

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

- A. Department Information:
Division: Humanities
Department: Modern Languages
Course ID: ASL 109
Course Title: American Sign Language I
Units: 4
Lecture: 4 Hours
Laboratory: None
Prerequisite: None
- B. Catalog and Schedule Description: Develops communication skills in American Sign Language. Presents basic vocabulary and grammar of ASL with a review of the characteristics of the deaf community. Primary emphasis is on comprehension abilities.

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- A. Recognize and demonstrate signs for basic vocabulary of ASL;
- B. Recognize and demonstrate finger spelling in small words of 4-6 letters in length;
- C. Formulate and express in ASL simple responses to basic sentences;
- D. Describe basic information on history and tradition of deaf culture and deaf community;

IV. COURSE CONTENT:

- A. Vocabulary: Exposure to a targeted set of vocabulary items
1. Pronouns
 - a) Personal
 - b) Possessive
 2. Nouns
 3. Verbs
 - a) Present tense
 - b) Past tense
 - c) Future tense
 4. Adjectives
 5. Numbers
- B. Finger spelling and comprehension
1. Letters of alphabet
 2. Words up to 4-6 letters in length
- C. Formulate and express sentence structure
1. With identifying nouns
 2. With verbs
 3. With pronouns and nouns
 4. With adjectives and nouns
- D. Questions: Yes/No questions
- E. Imperatives
- F. Conversational Skills
1. Mastery of target conversation-facilitating behaviors
 2. Mastery of target conversation-regulating behaviors
 3. Ability to initiate, conduct and terminate a short context-specific conversation
 4. Mastery of comprehending vocabulary items
 5. Readiness for acquiring ASL with emphasis on the eyes and the body

- G. Deaf culture
 - 1. History of ASL
 - 2. Deaf community

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Instructor demonstration/student imitation
- B. Instructor question/student response
- C. Small group participation
- D. Students will be exposed to short dialogues, narratives and stories directed by the teacher
- E. Presentation of AV materials for additional culturally correct models of American Sign Language.

VI. TYPICAL OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Dialogue in American Sign Language with a classmate
- B. Videotape your daily routine
- C. Student will attend at least one social function at which members of the Deaf community are present

VII. EVALUATION(S):

- A. Methods of evaluation
 - 1. Objective tests (ASL comprehension): Typical questions: Circle correct one of the finger spelling you see demonstrated
 - 2. ASL Production: Typical questions: (1) Tell the class what you did last Saturday
- B. Frequency of Evaluation
 - 1. Four objective tests
 - 2. Two signed presentations per semester
 - 3. One final comprehensive exam

VIII. TYPICAL TEXT(S):

- A. Humphries, Tom; Padden, Carol. Learning American Sign Language, Pearson Education, Inc. 2004.
- B. Chambers, Diane P. Communicating in Sign: Creative Ways to Learn American Sign Language. Fireside Books, 1998
- C. Smith, Cheri, Lentz, Ella Mae, Mikos, Ken. Signing Naturally. Vista. 2002.
- D. Humphries, Tom; Padden, Carol. A Basic Course in American Sign Language, Pearson Education, Inc. 1994.

IX. OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: None