ASLN 102-04 American Sign Language

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Welcome to Xavier’s second 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 learned in ASLN 101. 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.
- Complete units 7 - 12 in required text.

Blackboard/email:
A) I submit all grades via the Blackboard 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. I also attach multiple items to your emails that you are required to print and bring to class. If you do not check your email you will miss information and required papers for class.

Course Requirements:

1) Attendance and participation:
A language requires practice and study; students are expected to attend all classes. You are expected to be on time to class. 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. 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 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 times. Therefore, missing a class will set you considerably behind. Please review the attendance policy below:

1) Your first absence is excused
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) 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 day before 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 15% 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 my mailbox in the Modern Languages office (906 Schott Hall) or send assignment with another student to class.

3) **Language use:**
The target language (ASL) must be used in class. No voice is allowed in class.

4) **Tests**
There are NO make-up tests. There are 6 tests (units 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12), 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 quiz dates.

5) **Community Activity:**
You are required to attend one event of the Deaf community. During the event, you **MUST** interact with the Deaf person. We will go through this interaction practice in my class so you will feel more comfortable. After attending the event, a 2 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, 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. Do not procrastinate! Specific information regarding the project, as well as options for community activities, will be provided in class.

A list of current local activities can be found on the website Deaftattletale.weebly.com. This website routinely updates local deaf activities.

6) **ASL Live Lab requirement**
In order to receive assigned points for the lab requirements, **you must attend 4 hours of the lab.** For Saturday class only, Laura Edwards will have a 30 minutes live lab at 9 am before the Saturday class starts at 9:30 am. You are to attend four of Laura’s live labs which will equal 2 hours of lab time. You can also attend two of Steve Phillips’ live labs session which will last for an hour. For the Tuesday and Thursday class only, you can go to four live lab sessions with Steve Phillips. You will also receive a yellow card from me during the first week of the term. The live lab coordinator, Steve Phillips will stamp your card **AFTER** you complete the live lab sessions. Please keep the yellow card with you at all the times. If you lose the yellow card, you will be required to start all over again. Please let me know if you lose your yellow card. I can give you a new one. Points for the lab will also not be given if the final reflection paper is not turned in. See the last page for the lab schedule.

100 points – attend 4 labs  
75 points – attend 3 labs  
50 points – attend 2 labs  
25 points – attend 1 lab  
0 points – attend 0 labs

**ALL labs, Monday - Thursday, regardless of time or section, will be held in CLC 403 (the language lab) ASIDE from all Sunday labs which will be held in CLC 406.**

**ALL labs held in CLC 403 will have a STRICT limit of 20 students allowed per session. This is not flexible. ALL Sunday labs will have a strict limit of 25 students. 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.

7) Project Deaf
You will be required to wear ear plugs in your ears for a 3 hour minimum. You must then go about your normal day, without the use of your voice for communication. Do not drive while you wear your ear plugs during this time. Upon the completion of the three hour experience, you must then discuss your experience into a formal paper. In this paper, you must specify the date, time and give detail explanation of your activities during the three hour period. You must then also express in your paper how the experience made you feel and any interesting insights gained during or after the experience. You must turn in the summary paper (minimum of 3 typed pages) to gain credit. Your activity during this experience will reflect your grade. Specific information regarding this project will be discussed in class. Please refer to syllabus calendar for dates of this project.

8) Expressive Videotape for exam:
You will be required to make a video based on children’s book storytelling, in a group with other students, for your final semester project. The video should be no less than 5 minutes and no more than ten minutes. I will grade your performance based on the use of gestures, vocabulary words learned from Unit 1-12, facial expressions, classifiers, and teamwork. Props are strongly encouraged. The video should be clear and easy to see. The view of your signs, gestures, facial expressions and teamwork should be in the video. If the video is too bright, too dark, too far, or too close to the video camera, it will affect your grade. You can save the video on the DVD disc or upload the video to YouTube. If you upload the video to YouTube, please provide the link of the YouTube video via e-mail. More information will be provided in class.

