

SYLLABUS

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I (CRN 3022) – L101 01

**Quinebaug Valley Community College
Danielson, CT**

**Monday
6:30 pm – 9:25 pm**

Rebecca Haines

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Fall 2017

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

This course introduces the student to American Sign Language, the language used by the Deaf Community in the United States. This course covers fundamentals of the basic structure of ASL grammar, vocabulary, fingerspelling/numbers, and visual gestural communication, and the instruction of Cultural aspects of Deafness.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of ASL I, students will have the basic skills, both receptively and expressively, to do the following:

- Demonstrate the ability to select, produce, and use appropriate sign vocabulary for clear and accurate communication.
- Apply the appropriate grammar and syntax by using facial expression and body language to communicate in sign language effectively.
- Develop understanding of Deaf culture, differences between Deaf and hearing cultures and insight of the experiences of being deaf when communicating in a hearing world.

Required Text

Master ASL! (Lvl 1)(w/Master ASL Fingerspelling etc & DVD)

Author: Zinza

ISBN: 9781881133209

Copyright Year: Book: 2006, DVD: 2009

Publisher: Sign Media, Incorporated

GoReact Access Code Edition: N/A

Author: Goreact

ISBN: 9781611650112

Publisher: BYU ACADEMIC PUBLISHING

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 29	First Day of Classes
Sep 4	Labor Day – College is Closed
Sep 5	Last Day to Add a Class in Person
Sep 11	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive 50% Tuition Refund Only. Fees Will Not be Refunded.

Oct 9	Columbus Day – Classes in Session, College Open
Oct 17	Make-up Day
Nov 1	Last Day to Drop a Class or Withdraw with a Grade of “W” or to Put a Class on Audit or Pass/Fail
Nov 2	No Classes at Windham Technical High School site. Classes will be held in Danielson.
Nov 10	Veterans Day – Classes in Session, College Open
Nov 16	No Classes at Windham Technical High School site. Classes will be held in Danielson.
Nov 22	College Open – No Classes
Nov 23-26	Thanksgiving Recess – College Closed
Dec 11	Last Day of Classes
Dec 12-18	Final Exam

STUDENT CONDUCT

- Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. You are expected to treat the instructor and other students with courtesy and respect. A lack of respect to the instructor and fellow students is shown when electronic devices are used while class is in session. **Therefore, students using cell phones or the like will lose participation points and may be asked to excuse themselves from class.**
- Behaviors which interfere with the teaching of this course or with the ability of other students to learn from this course will **not be tolerated**. Students who do not behave properly will be given a notice twice, once orally and once written-and then dismissed from the class for the rest of the semester resulting in a failing grade.

Resources

www.aslpro.com (vocabulary)
www.lifeprint.com (vocabulary)
www.signingsavvy.com (vocabulary)
www.dnec.org (Deaf Events)
www.ccosd.org (Deaf Events)
www.asl.ms (fingerspelling practice)

Procedure

1. Classroom instruction of language components.
2. Modeling of target language.

3. Practice using target language in and outside of class.
4. Interaction with native users of target language.
5. In-class activities, discussions and presentations.
6. Homework, Quizzes, Tests and Final Exam.
7. Reflection papers related to language, culture, and people

Student Requirements/Method of Evaluation Overview:

Participation: 20%

Homework/Quizzes: 20%

Tests: 20%

Reflection Papers: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Detailed explanation:

1. Class Participation – 20%. You can earn up to 5 points per class. Class participation is a vital part of your language-learning experience. In order to learn a language one MUST participate in using it. This will include many in- class activities where students will demonstrate their expressive and receptive skills. You are expected to consistently interact with your instructor and classmates in American Sign Language. Since much of the class work will be directly related to homework assignments, homework completion will greatly impact your class participation grade. Arriving late, leaving early, or returning late from break, will result in a lower participation grade for that class. Using voice, for whatever reason, will result in a deduction of points from your class participation score. Use of cell phones, for whatever reason, will result in a deduction of points from your class participation score. Ways to improve your participation grade include, but are not limited to: Preparation, Timeliness, Class Interaction, Focus, Signed Responses, and Volunteering. Again, you can earn up to 5 points for each class. A student's one lowest score will be discarded. (If you miss a class, your class participation would be a 0. However, this would be discarded as your lowest scores.)

