, tell us about the person’s life. Be sure to give as much information as possible, such as where and when he/she was born, he/she was born deaf or hearing, how he/she became deaf, where and what school he/she attended, where he/she grew up, where she/he worked/works, how many brothers and sisters he/she has… etc. and end with current situation. You must sign a minimum of a 5 minute presentation in your video. Points will be reduced if your video is less than 5 minutes. You must submit your videos via canvas under the discussion section before or on the due date. No late submission will be accepted. Your performance will be graded based on appropriate inclusion of ASL sentence structure, ASL grammatical syntax, facial expressions, ASL parameters, vocabulary, fluency, and overall preparation.

Receptive Written Exam
Exam questions will be based on previous tests, cultural and linguistic information and class discussion. The professor will sign and students will write the answers.

COURSE EVALUATION
Deaf Event 50
Deaf Lab 100
Homework (5 @ 10) 50
Tests (5 @ 60) 300
Final project 150
Receptive Exam 150

TOTAL 800
Grading:

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ASL 102 Tentative Schedules

JULY 6    Introductions & Syllabus, Unit 7
JULY 8    Unit 7
JULY 9    Test 1, Unit 8, Homework Due PP.79-80
JULY 13   Unit 8
JULY 15   Test 2, Unit 9
JULY 16   Unit 9, Homework Due PP. 93-94
JULY 20   Unit 9
JULY 22   Test 3, Unit 10
JULY 23   Unit 10, Homework Due PP. 109-112
JULY 27   Unit 10
JULY 29   Test 4, Unit 11
JULY 30   Unit 11, Homework Due PP. 126-127
AUGUST 3  Unit 11
AUGUST 5  Test 5, Unit 12
AUGUST 6  Unit 12, Homework Due PP. 140-141
AUGUST 10 Deaf event Paper Due
AUGUST 12 Receptive Exam,
AUGUST 13 Final Project