9) Workbook:
Read assigned material and complete video workbook exercises (units 7-12). Workbook assignments MUST be completed prior to attending the class (see homework explanation on class schedule). The expectation is that you become aware of the material, via your videotext and workbook, prior to each class. I will assume that you are familiar with signs that were assigned in the workbook for each class session. Failure to complete the workbook and videotext exercise will greatly affect your grade and your ability to understand the material. Please bring the workbook with you to each class.

10) Typing requirements:
All typed assignments must meet the following guidelines or points will be deducted:
A) Title page must be separate from text of paper. Do NOT put your name, date or other information on the first page of text. All information aside from body of paper is to be included on a separate cover sheet. The first page of text should begin at the top of the paper and be a full page length.
B) Bibliography information is to be included on a separate piece of paper to be included at the end of your paper. The bibliography and cover sheet are not included in the length requirements of the paper.
C) All papers are to be double spaced, 1 inch margins on all sides, 12 font, Times New Roman.
D) Do not add extra space between paragraphs.
E) I know the period tricks!

11) Deaf Forum Discussion Paper:
The date for our Deaf Forum will be announced soon. The forum will include members of the Deaf community discussing topics related to the Deaf culture. You MUST attend one of these sessions and participate in the discussion to get credit. We will have an interpreter present to help keep the communication flow smoothly. You will have an opportunity to give comments and ask questions through the microphone. Please do NOT plan any work arrangements or any events on that date. After attending one of the sessions, a 3-page paper must be turned in by the due date. You are to explain in detail what you learned from the discussion.

Course Evaluation:
6 in class test (unit 7 – 12) – 75 points each (drop lowest)= 450 points
Community activity - 75 point attendance of activity/25 points paper
ASL Live Lab – 100 point
Project deaf - 100 points
Deaf Forum Discussion Paper – 100 points
Attendance – 75 points
Children’s book Video – 125 points
Exam:
Final sign exam- 50 points
Final receptive exam - 150 points
Total:  1250 points

**Grading:**
Course grades are given according to the University grading system, including the use of +/- grades.

Grading:
A = 93 - 100%
A- = 90 – 92.9%
B+ = 88 - 89.9%
B = 83 – 87.9%
B- = 80 – 82.9%
C+ = 78 – 79.9%
C = 73 – 77.9%
C- = 70 – 72.9%
D+ = 68 – 69.9%
D = 63 – 67.9%
D- = 60 – 62.9%
62.4% and below = failing

**Spring 2014 Lab Schedule:**

1/22 Wednesday
5:00 – 6:00

1/26 Sunday
5:00 – 6:00

1/27 Monday
2:00 – 3:00

1/30 Thursday
7:00 – 8:00

2/4 Tuesday
5:00 – 6:00

2/ 5 Wednesday
2:00 – 3:00

2/6 Thursday
7:00 – 8:00

2/9 Sunday
6:00 – 7:00

2/11 Tuesday
6:00 – 7:00
2/13 Thursday
6:00 – 7:00
2/17 Monday
3:00 – 4:00
2/18 Tuesday
6:00 – 7:00
2/19 Wednesday
2:00 – 3:00
2/23 Sunday
6:00 – 7:00
2/25 Tuesday
5:00 – 6:00
2/26 Wednesday
3:00 – 4:00
3/10 Monday
6:00 – 7:00
3/11 Tuesday
1:00 – 2:00
3/12 Wednesday
5:00 – 6:00
3/17 Monday
6:00 – 7:00
3/19 Wednesday
6:00 – 7:00
3/20 Thursday
2:00 – 3:00
3/23 Sunday
5:00 – 6:00

3/25 Tuesday
1:00 – 2:00

3/26 Wednesday
6:00 – 7:00

3/27 Thursday
2:00 – 3:00

4/1 Tuesday
1:00 – 2:00

4/3 Thursday
2:00 – 3:00

4/7 Monday
6:00 – 7:00

4/8 Tuesday
1:00 – 2:00

4/9 Wednesday
6:00 – 7:00

4/13 Sunday
5:00 – 6:00

4/15 Tuesday
2:00 – 3:00

4/23 Wednesday
6:00 – 7:00

4/24 Thursday
2:00 – 3:00

4/27 Sunday – LAST LAB OF THE SEMESTER
6:00 – 7:00
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