ASL 1 Course Outline as of Fall 2021

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ASL 1 Title: ELEM AMER SIGN LANG PT 1
Full Title: Elementary American Sign Language - Part 1
Last Reviewed: 1/25/2021

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	4.00	Lecture Scheduled	4.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	70.00
Minimum	4.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	4.00		Contact Total	70.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 140.00 Total Student Learning Hours: 210.00

Title 5 Category:	AA Degree Applicable
Grading:	Grade or P/NP
Repeatability:	00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:	
Formerly:	ASL 1A

Catalog Description:
Introduction to elementary American Sign Language, focusing on both receptive and expressive skills, ASL literature, and Deaf culture and community.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent or appropriate placement based on AB705 mandates

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: Introduction to elementary American Sign Language, focusing on both receptive and expressive skills, ASL literature, and Deaf culture and community. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent or appropriate placement based on AB705 mandates
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	**Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Fall 2025	
	L3	Arts and Humanities		
	E	Humanities	Fall 1991	Fall 2025
CSU GE:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities	Fall 1991	
IGETC:	**Transfer Area**		Effective:	Inactive:
	6A	Language Other Than English	Fall 1997	
	6A	Language Other Than English	Fall 1996	Fall 1997

CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1991	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1991	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Intitate and respond to simple and brief conversations in ASL using statements, questions, and behaviors that are appropriate among ASL signers.
2. Use and comprehend basic vocabulary for a variety of everyday topics and activities, including the manual alphabet and numbers.
3. Use simple grammatical structures such as directional verbs, indexing, contrastive structure, subject-predicate order, with attention to ASL paramenters and non-manual markers.
4. Discuss features of the culture and history of Deaf people and ASL, including sociolingustic and intersectional variations in the Deaf experiences.

Objectives:
Students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate understanding of signing and fingerspelling with accuracy.
2. Compose short comprehensible sentences with communicative purposes, displaying minimum surface- level errors in ASL parameter usage.
3. Generate questions and requests using simple grammatical structures involving subjects and predicates.
4. Respond to other signers, using common ASL vocabulary and metalinguistic feedback related to everyday topics.
5. Use greetings, interactions, and conversational techniques in a culturally appropriate manner.

6. Correctly interpret or evaluate content from authentic ASL texts.
7. Use basic grammatical structures involving subjects and predicates.
8. Use fingerspelling to express names, lexicalized signs and loan words.
9. Develop, organize, and sign short narratives.

10. Describe social, cultural, historical, political, sociolinguistic, and intersctional aspects of Deaf and signing communities in the USA.

Topics and Scope:

I. Course Orientation
- A. Accessing and using course materials
  1. classroom
  2. campus
  3. community
  4. online resources
- B. Production of ASL texts (videos)
- C. Introduction of ASL conventions
  1. eye contact
  2. voices off
  3. attention-getting
  4. turn-taking
- D. Introduction to commands and requests

II. Vocabulary Development
- A. People
  1. identitiy
  2. nationalities
  3. hearing/deaf family members
  4. roles
  5. agent markers
  6. ages
- B. Places
  1. housing
  2. work
  3. classroom
  4. school
  5. community features
  6. cities
  7. states
  8. geography
- C. Descriptions
  1. clothing
  2. physical appearance
  3. sizes
  4. distances
  5. colors
  6. shapes
  7. opinions
  8. feelings
- D. Numbers and time
  1. cardinal 1-100
  2. ordinal 1-20th
  3. days
  4. weeks
  5. months
  6. years
  7. seasons

8. durations
D. Activities
1. leisure
2. sports
3. hobbies
E. Greetings
1. salutations
2. valedictions
3. introducing one another
F. Negations
1. lack of
2. refusal
3. disagreement
4. dislike
5. don't want
G. Miscellaneous
1. food
2. drink
3. holidays
4. popular culture
5. current trends
6. technology

III. Grammatical Development
A. Parameters
1. handshape
2. location
3. movement
4. palm orientation
5. non-manual markers
B. Classifiers
1. descriptive
2. locative
3. instrumental
4. semantic
5. entity
C. Non-manual markers
1. facial expressions
2. body shifting
3. mouth morphemes
D. Basic sentence
1. subject-predicate structure
2. topicalization
3. personal pronouns
4. possessive pronouns
5. sequencing
E. Verb modification
1. directionality
2. noun-verb
3. spatial agreement
F. Comparisons
1. constrastive structure
2. listing/ranking

G. Questions
1. yes/no
2. wh-q
3. rhetorical
4. strategies for asking about signs

IV. Composition
A. Short narratives (autobiographical)
B. Retelling stories
1. folktale
2. humor

V. Cultural Skills
A. Communicating with others
1. backchanneling
2. clarification
3. asking for new signs
B. Etiquette and behavioral norms
1. signing environments
2. attention-getting
3. interruptions
4. pointing in public
5. social conventions
C. Traditions and heritage
1. folklore
2. storytelling
3. poetry
4. visual vernacular
5. humor
6. history
a. notable events
b. places
c. persons
7. current issues and trends
8. cultural activities
9. sociolinguistic and intersectional topics

Assignment:

1. Reading on sign language grammar, techniques, and cultural topics from textbook, print, or digital materials (average 10-15 pages per week)
2. Video viewings from DVD or online collections (1-3 hours per week)
3. Memorization of sign vocabulary and grammatical modifications (average 50-75 signs per week)
4. Receptive practice exercises (3-7 per week)
5. Expressive practice exercises, such as vocabulary recitations, solo monologues, paired or group dialogues; presentations; role-playing (2-5 per week)
6. Expressive video or live performance projects (2-4 projects per semester)
7. Written responses (6-8 per semester)
8. Quizzes, tests, final exam

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Written responses, exercises	Writing 10 - 20%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None	Problem solving 0 - 0%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Expressive practice exercises, expressive projects, receptive exercises	Skill Demonstrations 40 - 50%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, tests, final exam	Exams 20 - 30%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Video recordings	Other Category 10 - 30%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
True+Way American Sign Language (online)

My ASL Book: A Communicative Approach for Learning a Visual Language. Bangs, Donald. Kendall Hunt Publishing. 2012 (classic)

ASL at work (print and DVD). Newell, William and Sanders, Cynthia and Holcomb, Barbara. DawnSignPress. 2010 (classic)

Signing Naturally: Student Workbook, Units 1-6 (book and DVDs). Smith, Cheri and Lentz, Ella and Milos, Ken. DawnSign Press. 2008 (classic)

MasterASL! Level One Student Textbook (print and DVD). Zinza, Jason. Sign Media, Inc. 2006. (classic)

Instructor prepared materials