

ASL 2750 American Sign Language I

Harding University

Spring 2023 Syllabus

Course Title: ASL 2750 American Sign Language I

Term: Spring semester 2023, January 10 - May 5

Course Adjunct Professor: Shelby A. Fortenberry, NAD IV, Reg.LASC,

*(318) 680.3054 cell (voice/text) sfortenberry@harding.edu

***Course Policy:** Canvas Announcements will be utilized as my primary means of communication with students as a class. I may also send emails to students' Harding email accounts on occasion, especially for individual communication. Students need to communicate with me via Harding email and can expect a reply within 24 hours during the week. Don't expect emails to be answered during the weekend. If you need to schedule a time to meet, send me a text. The preferred format for virtual meetings are done through Google Meet/Hangout or Zoom. FYI, evening appointments work best for me, however, I can be flexible.

Office Hours: Remote office. Appointments are scheduled upon the student and instructor's schedule.

Class days/Time/Location: TU/TH, 4:00-5:15 pm, Swaid 214

Course Time Zone: CDT/CST*

*all due dates follow the school time zone, which is CDT/CST

Harding University Mission: "Harding's mission is to provide a quality education that will lead to an understanding and philosophy of life consistent with Christian ideals."

Course Scripture: "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Cor. 9:8

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the basic skills in developing production and comprehension skills in American Sign Language (ASL). Students will learn ASL vocabulary, structure, and grammar. Course content also includes the manual alphabet and numbers. Students will develop basic conversational abilities, culturally appropriate behaviors, and learn about the culture and history of Deaf communities.

Course Language: American Sign Language (with some English supporting documents & readings)

Course Credit Hours: Three (3) semester hours. For every semester hour of credit, a typical student should expect to spend three (3) clock hours per week on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning.

Required Texts/Materials:

1. Purple Moontower LLC. (2021). True+Way ASL. (3rd Edition). You can obtain your access code through the Harding University Bookstore. Please have this no later than Friday 13, 2023.
2. T.S Spradley, J.P Spradley (1978) **Deaf Like Me** Gallaudet **Please do not throw away your access code! Keep your receipt until you have accessed your online materials successfully.**
3. Resources posted in Canvas, Harding's learning management system (LMS)
4. Laptop or tablet with internet access

*Course Level Outcome:

At the end of this course the students should be able to do the following:

1. Vocabulary Development

- a. Recognize and produce vocabulary items in each unit.
- b. Demonstrate comprehensive mastery of targeted vocabulary words drawn from class items, lectures, and videos.

2. Grammatical Features

- a. Demonstrate comprehensive mastery of target, content-specific commands, questions, and statements in ASL.
- b. Identify grammatical features within short dialogues in ASL directed by the professor.

3. Conversational and Communication Skills

- a. Demonstrate comprehension and conversation facilitating behaviors.
- b. Demonstrate comprehension and production of regulating behaviors (i.e. attention-getting techniques, turn-taking signals, and others)
- c. Comprehend short narratives and stories in ASL signed by the professor, Deaf ASL speakers, or ASL videos added by the professor.
- d. Demonstrate the ability to create, conduct and terminate a short content-specific conversation.

4. Cultural Awareness

- a. Analyze and critique competing perspectives of diverse Deaf Communities in the United States and Canada, ideas, aesthetic traditions, and cultural practices, and its history.
- b. Compare, contrast, and interpret differences and commonalities among Deaf and hearing cultures.

Course Outline:

Unit 1 Welcome to the Deaf World!

