

Course Title: American Sign Language I
Instructor: Mr. Danny Sellick

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce students to American Sign Language (ASL): the visual-gestural language of the deaf. It will incorporate non-verbal communication techniques, basic vocabulary, grammar and conversational skills. In addition, students will gain an understanding of the deaf community- its history, culture and values.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to handle interruptions and resume conversations, control conversational pace, provide feedback, and open and close conversations through small group exercises and instructor-led dialogues
- Develop and use a conversational vocabulary to discuss family, occupations, daily routines, attribute qualities, describe physical surroundings, make simple requests and to discuss quantities
- Develop and use a conversation vocabulary to make suggestions, more complex requests, and complaints; to express concern and opinions; to ask for clarification; to relate life events
- Develop and use a conversational vocabulary to explain rules, to discuss health conditions, finances and discuss major life decision
- Recognize and use idiomatic expressions, loan signs ,and both citation and conversational forms of sign production
- Recognize and utilize appropriate conversational and storytelling register
- Recognize and utilize appropriate facial grammatical facial markers for sentence types, negations, commands, topic focus; and both pronominal classifiers, and size and shape specifiers
- Recognize and utilize topic-comment structure, temporal aspect, verb inflection, conditional sentences, possessive form, contrastive structure and adverbial facial markers
- Recognize and utilizes role-shifting, maintaining special agreement, sequencing classifiers, and organizing information

REQUIRED TEXT:

Lentz, Ella Mae; Mikos, Kenneth; and Smith, Cheri. **Signing Naturally**, Student Workbook & Videotape/DVD - Level 1, Berkeley, CA. (1998), Dawn Sign Press.

GRADING:

Homework.....	10%
Reaction Paper.....	10%
Quizzes	20%
Midterm	25%
Final	35%