

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

LENGTH OF COURSE: One year (10 Credits): 9, 10, 11, 12

PREREQUISITE(s): Complete function of at least one hand.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will teach basic signs, grammar, fingerspelling, and the cultural aspects of deafness. Students will learn basic communication as well as song signing. Total participation is mandatory in order to properly learn the language. Activities will include: students working in pairs or groups, role playing, skits, songs, and impromptu presentations. In addition to written homework, students are expected to study/practice the language outside the classroom on a daily basis. Students will also be required to complete a book report and attend one out-of-class function. This course may not be repeated for credit.

COURSE GOALS:

Students will:

1. Develop receptive skills.
2. Develop delivery skills.
3. Develop skills in reading the specialized written form of American Sign Language.
4. Develop skills in writing the specialized written form of American Sign Language.
5. Develop an understanding of the necessary structure basic to the American Sign

Language sentence.

6. Acquire a basic functional vocabulary in American Sign Language.
7. Become familiar with the Deaf culture.
8. Develop a fluent style of delivery, including a knowledge of all handshapes.
9. Demonstrate the use of critical-thinking skills throughout the course curriculum.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Reception - Students will:

1. Demonstrate good comprehension of a short passage, dialogue or conversation.
2. Describe the characters, situation and action after viewing a lecture.
3. Indicate accurate responses after viewing a video tape and question its contents.
4. Discriminate among the different handshapes of ASL.

Delivery - Students will:

5. Sign dialogues as naturally as possible, including hand shape, facial expression, and rhythm.
6. Answer questions that demonstrate comprehension of what is presented in the dialogue.

7. Sign a song.
8. Prepare and give a speech on a given topic.
9. Give an impromptu talk on a given topic.
10. Sign the finger alphabet fluently.
11. Participate effectively in class discussion and conversation, demonstrating the ability to initiate conversation and pose questions.
12. Prepare and conduct an interview with another student.
13. Talk about themselves using the grammatical structures and vocabulary of the basic passages in each chapter.

Reading - Students will:

14. Understand the written form of ASL, including all coded markers.
15. Given a written text, translate that into signing using all coded markers.
16. Identify correctly and incorrectly used coded markers given a set of circumstances.
17. Discriminate among similar coded markers of implied meaning.

Writing - Students will:

18. Write basic dialogues.
19. Write accurate dictations in coded ASL and conversational English translations.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:

Either of the following texts fit the course outline, but you can use your own material as long as the course outline is followed.

Signing Naturally, Dawn Sign Pr., 2001
ISBN: 1581210310

Learning ASL, Allyn and Bacon 2nd ed., 1994
ISBN: 0205275532

Preview copy available at Ceres Learning Center (must be viewed in center, no check out)