Unit 2 Academics

Unit 3 Family and Relationships

Unit 4 Residences and Communities

*** Detailed course schedule including assignment due dates will be available in the course Canvas calendar. The instructor has the right to change any component of the syllabus in the event of extenuating circumstances. Any changes will be communicated to the entire class and posted in the Canvas calendar.*

General Course Schedule**

Week	Units
1	Syllabus / Unit 1: Welcome to the Deaf World!
2	Unit 1.1 & 1.2 Snapshots, Discussion & Wo(Submit via Canvas)rksheet, and Quiz
3	Unit 1.3 - 1.5 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheets, and Quiz
4	Unit 1 Review: POA, Story Comprehension & SOAR and Test (Test given in lab on Friday) Signed Presentation Due on Thursday(Submit via Canvas)
5	Unit 2 / Unit 2.1 & 2.2 Snapshots, Discussions & Worksheets and Quiz
6	Unit 2.3 Snapshots, Discussions & Worksheets and Quiz
7	Unit 2.4 - 2.5 Snapshots, Discussions & Worksheets, and Quiz
8	Unit 2 Review: POA, Story Comprehension & SOAR and Tests(MIDTERM WEEK date TBD) LIVE Signed Presentation Due on Thursday
	SPRING BREAK!!! NO ASSIGNMENTS
9	Unit 3 / Unit 3.1 & 3.2 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheets
10	Unit 3.3 & 3.4 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheets
11	Unit 3 Review: POA, SOAR, Story Comprehension, and Tests (Test given in lab on Friday) Signed Presentation Due on Thursday (Submit via Canvas)
12	Unit 4 Unit 4.1 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheet and Quiz
13	Unit 4.2 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheet
14	Unit 4.3 Snapshots, Discussion & Worksheets, and Quiz
15	Unit 4.4 Snapshots, Discussion, Worksheets, and Quiz *REFLECTIVE PAPER DUE BY APRIL 27
16	Final Exam Cumulative Unit 4 Comprehension and Production Tests (TESTING DATE TBD) 80 points from Unit 4 + 70 points for vocabulary from Units 1 through 3 LIVE Signed Presentation Due

Evaluation and Assessment: Assessment of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of each student for the purpose of assigning a letter grade at the completion of this course will be based on performance on four (4) examinations, four (4) signed presentations, one (1) reading reflection, 10 Snapshot quizzes, two (2) comprehension quizzes, and two (2) conversation starter discussions. You will also have the Reflection report as well.

Examinations: There will be four examinations in this course. All the examinations will be cumulative because language skills build across the course. Exam questions may be multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, matching, or short answer. New information covered on each exam will be as follows:

Exam 1 Units 1.1 through 1.5; a production video submission is required

Exam 2 Units 2.1 through 2.5; a production video submission is required

Exam 3 Units 3.1 through 3.4; a production video submission is required

Exam 4 Units 4.1 through 4.4 with approximately 70 vocabulary words from Units 1 through 3

Examinations will be administered via Canvas in the lab. In the event testing will need to happen in class, please be prepared to bring your laptop and equipped to have good connectivity.

Materials brought to class during an examination must be secured in a backpack or other bag which must be placed fully under the table. Hats may not be worn during examinations.

Devices capable of recording and/or transmitting messages or digital media (e.g., phones, iPods, smart watches, etc.) are prohibited. If any of these devices is found on a student during an examination, the student will automatically receive a zero for that examination.

Signed Presentations: There will be four (4) signed presentations to assess the ability to produce appropriately structured signed communication. Signed presentations may be live (in person) or prerecorded. Each presentation must be 2.5 minutes in length. Live presentations will be performed while standing in front of the class. Pre Recorded presentation video must be submitted by 4 pm on the scheduled presentation date to Canvas/GoReact. I will announce in advance whether the presentation will be live or prerecorded. Presentations may be performed individually or in groups of two or three. If a group presentation is chosen, each person in the group must sign for 2.5 minutes during the presentation. Topics may be similar to those in the Conversation Starters in the TWA modules and must use vocabulary from the appropriate unit. Each assigned presentation must be typed in **ASL sentence structure** and must be posted on Canvas to me by noon on presentation day, regardless if the signed presentation is live or pre recorded. Each signed presentation is worth **40 points**.

Reading Reflection: After reading the book Deaf Like Me, prepare a typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, 2-page paper reflecting what you learned from the book. The reflection is at any time by April 27th and should be submitted in Canvas. You may find that you want to read this book over one of the extended breaks or holidays before then. You may submit it at any time this semester, just make sure it is by April 27th.. **This is a reflective paper not a book report.** The reflection is worth **50 points**.

