

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

SIGN 1 - American Sign Language 1

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level II; English Level II

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course is a beginner's study of the fundamental principles, structure, and receptive and expressive vocabulary of American Sign Language (ASL). This course incorporates the skill of Fingerspelling as an essential part of ASL. It focuses on the acquisition of ASL and provides opportunities for learning the idiomatic Language of Deaf Americans. Study of the culture and history of the American Deaf community will be infused throughout the curriculum.

II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Demonstrate both receptive and expressive nonverbal communication technique of Fingerspelling using the ASL Manual Alphabet.
- B. Demonstrate grammar, structure and vocabulary of ASL at an introductory level.
- C. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the various manual communication systems used in America.
- D. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the history and culture of the American Deaf community.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Critical discussions of the Deaf culture and community will be woven throughout the course.

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. ASL Manual Alphabet, Fingerspelling, Sign Language Continuum	3.00
2. Fingerspelling Video, learning techniques and Practice	3.00
3. ASL Pronouns, Cardinal Numbers, Hearing Loss	3.00
4. ASL Strategies, one and two handed Signs, ASL grammar	6.00
5. Self Introductions, Colors, Noun/Verb Agreements	3.00
6. The Deaf Community, ASL Sentence Types	3.00
7. Introduction to Deaf history and Culture, ASL Question Types	6.00
8. Deaf Cultural Etiquette, Exchanging Personal Information in ASL	3.00
9. Cultural Review of "Through Deaf Eyes"	3.00
10. Gallaudet University, ASL historical development, Personal Descriptions	3.00
11. Commands, Ordinal Numbers, Spatial Agreement	3.00
12. Time, Compound Signs, Loan Signs, Family Signs	3.00
13. Person Designation, Sequencing Activities, Deaf Folklore	3.00
14. Introduction to Pidgin Signed English, Manually Coded English	3.00
15. Storytelling, Contributions to Society by the Deaf Community	3.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Multimedia Presentations
- D. Lecture (ASL, Spoken English, Overhead Text, Visuals)
- E. Textbook Exercises
- F. Signing partners and group study sessions opportunities

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Quizzes
- B. Homework
- C. Class participation
- D. Mid-term and final examinations

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read the Article, "The Deaf Community and the Culture of Deaf People" by Carol Padden from this week's handout. Write a two page informal essay in which you identify and comment on specific cultural markers and you discuss the main ideas of the article.
 - 2. Read the article on Regina Olson Hughes in your textbook. Outline the main points of Hughes' article. Be prepared to discuss the article in class.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Write a one page response to the lesson on Deaf Cultural Etiquette. Evaluate and discuss how Deaf Cultural Etiquette is reflected in the previous articles we have read and how it differs from your own cultural etiquette.
 - 2. Complete the textbook homework exercises on ordinal numbers and spatial agreement with your Signing partner. Write a one page description of the challenges you found in this communication.
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Prepare a signed presentation incorporating vocabulary and grammar from each unit.
 - 2. Watch ASL Conversations 1 and 2 from the Unit 2 DVD. Review the vocabulary. Practice the new signs presented.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Costello, Elaine. Concise American Sign Language Dictionary. Random House Webster's, 2002.
- B. Smith, Lentz, and Mikos. Signing Naturally. Student Workbook. Units 1-6. Dawn Sign Press, 2008.
- C. Groode, Joyce. Fingerspelling. Expressive and Receptive Fluency. A Video Guide. Dawn Pictures, Dawn Sign Press, 1992.

Materials Other Than Textbooks:

- A. Through Deaf Eyes. DVD, produced by WETA, Washington D.C. in association with Gallaudet University, Distributed by PBS Home Video, 2007.