



Capital High School

Teacher: Elianne Nguyen
Email: enguyen@osd.wednet.edu

Room: D-11

American Sign Language I Syllabus 2017-18 School Year

Course Description

This class provides an introduction to American Sign Language (ASL), the language of the Deaf. Students will receive instruction on Deaf culture and history throughout the course, and explore vocational opportunities related to deafness and sign language.

Student Outcomes

The students will be able to carry the conversation in sign language and interpret simple communications for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing.

LESSONS	Student Competencies:
MANUAL ALPHABET	• ABC's AND FINGER SPELLING, DOMINANT/NONDOMINANT HAND USE
CULTURE	• INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/DEAF COMMUNITY
PERSONAL PRONOUNS	• USE PERSONAL PRONOUNS AND BASIC SENTENCE STRUCTURE.
NUMBERS	• CARDINALS 1 – 100, ORDINALS, 1- 9, AGES
VERBS, ADJECTIVES, NOUNS	• SENTENCES USING VERBS, NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES • SPATIAL AGREEMENT
SENTENCE TYPES	• DECLARATIVES, WH QUESTIONS, YES-NO, IMPERATIVES, NEGATIVES, AND TOPICALIZATIONS
CULTURE	• UNDERSTAND DEAF HISTORY
TIME INDICATORS	• PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE TENSES • THE USE OF "FINISH"
CLASSIFIERS	• DESCRIBING THINGS
CULTURE	• UNDERSTAND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEAF AND HEARING CULTURES
INTRODUCING ONESELF	• FINGERSPELLING NAME, EXCHANGE PERSONAL INFORMATION, TELL WHERE YOU LIVE
FAMILY	• SET-UP AND DESCRIBE FAMILY MEMBERS
EXPRESSING WANTS	• PROPER USE OF THE SIGNS: NEED, WANT, SHOULD, WOULD, MUST.....
CONTRASTIVE STRUCTURE	• COMPARE AND CONTRAST PEOPLE AND THINGS
CULTURE	• NAME SIGNS, GETTING ATTENTION, NEGOTIATING A SIGNING ENVIRONMENT, ASKING FOR REPETITION
TESTS	• ABC BOOK CHAPTERS 1 –5, SIGNING NATURALLY LESSONS 1- 6

Bring to class:

- Composition book 100 pages
- 1 inch Binder/Dividers
- Notebook
- 2 Red marking pens
- Pencils/Pens

Instructional Strategies:

The curriculum parallels what we know about language development and second language learning. We focus on introducing language in context and reinforcing what is learned by engaging you into various interactive activities. A conversational curriculum requires you to be an active learner. You need to come prepared to sign with me and other classmates. Our classes are conducted in American Sign Language (ASL) from the very first day. You are immersed in the language for five hours a week to maximize your

language learning. The teacher will use gestures, signs, drawings and act out situations to get the point across and your job is to keep trying. This may sound daunting at first, but trust me, it works!

The “No Voice Zone” Policy

We insist on maintaining a signing environment at all times in the classroom for two reasons; One, it is considered rude and insulting to talk in front of a Deaf person and not make the information passing between you and the other person accessible. Since a good number of your teachers will be Deaf and your goal is to get to know Deaf people in the community. It is imperative that you develop the habit of signing when Deaf people are present. Secondly, this is an immersion class, which means only the target language is used. Using only ASL helps you to develop both your comprehension skills and your expressive skills quickly and effectively. Talking disrupts this process and delays your language development. If a fellow student asks you for help, feel free to help by using signs you have learned or by writing back and forth. In this way, I can see what is being said and can join in to help, if needed be.

No Cell Phones

All cell phones and pagers must be turned off during class. You will be asked to ***put your cell phone in the classroom pocket chart*** on the wall once you enter the classroom. If you feel there might be an emergency, please let me know in advance before class and you might be referred to the main office to make your call.

Video Labs

We will be doing a few video labs. Many of these go along with the workbook. They are designed to help you increase your sign comprehension. If you are absent for any reason and miss a video lab, you are expected to come in right away to make up the lab during or right after school. There is no credit for copying the answers from another classmate. This is work you must do yourself.