Snapshot Quizzes: There will be 10 Snapshot quizzes to assess understanding of assigned Snapshot videos. Though these quizzes are "open-book", they should be completed independently without consultation with other students in the course. The Snapshot quizzes will be submitted electronically through Canvas. The due dates for the Snapshot quizzes are indicated in the syllabus and in the Canvas course. Each Snapshot quiz is worth **10 points**.

Comprehension Quizzes: There will be two (2) comprehension quizzes administered for credit in this course. Each quiz will be submitted via Canvas and will be worth **10 points**.

Conversation Starter Discussions: There will be two (2) Conversation Starter Discussions administered for credit in this course. The answers to the discussion questions must be submitted via Canvas. Each discussion is worth **10 points**. The questions in the Conversation Starter Discussions are based on the Conversation Starter videos.

The final course grade calculation will be made as follows:

Exam 1	100	
Exam 2	100	
Exam 3	100	
Exam 4	Final Exam	150
Signed presentations 4 @ 40 points each	160	
Reading reflection	50	
Snapshot quizzes 10 @ 10 points each	100	
Comprehension quizzes 2 @ 10 points each	20	
Conversation Starter Discussions 2 @ 10 points each	20	

Total 800

Final course grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A = 720 D = 480 – 559

B = 640 – 719 F < 479

C = 560 – 639

No exceptions will be made to this scale. Final grades will stand based on this scale.

Attendance Policy: Attendance at all course sessions is expected. Roll will be taken. Two unexcused absences are allowed. Any unexcused absences beyond two may each result in a 10-point deduction of points from the final course grade. Students are responsible for all course material missed during excused and unexcused absences; assignments missed for unexcused absences will receive a grade of zero and may not be made up. Please let me know if you have any special circumstances that need to be taken into consideration.

Tardiness: If you are going to be more than 15 minutes late to class please do not attend class. Coming in late is disruptive to many and causes an atmosphere of confusion. If you are more than 15 minutes late for class, you will be considered absent (unexcused) for that day. If arrangements have been made prior to a class session, exceptions can be made.

Deadlines/Late Policy: There is no late policy, meaning every assignment has a deadline. No late assignments will be accepted. It is always wise to check the Canvas calendar regularly for assignment due dates, and finish assignments earlier than later. Practice good time management skills. However, if there are extenuating circumstances, to take into consideration, please let the instructor know ASAP by text. Notification does not guarantee extension, it is to the discretion of the instructor.

University Assessment: Since its charter in 1924, Harding University has been strongly committed to providing the best resources and environment for the teaching-learning process. The board, administration, faculty, and staff are wholeheartedly committed to full compliance with all criteria of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The university values continuous and rigorous assessment at every level for its potential to improve student learning and achievement and for its centrality in fulfilling the stated mission of Harding. Thus, a comprehensive assessment program has been developed that includes both the Academic units and the Administrative and Educational Support (AES) units. Specifically, all academic units will be assessed in reference to the following Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose: The University provides programs that enable students to acquire essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions in their academic disciplines for successful careers, advanced studies, and servant leadership.

Academic Integrity: Honesty and integrity are characteristics that should describe each one of us as servants of Jesus Christ. As your instructor, I pledge that I will strive for honesty and integrity in how I handle the content of this course and in how I interact with each of you. I ask that you join me in pledging to do the same. Academic dishonesty will result in penalties up to and including dismissal from the class with a failing grade and will be reported to the Director of Academic Affairs. All instances of dishonesty will be handled according to the procedures delineated in the Harding University catalog.

Presentation slides and other materials posted in Canvas are provided for the purpose of facilitating the education of students currently enrolled in the course. All course materials developed by a faculty member or other author are the intellectual property of that faculty member or author and may not be distributed further without the approval of the faculty member or author.

The same applies to recordings of lectures and/or other activities within the course, including those recordings created by the student.

