

XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Department of Modern Languages
American Sign Language ASLN 101
Fall 2009 Saturday Morning, 8:30 – 12:00
Tutoring Saturday Mornings 8:00 – 8:30

Instructors: Richard Miller, M. Min RRM0913@aol.com
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Phone: Department of Modern Languages 745-3464 (phone messages will be picked up after class each week). In case of emergency, phone number is Richard Miller 513-922-0699

Office Hours: by appointment, usually before or after class. Tutoring offered every Saturday morning, ½ hour before class. Other tutoring times will be offered weekly by the TA. You are welcome to join the Wednesday 4:00 class for review, practice or to help if you missed a class.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description Welcome to Xavier's first level course in the visual gestural language of ASL! This course is designed to offer a further overview of linguistic and sociolinguistic information regarding ASL while advancing communication skills in this language and cultural awareness of the Deaf Community. All lessons are presented in ASL with little or no voicing.

REQUIRED TEXT: VISTA Signing Naturally Student Workbook and Videotext by Smith, Lentz and Mikos. (1988) Dawn Sign Press.

A sign language dictionary would be helpful, but is not required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: *Students who satisfactorily complete this course will*

1. Develop use of and expand their knowledge of additional signs in context..
2. Develop finger spelling and number sign skills.
3. Combine signs, numbers and finger spelling in meaningful ASL in both the expressive and receptive communication modes.
4. Learn the linguistic and cultural material in the text and library readings.
5. Communicate comfortably through ASL with teacher, classmates, and deaf people in a variety of settings.

COURSE OUTLINE

** We are allowed 2 Sunday class meeting each 8 week term. Language classes are 16 weeks. Keep in mind that two additional Sunday classes may be added with advance notice.

Aug 16(Sun) Welcome. Introductions, expectations. Begin unit 1

Aug 22 Complete unit 1. Quiz unit 1.

Aug 29 Begin unit 2.

Sept 5 Complete unit 2. Quiz unit 2.

Sep 12 Begin unit 3.

Sep 19 Complete unit 3. Quiz unit 3.

Sep 26 Begin unit 4.

Oct 3 Complete unit 4.

Oct 10 Quiz unit 4. Begin Unit 5. Typed article paper due.

Oct 11(Sun) Review

Oct 17 Complete unit 5. Discuss articles.

Oct 24 Quiz 5. Begin Unit 6.

Oct 31 Complete unit 6. Typed community activity paper due. Discuss activities.

Nov 7 Cumulative review. Deaf lab hours/paper due.

Nov 8(Sun) Final Exam - Expressive video due.
Continue Cumulative Review.

Nov 14 Final Receptive Exam.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and participation:

A language requires practice and study. Students are expected to attend all classes. Missing one Saturday (or Sunday) class is the same as missing an entire week of instruction. All assignments must be handed to the instructor on the due dates. Late assignments will be penalized 5 points if they are not turned in during class, and for every week late. Students are expected to respect this language and culture. Enjoy the silence and the experience! Unnecessary voicing in class will result in points lost.

Deaf Lab:

You will have the opportunity to work with Deaf people in the Deaf lab on the XU campus. You will communicate using ASL with a native signer. This is an important part of your understanding of how ASL is used. *More information with lab times and location to follow.* You are required to attend 5 hours of Deaf Lab. A one page typed paper is due at the end of the term.

Attending the 8:00 tutoring sessions before class on Saturdays will also account for your lab hours - you must attend for the entire 30 minutes. You may use a combination of the two opportunities to acquire the 5 hour total.

Community Activities:

You are to attend one activity in the Deaf Community. You should interact with the Deaf people. Please type one half page, not to exceed one page reflection about the event. Include your reaction, your ease of communication with the Deaf people and their ease of communication with you, and anything you find significant. Attach the signature of a Deaf person, not an interpreter. You will be updated weekly on events. If you have an idea for an activity that is not listed, please discuss it with the instructors beforehand. You should call the church to verify that there will be an interpreted service.

Journal Article Review:

Select a current journal article pertaining to deafness, Deaf culture, ASL, Deaf Education, interpreting etc... This article should be related to your program of study, or pertain to your life in some way. Give your opinion and summary of the article in a one page typed summary. You will present a summary of the article and your reaction. Summaries must include the author, article title, journal title, publisher publication date, volume and page numbers.

Expressive Videotaping:

A portion of your expressive exam will be on video tape. You will work with a partner from class and video tape yourselves. This is designed to evaluate your expressive skills on the structures and vocabulary from each unit. You will get more details on this project. You should record on a standard VHS videotape or on DVD. Please make sure you can make it work in a standard VHS player or DVD player. These will be shown and evaluated as a class. The Audiovisual Lab in the basement of Alter Hall has video cameras available for use, though a time must be reserved.

Assignments:

Read assigned materials, watch the DVD and complete the video exercises in the workbook. The workbook will not be checked every week, but certain assignments will be checked. It is important to bring your workbook to each class in order to show work and to participate and receive all of your points.

Quizzes and final exam:

Take quizzes and final exam. There are no make up quizzes or exams. There are 5 quizzes with the lowest grade being dropped. If you miss a quiz, that one will be dropped from your average. Because quizzes and exams are signed by the instructor, it is impossible to leave the quiz or exam with the registrar's office for make up. Dropping a quiz grade allows for unplanned absences on quiz dates.

Course Evaluation:

5 in class quizzes - 25 points each (lowest grade dropped, for 100 points)	100
1 expressive videotaping, done outside of class – 20 points	20
1 community activity – 20 points	20
1 journal article review – 20 points	20
Attendance, participation, workbook – 50 points	50
Deaf Lab – 40 points	40
Receptive Final Exam – 50 points	<u>50</u>
Total points possible	300

Grading

A = 90 – 100 %	(270 – 300 points)
B = 80 – 89%	(240 – 269.9 points)
C = 70 – 79%	(210 – 239.9 points)
D = 60 – 69%	(180 – 209.9 points)
F = below 69%	(below 180 points)