

ASL-1010: BEGINNING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: ASL-1010 : Beginning American Sign Language I

Board of Trustees:

October 2024

Academic Term:

Fall 2025

Subject Code

ASL - American Sign Language

Course Number:

1010

Title:

Beginning American Sign Language I

Catalog Description:

First in two-course sequence. Introduction to American Sign Language (ASL) and its history with emphasis on basic communication skills, focusing on principles of ASL grammar, body language, and facial expressions. Practice in expressive and receptive skills.

Credit Hour(s):

4

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Lab Hour(s):

3

Other Hour(s):

0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

None.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Converse at a basic level expressively and receptively using simple ASL grammatical structures that are influenced by the French language and Deaf Culture.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Cultural Sensitivity: Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States.

Objective(s):

1. Demonstrate proficiency in fingerspelling the American Sign Language (ASL) alphabet.
2. Use appropriate facial expressions and non-manual signals to convey meaning in ASL.
3. Identify and apply basic ASL grammar rules, including word order and sentence structure.
4. Engage in simple conversations and exchanges using basic ASL vocabulary related to everyday topics such as greetings, introductions, family, and activities.
5. Interpret and produce simple ASL sentences and questions, including yes/no questions and wh-questions.
6. Identify and use common ASL classifiers and spatial referencing techniques to describe objects, locations, and movements.
7. Recognize and produce ASL numbers, time expressions, and basic spatial relationships.
8. Demonstrate cultural awareness and sensitivity by understanding basic etiquette and norms within the Deaf community.

9. Develop receptive skills by understanding and responding appropriately to simple ASL conversations and narratives.
 10. Apply ASL skills at a beginning level outside of the classroom, such as in interactions with Deaf individuals or through media resources.
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Methods of Evaluation:

1. Objective and subjective written and signed tests.
2. Class projects including written reports of video recordings observations.
3. Quizzes.
4. Observation of students' signed assignments/exercises both expressive and receptive. Signed assignments will include: a pantomime and original story and may also include other signed assignments as determined appropriate by the instructor.
5. Labs - video recordings of students expressing objectives in ASL.

Course Content Outline:

1. Language-related:
 - a. Sentence Types:
 - i. Yes/No Questions
 - ii. Wh-Questions
 - iii. Statements
 - iv. Negation
 - b. Topicalization
 - c. Non-Manual Markers (NMM)
 - d. Fingerspelling
 - e. Directional Verbs
 - f. Numbers:
 - i. Cardinal
 - ii. Ordinal
 - iii. Numbers 1-100
 - g. Present and Non-Present Referents
 - h. Classifiers
 - i. Pronouns
 - j. Contrastive Structure
 - k. Tense Indicators
2. Tasks
 - a. Introducing oneself
 - b. Exchanging personal information
 - c. Discussing Living Situations
 - d. Expressing likes/dislikes and opinions
 - e. Discussing schedules and activities in the past, present, and future
 - f. Discussing future plans
 - g. Telling time and using other numbers accurately in ASL
 - h. Exchanging information about family, friends, and relationships
 - i. Describing oneself and others
 - j. Making commands and requests
3. Vocabulary
 - a. Useful signs to know
 - b. Family and relationships
 - c. Descriptions and classifiers
 - d. Everyday Activities
 - e. Core vocabulary of approximately 500 words and signs
4. Deaf Culture
 - a. Learn culturally appropriate behavior:
 - i. Voice-off environment
 - ii. Getting someone's attention
 - b. Become aware of visual environment considerations:

- i. Sightlines
- ii. Eye contact
- iii. Negotiating a signing environment
- c. Be introduced to the history of American Sign Language
- d. Discuss and explore the Deaf culture of the United States of America

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

Resources for the Instructor

Gannon, Jack R. *Deaf Heritage--A Narrative History of Deaf America*. Silver Spring, MD: National Association of the Deaf, 1981.

Klima, Edward and Ursula Bellugi. *The Signs of Language*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1979.

Lucas, Ceil, ed. *The Sociolinguistics of the Deaf Community*. San Diego: Academic Press, 1989.

Valli, Clayton and Ceil Lucas. *Linguistics of American Sign Language: A Resource Text for ASL Users*. Washington, D.C.: Gallaudet University Press, 1992.

Walker, Lou Ann. *A Loss for Words: The Story of Deafness in a Family*. New York: Harper Row, 1986.

Smith, Cheri, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos. *Signing Naturally Units 1-6*. DawnSign Press, San Diego, CA, 2008.

Humphries, Tom, Carol Padden, and Terrence O'Rourke. *A Basic Course in American Sign Language*. 2nd ed. T.J. Publishers, Carrollton, TX, 1980.

Grayson, Gabriel. *Talking with Your Hands: Listen With Your Eyes*. Garden City Park, NY: Square One Publishers, 2003.

Quintana, Federico . *A.S.L. Yes!*. 2023.

Stewart, David and Stewart, Jennifer. *American Sign Language: A Comprehensive Guide to ASL 1 and 2*. Barrons Educational Services, 2021.

Barlow, Rochelle. *American Sign Language Workbook: Exercises to Build Your Signing Vocabulary*. Rockridge Press, 2020.

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Transfer Assurance Guide OFL025, and OFL029 (1 of 2 courses, both must be taken)

Top of page

Key: 184