Student Declaration: Submitting an electronic document at Harding University constitutes an agreement with the following declaration:

- I affirm that the work submitted is of my own accord, is original, and contains the necessary and appropriate citations, where the work is of another source.
- I affirm that this assignment has not previously been submitted in any form.
- When submitting assignments to Turnitin, I acknowledge and adhere to its disclaimer Statements.
- To uphold Harding University's Academic Integrity Covenant.

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 condition (e.g. physical, learning, or psychological) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations, must contact the instructor and the Office of Disability Services and Educational Access at the beginning of each semester. If the diagnosis of the disability occurs during the academic year, the student must self-identify with the Director of Disability Services and Educational Access as soon as possible in order to put academic accommodations in place for the remainder of the semester. The Office of Disability Services and Educational Access is located in Suite 239 in the Student Center and can be reached at (501) 279-4019.

Dress Code: All members of the Harding community are expected to maintain standards of modesty and decency in dress appropriate to the Christian lifestyle and consistent with professional employment expectations. For these reasons, students are expected to adhere to an established dress code, as described in the Student Handbook, which faculty, staff, and administration will enforce. A student may be asked to leave class or other activities if they are not in keeping with these expectations.

Canvas or Internet Outages Policy: As a learner, you must be able to manage technical difficulties such as power outages, connection problems, and other technical issues. Technology will sometimes fail. For this reason, it is advisable to complete your assigned work prior to the due date.

Inclement Weather: If inclement weather prohibits your participation in any element of this course, prompt communication with me is expected. Your personal safety is my primary concern. We will handle any instances that arise on a case-by-case basis.

***CLASSROOM NETIQUETTE:** All students should be in their seats at the time class is scheduled to begin and logged into class at 4:00. Electronic devices should be turned off or to silent mode during class sessions. No headphones or airpods are permitted in class. Laptop computers or tablets should be brought to class regularly as quizzes and other activities may involve internet connectivity. ASL requires visual language, so students must be attentive during class. Do attempt to "multitask" while on your computer. If students are caught "surfing" or working on other assignments, it will be counted as an unexcused absence. To be present, you need to be entirely present.

Changes to Syllabus Notice: The instructor reserves the right to modify and update any part of the syllabus where necessary. You can expect that these changes will be for your perceived benefit and will be communicated in Canvas. It is your responsibility to stay up to date with any changes communicated by the instructor.

Technical Support: For technical assistance from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., M-F, please contact the e-Learning Help Desk at

Phone: 501-279-5201

Email: elearning@harding.edu

Web: [E-Learning Web Address](#)

For Canvas assistance, search [Canvas Guides](#).

Academic Support Services: Harding offers a wide variety of academic support services. While this list is not all-inclusive, the following links may be useful to students (some services may not be applicable for graduate or professional students):

- [Library](#)
- [Tutoring](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Writing Center](#)

Student Support Services: Harding offers a wide variety of student support services. While this list is not all-inclusive, the following links may be useful to students (some services may not be applicable for graduate or professional students):

- [Advising](#)
- [Counseling](#)
- [Registration](#)
- [Student Life](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Career Services](#)

Restriction on Disclosure and Distribution: Students may make audio or video recordings of course activity unless specifically prohibited by the faculty member. To foster a safe environment for learning, however, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Unauthorized distribution of such materials is a violation of academic standards and may violate copyright laws and/or privacy rights.

Copyright Notice: Unless otherwise noted, all materials presented and delivered during the course are the property of the presenter and Harding University and any duplication, reuse, retransmission, or rebroadcast of any course materials without the express written consent of the instructor or an authorized agent of Harding University is prohibited.

Instructor Notes: *Let's have some fun and learn!! If at any time you have questions or need clarification, PLEASE DO NOT BE AFRAID TO ASK, TEXT OR SHOOT ME AN EMAIL. FYI. Academic Student Services also ASL tutoring! If you need someone to practice or tutor, please reach out to them. The best is yet to come! Ms. Shelby*

