

What You Should Already Know

You should have completed one year of ASL prior to taking this course. There are no other prerequisites.

Learning Outcomes

In this course, you will

- Learn and use intermediate vocabulary.
- Learn and use intermediate grammar.
- Carry out dialogues in ASL, using simple sentences.
- Demonstrate understanding of aspects of Deaf culture.

Course Materials

- There is no external textbook for this course.
- A webcam is necessary to complete required expressive tasks. A headset/mic and speakers will also be helpful, but are not required.
- For optimal connection speeds during expressive tasks, it is recommended that you use a hard-wired, high-speed Internet connection.

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 signing appointment and a unit quiz to test your mastery of the unit content.

Course Orientation

This course also includes a course orientation video. **You must complete the orientation quiz before continuing in the course.** More information is available on the Orientation Quiz page.

Assignments

Self Checks

There are Unit Self Checks in the middle of each unit intended to help you review the material covered in that unit. Self Checks are designed to be taken over and over as many times as you wish, to help you gain greater mastery of the concepts or skills being tested. If you find that you do not know or are not certain about an answer, go back to the unit material and reread the section pertaining to that question. These self-checks do not count toward your final grade.

Quizzes

There is a quiz at the end of every unit, for a total of 10 quizzes. They are comprehensive and include videos that test vocabulary and concepts taught in the current unit, as well as the units leading up to the current 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 quiz one time, with no penalty. The highest score will count toward your final grade. Quizzes make up 30% of your final grade.

Expressive Tasks, Signing Reflections, and Presentations

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.

Presentations: You will prepare two stories based on picture prompts during this course. You need to submit your video recording of your ASL story during units 6 and 9. There is also a story portion in the Final Exam Expressive Task.

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.

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.

Exams

There are two parts to the final exam: a final expressive task and a proctored 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. 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.