Cultural & Heritage Studies

We will be learning about the Deaf experience and about issues that relate specifically to the Deaf community. We will also look at the history of the Deaf and of American Sign Language. These are formal assignments that must be typed and follow a specific format. Cultural & Heritage assignments and reports will become an important part of your Portfolio.

Deaf Community Connections

Ten percent of your grade will involve activities designed to help you interact with our local Deaf neighbors. This will involve activities outside of the school day. Please see the Deaf community Connections handout for details and list of approved activities. These points are due at the end of the year. I STRONGLY advise that you get an early start, do not wait until the end of the year and then ask me to help you find enough things to do.

Assessment Strategies:

Students will be assessed in the following areas:

Grading Criteria:

Quizzes/Exam	30%
Projects	20 %
Class work/homework	20%
Classroom activity	20%
Deaf Culture/leadership	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Attendance/Participation:

Attendance: To receive a good grade, you **must** be active in class. This class is performance-based and involves a lot of interaction, so showing-up late or missing class will make it impossible to make-up this

interactive environment. Because ASL is a visual language, you must be here to learn it. Your signature below means that you understand the importance of attendance.

Make-up Work:

- It is **your** responsibility to check for missed assignments on Skyward upon your return to school after an excused absence. This needs to take place before class or after class. Anything that was assigned while you were absent will be ***due within 2 days of your return.***
- **Tests** are very hard to make up. As time goes by after an absence, you will forget things. You are responsible for coming in on your own time to make up a missed test. ***Students have one week to make up the missed test.***
- Many materials and notes will be provided for you in class; however they will often be presented in **PowerPoint**. Students can come in to review power points during Bear Time or request to make appointment after school.

FOOD: No gum or food is permitted in the classroom except bottled water with closed lids are allowed.

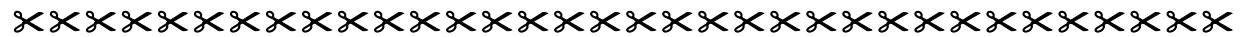
EQUIPMENT & CLASSROOM MATERIALS

Defacing the equipment or misuse of software, hardware, textbooks, and any other classroom materials will not be tolerated. There will be a fine for scratch and broken DVD.

CONSEQUENCES FOR MISBEHAVIOR

(i.e. equipment use, language, respect in the classroom, inappropriate use of voice.)
Warning, see the principal; serve in detention, parental contact, counselor and conference.

There will be **No** cell phones, iPods, etc during class unless permission by the teacher.
See student handbook for additional school rules and policies.



I have read the SYLLABUS for my ASL class and I am familiar with the requirements/expectations for the course (grading policy, late work, make up work, attendance/participation, rules etc.).

Student Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____

I have received and *read* a copy of the syllabus for the ASL course my student is taking.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent's *Printed* Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Cell: _____

Portfolio

You will be required to maintain an ASL binder throughout the year. This portfolio will be part of your Employability grade. This will serve as your textbook to be left in class. You should have this Syllabus as the first page and Classroom Expectations as the second. You will need to have dividers tabbed as: Deaf History, Assessments, Community Connections, and Misc Class Work. You must keep all your papers and assignments throughout the year. Do not throw anything away. This portfolio can be used for an entrance interview at another high school or college to continue your studies with ASL.

Classroom Expectations

1. Arrive on time and prepared to learn (proper materials and positive attitude).
2. Be seat with all necessary supplies when the bell rings.
3. Be polite and cooperative.
4. Be kind to each other (harassment of any kind will not be tolerated).
5. No electronic devices in class without instructor permission.
6. Respect the rights of others to express opinions and to learn.
7. Be respectful at all times.
8. Water is the only beverage allowed in the classroom.
9. No food and gum are not allowed in the classroom.
10. Disrespect the teacher or peers by talking out of turn with second warning will serve lunch detention or ISS.
11. Have fun and learn something new in class 😊