



The University of Texas at San Antonio

College of Education and Human Development Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching ASL 1023 American Sign Language: Basic II

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Catalog Course Description: 3 hours credit

A study of American Sign Language, including basic concepts and sign lexicon. Grammatical features, including structure of American Sign Language (ASL) will be stressed. Each student will be expected to demonstrate to the instructor basic expressive and receptive ASL skills and demonstrate in writing the basic knowledge of ASL grammar rules.

Mission

The mission of the department of ILT is to foster the intellectual and professional growth and integrity of students and faculty through critical reflection and dialogue, civic responsibility, and leadership. This mission will be accomplished by nurturing a community of interdisciplinary learners who:

- Promote excellence in academic and pedagogical knowledge and research
- Engage in reflective practice
- Embody a strong professional identity and can articulate their philosophies and values
- Value diversity and multiple perspectives
- Promote equality and social justice
- Advocate for educational change and reform

Goals

The department of ILT will create a context that nurtures interdisciplinary learners who:

- Acquire and demonstrate content and discipline knowledge
- Demonstrate an awareness and acknowledgement of and engagement in research-based, Reflective, culturally responsive practices
- Are producers, disseminators, and critical consumers of research
- Demonstrate an awareness and acknowledgment of and engagement in social justice
- And equitable practices
- Articulate their professional philosophy and demonstrate a strong professional identity.

Textbooks:

- Required:
1. *Signing Naturally I, Videotext and Workbook*, by Smith, Lenz and Mikos
 2. ASL 1023 Course packet, available only in UTSA bookstore
 3. ASL 1013 Videotape of Presentations, if lab was not used

Recommended: *A Basic Course in American Sign Language*, by Humphries, Padden and O'Rourke

Optional: *American Sign Language Concise Dictionary*, by M. L. A. Sternberg

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to recognize fingerspelled words and names.
2. Students will increase their ASL vocabulary to approximately 900 signs.
3. Students will be able to recognize specific properties and linguistic elements of ASL, such as handshape, location, movement, and simultaneous production.
4. Students will become aware of journals, publications and organizations related to the Deaf population.
5. Students will learn basic protocol in communicating with Deaf individuals, including personal interactions, use of telecommunications devices (TTY), Relay Texas, Video Relay Service and other technology related to the Deaf culture.
6. Students will meet and communicate with Deaf people in different cultural or community events during (15) hours of interaction with the Deaf community.

Policy and Procedures: Students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct and attire during class sessions (see Fitness to Teach policy document located in the Department web site). All cell phones and beepers must be turned off during class periods unless prior permission has been given by the instructor. In addition, in the ASL classes, if you must leave the room, do so in a manner that is least disturbing to the class. It is appropriate in the Deaf culture to explain to the class/teacher why you are leaving and when you will return.

No electronic recording of lectures or class sessions may be done without the prior permission of the instructor. No eating, drinking or smoking is allowed in UTSA classrooms and laboratories (Ad. Memorandum No. 54).

Disability Services (DS) coordinates support services and equipment for students with disabilities. Its goal is to help qualified students participate as fully as possible to university life. Some of the services and equipment available include registration assistance, note-taking, test accommodations, TTY, motorized scooters, adaptive computers, CCTVs, and a Braille computer.

Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services located in MS 2.03.18, telephone 458-4157 (TTY 458-4981), or Downtown FS 1.526, 458-2816, in order to receive support services.

Scholastic Dishonesty: Students are expected to be above reproach in scholastic activities. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. According to the Regents' Rules and Regulations, part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22, "Scholastic Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or part to another person, taking an exam for another person, and act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

In addition to the above university policy, the American Sign Language classes are conducted WITHOUT the use of voice. It is expected that all students maintain “a signing atmosphere”. This means that there should be no voicing, whispering, or mumbling in the classroom during the duration of the course. Consequences for violation of this requirement will be determined by the instructor and the Coordinator of the ASL program. During the course, there may be monitoring of the class by outside students, other faculty, and/or other hearing people. Maintain class integrity by keeping all translations to yourself. Do not voice to “help” others understand.

Honor Pledge and Honor Statement: As encouraged by the Honors Alliance, students are asked to turn in a typed statement stating:

“On my honor, as a student at the University of Texas at San Antonio, I will uphold the highest standard of academic integrity and personal accountability for the advancement of the dignity and the reputation of our university and myself.”

The above statement will be turned in and graded. The statement is due on or before the third class meeting after the syllabus is issued or a zero will be issued on the Participation assignment. In addition to the above statement all turned in and graded assignments must include the following statement:

“I, _____ (first and last name), certify that I have upheld the highest standards of academic integrity on this assignment and that all work presented here is solely my own.”

You may copy and paste the above statement to your work turned in. Include it on all work. Failure to include the above statement on turned in work (Videotext worksheets, Presentation translations, and Contact hour reports) may result in a deduction of up to 5 points on the assignment.

Attendance policy: If you are aware that you will be absent, you must contact the instructor in some form before class time that day or a zero may be issued and averaged in the Participation (fingerspelling/grammar quizzes, daily assignment grade, etc.) grade. You are responsible for learning any material that you miss. Each lesson builds on previous lessons. You will have a fingerspelling/grammar quiz daily expect test/presentation classes. If you contact the instructor before class time, the missed quizzes won’t be counted against your grade. If you are late, the missed quizzes won’t be averaged with the other quizzes. If you are absent on a presentation/test day, you will receive a zero for those grades. And then next test/presentation done will be counted twice. If you have to miss a written test, the instructor may opt that you take it before the exam date during office hours. This is at the instructor’s discretion.

