

COURSE TITLE: American Sign Language 1

Level of Difficulty	Estimated Homework	Prerequisites
Moderate	0-30 Minutes	District: grade 10-12 Department Suggestion: grades 10-12

Course Description:

This course is designed to help the non-signer and/or the beginning signer develop basic skills and knowledge of American Sign Language and Deaf culture. This course is an introduction to basic knowledge of American Sign Language (ASL) and the Deaf culture. Students will develop basic skills in ASL vocabulary and grammar to meet basic communication needs. Emphasis is placed upon acquisition of both comprehension and production skills. In addition to language, learning will focus upon knowledge of the Deaf community and the development of the cultural awareness necessary for communication and interaction. Students will be able to introduce themselves, conduct basic getting-to-know-you conversations, greet and say goodbye in a culturally appropriate manner, exchange personal information, talk about surroundings, tell where they live, talking about their families, tell about activities and appropriate ways to get one's attention in ASL. Themes include questions, identity, classroom environment, food, directions, housing, transportation, family and other relationships, possessives, negotiating the environment, negation, time and opinions. Grammar topics include yes/no and why-question formats; confirming and correcting; non-manual markers; real-world orientation; ordinal/cardinal numbers and time signs; noun-verb pairs; contrastive structure; personal, possessive and dual pronouns; negation sentence types; role shifting, introduction to conditional clauses and introduction to classifiers. The successful student will be able to sign introductions, exchange personal information, describe surroundings, describe where he/she lives, express politeness, make requests, sign about family and friends, express herself/himself, describe others and discuss daily activities, food and shopping. Typical activities include signing and fingerspelling (FS) warm-up; reviewing and learning new vocabulary; practicing expressive and receptive skills through signed dialogues; hand-outs; taking notes on ASL grammar, sentence structure and Deaf culture; playing ASL vocabulary review games. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to manage common interactions using basic vocabulary and grammar; continue to apply language-learning skills outside the language classroom; act with respect and a better understanding of Deaf people with an appreciation for their linguistic and cultural diversity. This class is in alignment with the national standards at the novice level.

Grading:

Workload:

Outside of class, the successful student will spend approximately 30 minutes reviewing class notes and practicing vocabulary and fingerspelling. Students will also spend time working on projects, presentations and Deaf culture assignments.

Assessment: The majority of a student's grade will be determined by exams, quizzes, class work, homework, projects, expressive and receptive signing skills and class participation.

Syllabus:

Refer to individual teacher websites.

Supplemental Information:

10 credits

Fulfills UC/CSU subject area "e" requirement

Fulfills high school graduation requirement for electives