

American Sign Language 1, Semester 1

Learning Outcomes

In this course, you will

- Learn and use basic vocabulary.
- Learn and use basic grammar.
- Carry out simple dialogues in ASL, using expanded conversation techniques.
- Demonstrate understanding of aspects of Deaf culture.

Course Materials

All of the materials you need are included in this course.

Technical Considerations

This course functions best in a web browser other than Internet Explorer. If you only have Internet Explorer, you can download other browsers (e.g., Firefox, Safari, etc.) for free online.

Course Organization

Each unit starts with an overview of the dialogue you'll be studying and practicing. You'll learn about the dialogue, read it in English, break it down into individual signs and sentences, and then explore it as a complete dialogue in ASL. You'll also learn something about Deaf culture in every unit. This process helps take you through learning step by step, starting with your understanding in English and ultimately leading to your understanding in the target language (ASL). Just like scaffolding builds upon the layers below it, this course will continue building on what you already know, which then helps support you as you continue to learn more! In addition to the daily lesson content, every unit has a unit signing appointment and a unit quiz to test your mastery of the unit content.

Other Resources

In your course under Course Resources, you will find a student discussion board, course wiki, expansive dictionary, and other useful helps. The discussion board is designed for students to connect, discuss course-related matters, and share ideas with each other. The wiki is designed for the instructor to post information that may provide enrichment or to post relevant information for the course.

Assignments

Unit Quizzes

There is a quiz at the end of every unit. The quizzes are comprehensive and include videos that test vocabulary and concepts taught in the current unit, as well as cultural information presented in that unit. As every unit builds upon the last, it is important to continue practicing and revisiting vocabulary, grammar, and other concepts throughout your journey learning ASL. You are allowed to retake your

quizzes one time, with no penalty. The highest score will count toward your final grade. Quizzes make up 30 percent of your final grade.

Expressive Tasks and Signing Reflections

This course has a number of Expressive Tasks, requiring students to video record themselves signing. This is an important element of learning ASL, so please do NOT skip these assignments. Each unit also has a Signing Reflection, which is a written response to questions about Deaf Culture and ASL Grammar.

Exams

There are two parts to the final exam: a final expressive task and a final written exam. Your final expressive task will be in the same format as the others you've had in the course and must be completed before you request your written exam.

The written final exam is a proctored test that will cover the same material found in your quizzes and the cultural information. There is no time limit. If you study the course material, the assignments, and the Final Exam Preparation section in your course, you should be adequately prepared for the test. The final exam, both parts combined, is worth 30 percent of your final grade.