Student Evaluation:

1. Participation and Field Experiences, Signing Naturally Workbook homework-10% of final grade. Please maintain a “signing environment” keep translations to yourself, attempt to comment/ask questions in ASL, and be patient with yourself and others. Limit the use of voice. Your participation in the class is crucial for you to learn ASL. It is suggested to practice outside of class for at least one hour daily.

You will need to interact with the Deaf community for a total of ten (10) hours during the semester. There is a limitation of four (4) hours at any one activity. From time to time, I will give you the

information about activities going on in San Antonio by now you should have your own contacts and the ability to find events.

Use the Web page, internet, and make friends. This will lead you to more Deaf interaction. Deaf interaction reports should be typed and approximately one page long on each experience. Reports should include a brief summary of the interaction, including your insights, feelings, observations, names of people you met, and any question you may have. Please note that a “Deaf activity” is one that is planned, organized and run by the Deaf community and the majority of participants are Deaf. If you have the opportunity to interact with deaf people outside an organized activity, these hours will only count as extra credit and graded in groups of five hours. Seize the opportunity to converse with the Deaf any time you are able. Your education will be enhanced every time you have the chance to sign with the Deaf.

Grading for Interaction Hours:	10 hours	100
	9 hours	94
	8 hours	88
	7 hours	82
	6 hours	76 etc.

Your Fingerspelling/Grammar quizzes average, Deaf interaction grade and any workbook checks or daily grades average are added together and divided to make your Participation grade.

2. Research Project-10% of the final grade. You will be assigned one research project this semester. Your assignment is to choose any one area of an interest to you related to this class. Topics may include but are not limited to:

1. American Sign Language
2. Causes of Hearing Loss
3. Deaf Culture
4. Deaf children of Hearing parents
5. Hearing children of Deaf parents
6. ASL History

You may find a variety of choices in the American Annals of the Deaf and other publications. The internet has rich information on various issues of Deafness. The paper must be typed, double-spaced and contain no less than four sources. Only two sources from the internet are allowed. It must be at least five pages long and have both a cover and bibliography. This paper will be condensed and signed in class for a 4 min. presentation. You may use any type of visual aids such as PowerPoint, posters, etc. The written Research Paper is 10% of the course grade and stands alone. The signed portion is averaged in the Expressive portion of the course.

3. Videotext Questions-10% of final grade. You will be given questions to answer from your videotape/DVD. The questions will be from conversations on the videotape/DVD. The worksheets are found in your student packet. Please feel free to ask for help from classmates if you do not understand particular part of the conversation. These worksheets can be a great study tool while forming study groups.

4. Expressive Presentations-20% of final grade. You will have four expressive presentations. These will be signed in class/lab and will be timed. In addition to the practice you get with expressive signing, it is a wonderful opportunity to self-check your comprehension receptively as other students sign.

Presentation 1: Units 1-8 (focus on Units 7,8)

Presentation 2: Units 1-10 (focus on Units 9, 10)

Research Project

Presentation 3: Units 1-12 (focus on Units 11, 12)

5. Unit Tests-30% of final grade. Tests are cumulative and there will be no make-up tests given. There will be receptive and expressive types of tests. Your task will be to comprehend receptively ASL and be able to write down your comprehension in various ways. You will also be asked to show your competence in expressive signing by signing with others in a controlled setting. In addition, you are responsible for information from the SN text and other materials used throughout the course. Some portions of the test may be written. It is required that you use correct grammar, spelling and punctuation in all written work.

6. Creative Assignment-20% of final grade. A song, poem, or children's story will be interpreted in ASL. Examples will be shown to you sometime before the due date so that you can get a better understanding of what is expected out of you. You can use a PowerPoint presentation or other visual aids for the presentations. This assignment will be performed during the final exam slot in class/lab.

7. Course evaluation/grading: The following grade scale will be in effect for this semester:

A=90% to 100%

B=80% to 89%

C=70% to 79%

D=60% to 69%

F= Below 59%

Course Outline
Fall 2007

Jan. 14	Introductions and discussion of the syllabus; Unit 7
Jan. 28	Unit 7 videotext due, work some more on Unit 7, start Unit 8
Feb. 4	Finish Unit 8, Unit 8 videotext due; fingerspelling quiz, Honor Statement Due
Feb. 11	Units 7 and 8 Test; Presentation
Feb. 18	Start Unit 9; fingerspelling quiz
Feb. 25	Videotext Unit 9 due; start Unit 10; fingerspelling quiz
March 3	Unit 10 videotext due; Finish Unit 10; Interactive Test
March 10	Units 9 and 10 Test; Presentation 2
March 17	Spring Break
March 24	Research Paper Presentations
March 31	Start Unit 11; fingerspelling quizzes
April 7	Unit 11 videotext due; start Unit 12; fingerspelling quiz
April 14	Units 11 and 12 Test; Presentation 3
April 21	Cumulative Review
April 28	No class
Dec. 5	Final: Creative Presentation