American Sign Language I
CSD 2750 Syllabus
Harding University
Spring 2020

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Required Texts:
• *Level One, Signing Naturally Student Workbook and DVD* Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz, Ken Mikos

• *Deaf Like Me* Thomas S. Spradley, James P. Spradley with epilogue by Lynn Spradley

Course Description: This course is appropriate for students who have little or no knowledge of American Sign Language (ASL). ASL is the language used by Deaf people in the United States. This course will examine ASL’s basic concepts: unique grammatical features, syntax and structure. This course exposes students to the richness of Deaf history, Deaf values, Deaf social norms and how important each area is to the Deaf Community. Since a language cannot be separated from its culture, ASL students are encouraged to appreciate and respect Deaf culture as they develop an awareness and understanding of the signed language of the Deaf, ASL. This course focuses on vocabulary and basic sentences for introducing oneself, exchanging personal information, talking about one’s surroundings, giving directions, telling where one lives, talking about one’s family and telling about activities.

Course Objectives: To provide students basic communication skills, awareness of culturally appropriate behaviors and expose students to basic aspects of ASL grammar such as use of space, non-manual markers, classifiers and cross-cultural information such as appropriate attention getting strategies, politically correct terminology and behavioral norms. Students will develop practical skills and knowledge necessary for basic interactions within the Deaf community and will be enabled to communicate in routine basic situations within an authentic cultural context.

Course Requirements:
• Units Tests-Written & *Receptive (1, 2, 4, 5 = 4 @ 100 points each)  400 points possible
• Midterm Exam (Units 1-3) Written portion  100 points possible
• Midterm Exam (Units 1-3) Receptive portion  200 points possible
• Midterm Exam (Units 1-3) Expressive Portion  200 points possible

ASL, signed presentation *submit YouTube format.*

• Reaction paper, *Deaf Like Me* TYPED, hard copy submitted in class, Thursday, March 19, 2020  100 points
(10 point penalty each day your paper is late)

• Class Activities (A/B translations, homework, handouts, etc.-due on specified dates)  180-240 points possible

• Video Logs
  Log 1 due, Beginning of class, Tuesday, January 28, 2020  (5 hours)  50 points
  Log 2 due, Beginning of class, Tuesday, February 11, 2020  (5 hours)  50 points
  Log 3 due, Beginning of class, Tuesday March 3, 2020  (5 hours)  50 points
  Log 4 due, Beginning of class, Tuesday, March 17, 2020  (5 hours)  50 points

Video Logs: viewing time feedback must be 1) TYPED, 2) viewing time tabulated, 3) submit hard copy in class

• Signed Class Presentations (3 out of 4 presentations + typed ASL Outline)  TBA 90 points

To receive full credit, ASL outlines must be typed and submitted to me prior to your presentation

ASL presentations are due on the date announced by your instructor. Topics will be announced and each student is expected to present their prepared ASL presentation to the class. Should you be absent on the date designated for ASL presentations, you receive a zero for that presentation. There will be no opportunity for “make-up.” There will be opportunity for 4 presentations. You are expected to present 3 times.

Attendance: Attendance is crucial to this course. ASL classes are NOT lecture-based. Your success depends on class participation and attendance. Please come to class prepared to seriously and respectfully engage with each other. If you are absent, you are responsible for the material covered in class. I recommend exchanging phone numbers with several classmates so that you can keep up should you miss a class meeting.

Class Policies Tests & Quizzes: Receptive portions of exams and quizzes cannot be made-up without (1) a note from your doctor and (2) discussing your absence with your instructor PRIOR to the day of the test/quiz. If you choose to be absent on an exam day, WITHOUT discussing prior solutions with your ASL instructor and do not have a note from your doctor, you receive a zero for the receptive portion of the exam or quiz. No exceptions. Any make-up test/quiz will be provided in an alternate format. (Understanding that you have satisfied the criteria mentioned above.)

Unit A/B Translations: these assignments are due at the beginning of class, prior to the activity, on the specified due date. Translation work allows you to fully participate in classroom activity. To be clear, should you have an unexcused absence, your translation points CANNOT be “made-up.” You receive a zero for this class activity, as you were unable to participate.

Signed Class Presentations: Signed class presentations cannot be made-up. If you are absent you receive a zero for that presentation. There will be several opportunities for Signed Class presentations.

Computer problems will not be accepted as excuses for late work.

• No cell phones in class. Please turn them off before you get to class and sit down.
Learning Sign Language: Take full responsibility for your learning experience. Actively, independently, and enthusiastically engage in your learning process. Be engaged the entire class period. Be supportive and encouraging to fellow classmates. Always remember “NO VOICE...use ASL!”

• Read your workbook!
• Complete homework and projects on time.
• Practice outside of the classroom!
• Don’t be hard on yourself.

• Be organized and pay attention.
• Drill & review yourself
• Make positive contributions in class
• Do not chew gum in class...chewing gum interferes with your ASL grammar!
• Attend ALL classes.
• Celebrate every small progress.
• Be an active participant!

Welcome to ASL! I am glad you are here!! You are learning a new language and culture-VISUALLY. This will be a different learning experience for many of you. FRUSTRATION is to be expected on a regular basis 😒

If you feel over-whelmed please come see me—perhaps I can give you some helpful suggestions.

My door is always open!

Academic Integrity Policy: Cheating in all its forms is inconsistent with Christian faith and practice and will result in sanctions up to and including dismissal from the class with a failing grade. Students with Disabilities: It is the policy for Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Therefore, any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, or psychological) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and the Disabilities Office at the beginning of each semester. (If the diagnosis of the disability occurs during the academic year, the student must self-identify with the Disabilities Director as soon as possible in order to get academic accommodations in place for the remainder of the semester.) The Disabilities Office is located in Room 219 in the Student Center, telephone (501) 279-4019. Since some graduate courses are taught at different sites and students will not have access to the Disabilities Office located on Harding University’s Searcy campus, the student must self-identify with the instructor of the course and submit documentation by fax or mail to the Disabilities Office on our main campus. The necessary forms are available. Upon receiving the appropriate documentation approved by ADA Guidelines, academic accommodations may be set up by the instructor via a telephone conference with the Disabilities Director. If you have questions, please contact Teresa J. McLeod, M.Ed., Disabilities Director, at (501) 279-4019.

Students are expected to follow the University policy regarding dress code, as well as, any additional dress requirements for Harding University Speech Clinic while observing. A student may be asked to leave class or other activities if they are not in keeping with these expectations.

Help with writing assignments is always available free of charge at the Writing Center, located in the back of Brackett Library. The Writing Center is staffed by trained undergraduate and graduate consultants for 50+ hours per week. These consultants work collaboratively with their clients at every stage of the writing process to address issues of content, organization, clarity, style, and documentation. To schedule an appointment, go to harding.mywconline.com and create a free account.