2015

ASLN 101 American Sign Language

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LOCATION: CLC 406
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 polices 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 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.

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 into meaningful ASL, in both expressive and receptive communication modes.
4. Learn the linguistic and cultural material in the text and course readings.
5. Gain an understanding of Deaf culture in addition to basic language.
6. Complete Units 1 – 6 in Signing Naturally

CORE CURRICULUM GOALS:

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

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.
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:

7. 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: ASLN 101

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

VISTA, Signing Naturally, Level 1 Student Workbook and Videotext
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.

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2. Each additional 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. Also, it is your responsibility to remind me the day before your scheduled game so I can mark your following absence as excused.

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

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!
4. Assignments sent via email are not accepted.

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.

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.

Excessive 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.

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UNIT QUIZZES:

There are **NO** make-up quizzes. Due to the instructor signing the quizzes during class, it is impossible to make-up the missed quiz. There are 5 quizzes (Unit 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) for the semester. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. If you are absent on the test 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 test. Refer to schedule for test days. **500 PTS**

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 three-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. **100 PTS**

Events must be in Cincinnati! Do not wait until the last minute, as events are limited! There will be NO EXTENSIONS! Refer to 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**: A proof must be attached with the paper. Here are some examples:

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

**Please do not ask a deaf person for signatures!!!**

ASL LIVE LAB:

To receive full credit, you must attend 3 hours of lab. Attendance is required. Refer to ASL Lab schedule for due dates. Upon completion of the 3 lab hours, please submit a 3-page reflection paper sharing your thoughts and experiences in the lab during your 3 hours of lab time. Using first person is appropriate, as you should be speaking directly about your experiences during the 3 hours. Be sure to follow all typing requirements as stated in the syllabus. **(Lab Hours – 100 PTS; Reflection Paper – 25 PTS)**

- 3 lab hours = 100 points
- 2 lab hours = 66 points
- 1 lab hours = 33 points
- 0 hours = zero

**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!**

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.
The schedule for the labs is listed on the canvas. ALL labs will be held in CLC 403 (the language lab).

ALL labs held in CLC 403 will have a STRICT limit of 20 students allowed per session. This is not flexible. The reason for this firm limit is strictly due to the size of the room.

Students arriving later than 5 minutes to a lab session will not be permitted to enter. In order to receive the total points for each lab attended, students must arrive on time and must stay for the entire session.

Students are allowed to attend the lab associated with their level of class only. 101 students are to attend only 101 labs, 102 students are to attend specifically 102 labs and 201/202 students combine to attend one time. Students are not to attend labs outside of their class levels.

**RESEARCH PROJECT:**

You will be required to research a topic related to deafness and write a research paper on the chosen topic. The length of the research paper is to be a minimum of 4 typed pages, double-spaced.

Specific information regarding this project will be discussed in class. Please refer to syllabus schedule for dates of this project. More information will be provided on the Canvas and in class. 150 PTS

**RECEPTIVE FINAL EXAM:**

The receptive final exam will be focused on units 1 – 6 from *Signing Naturally* book and everything that was taught from the beginning of the semester. No make-ups! No exceptions. Refer to schedule for due dates. 100 PTS

**EXPRESSIVE FINAL EXAM:**

The expressive final exam will be focused on conversational ASL. The instructor will assign partners and provide a dialogue script for students. The students are responsible for the grammatical translation aspect and sign the dialogue script in ASL. No make-ups! No exceptions. Refer to schedule for due dates. 50 PTS

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GRADING SYSTEM AND SCALE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Unit Quizzes (100 x 5 - drop lowest for total)</td>
<td>400 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Deaf Community Event &amp; Reflection paper</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Hours</td>
<td>100 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab Reflection Paper</td>
<td>25 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>150 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (Receptive &amp; Expressive)</td>
<td>150 PTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>75 PTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL: 1,000 PTS</td>
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</tbody>
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GRADING SCALE:

- 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-
- 58-62.4 F

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.

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.

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.
### COURSE SCHEDULE:

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<tr>
<th>Units/Projects</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Materials Covered/Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>5/18</td>
<td>Fingerspelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fingerspelling</td>
<td>5/20</td>
<td>Numbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numbers</td>
<td>5/21</td>
<td>Unit One: Introducing Oneself</td>
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<td>Unit One</td>
<td>5/25 – No class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5/27</td>
<td>Unit Two: Exchanging Personal Information</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5/28</td>
<td>Unit Two Quiz: 5/28</td>
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<td>Unit Two</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Three</td>
<td>6/1</td>
<td>Unit Three: Talking About Surroundings</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6/3</td>
<td>Unit Three Quiz: 6/4</td>
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<td>6/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Four</td>
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<td>Unit Four: Telling Where You Live</td>
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<td>6/10</td>
<td>Unit Four Quiz: 6/11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6/11</td>
<td>Research Project due: 6/11</td>
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<td>Unit Five</td>
<td>6/15</td>
<td>Unit Five: Talking About Your Family</td>
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<td>6/17</td>
<td>Unit Five Quiz: 6/18</td>
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<td>6/18</td>
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<td>Unit Six</td>
<td>6/22</td>
<td>Unit Six: Telling About Activities</td>
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<td>6/24</td>
<td>Review Unit 1 – 6</td>
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<td>Deaf Community Event &amp; Reflection paper DUE: 6/22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (Receptive &amp; Expressive)</td>
<td>6/25</td>
<td>Units 1 – 6 (cumulative)</td>
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<td>Dialogue &amp; Course Evaluations</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LAB CARD/Reflection Paper DUE: 6/25</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FINAL EXAM: 6/25</td>
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### XAVIER’S IMPORTANT DATES:

- **May 18th:** First Day of Six-Week Session I
- **May 19th:** Last day in Six-Week Session I to elect audit to credit
- **May 25th:** Memorial Day Holiday; University closed
- **May 29th:** Make up day for M,W & M,W,R classes in Six-Week Session I (OPTIONAL)
- **June 15th:** Last day for Undergrads to withdraw from Six-Week Session I
- **June 26th:** Last day of Six-Week Session I

Note: Syllabus and Course Schedule is subject to change.