2. Quizzes/Homework – 20%. It is essential that you keep up with the vocabulary! Therefore, expect some unannounced vocabulary quizzes, especially if I feel that students are not keeping up with the vocabulary. There are no makeup quizzes. If you are absent, you will receive a grade of 0. However, your lowest grade will be discarded, so if you were absent on the night of a quiz, that 0 would be discarded as your lowest grade. These quizzes are totally separate from the Unit Tests. In addition, you may be assigned homework in the form of video submissions, written assignments, and/or presentations.

3. Unit Tests – 20%. There will be 3 unit tests, one at the end of each unit. Each unit test will include a written component, a receptive component, and an expressive component (video submission). If you are absent on the night of a test, it is totally at the discretion of the instructor whether or not the test can be made up. There should be no reason why the video submission component would not be submitted on time. All unit test grades will be counted.

4. Reflection Papers – 20%. Each student will be required to write 3 reflection papers worth 50 points each. Each paper will be **3 pages** typed, using the following guidelines:

- Each reflection paper is a representation of YOUR thoughts, YOUR feelings/beliefs, YOUR impressions, YOUR agreements/disagreements and why.
- Is this new or old information for you?
- How has this experience/material impacted you?
- How will you use this information?
- Does this information/activity change the way you think or support it? How and why?

Paper must be well written, including correct spelling and grammar.

If you are not in class on the due date, it is expected that your paper will be emailed to me at becky_haines@hotmail.com by 6:30pm on the due date. If late, your paper will lose 5 points. An additional 5 points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late.

The first paper will be a reflection on a TV viewing. The second will be a reflection on the movie Through Deaf Eyes. The third will be a reflection on a “Deaf Event” – a community event that you will attend outside of class. You must attend an event that will have Deaf people present i.e. it is presented in ASL or is interpreted. I will share with you events that I come across in the community that are signed and/or interpreted. Also, look at the website www.ccosd.org for Deaf Events. Should you learn of any events, please share them with the class. **Prior approval by the instructor as to what event you will attend is required. If you attend an event without prior approval from the instructor, the reflection paper on the Event will not be accepted.**

You must submit two copies of each reflection paper – one electronic copy to be emailed to me at becky_haines@hotmail.com prior to the start of class on the due date, and one printed copy to be handed in at the start of class on the due date. A printed copy of the paper must be submitted in order to receive a grade. If you will not be in class, submit your paper electronically by 6:30pm on the due date in order to receive full credit. A printed copy must be submitted at the start of the next class. Again, no grade will be given unless a printed copy is submitted. You will be penalized for late submissions of reflection papers.

Visit the Writing Center! Spelling and grammar errors will negatively impact your grade. It is also expected that your paper will be well written with **reflections** as

opposed to a summary of what took place. Please have a qualified person proofread your paper! Papers are to be double spaced, font size 12 pt, with one inch margins all around. At the top of your paper, simply write your name and the topic i.e. TV Viewing, Through Deaf Eyes, Deaf Event.

5. Final Exam - 20%. You will sign a story about a moment from your childhood. This will be discussed in depth as we get closer to the final exam. Quality of signing is an important component of presentations. Evaluation of each presentation will always be based on a rubric and will include the following criteria:

- Clarity and fluency of signs
- Choice of signs
- Correct usage/grammar
- Appropriate use of facial expressions and body language

****By the end of this course, we will have completed Units 1 – 3 of Master ASL! ****

Final letter grades are assigned based on the following percentages:

	A = 94 -100+	A- = 90 – 93
B+ = 87 - 89	B = 84 - 86	B- = 80 – 83
C+ = 77 - 79	C = 74 - 76	C- = 70 – 73
D+ = 67 - 69	D = 64 - 66	D- = 60 – 63
	F = 59 or below	

Those students who show proficiency/mastery of the goals and objectives by the end of the semester will receive grades accordingly. (C= proficiency; B = above proficiency; A= mastery)

Miscellaneous Expectations and Information:

- Class begins **promptly** at 6:30 p.m. and procedures will not be delayed to accommodate latecomers.
- **Consistent practice** using sign is of utmost importance if students are to master the language. Therefore, students will be expected to spend time outside of class practicing the language alone, with partners, in conversations, in a mirror, etc.

- **Watching the DVD and doing homework assignments are paramount to your success!**
- Any public library will have or be able to get through inter-library loan videos and books on ASL.
- If you are having ANY difficulty for any reason, please see me as early as possible to discuss ways of assisting you to be successful in this class.

College Withdrawal Policy

Students may withdraw, in writing, at the Registrar's Office for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. **NOTE:** You will need your instructor's signature if you decide to withdraw at the end of the 10th week.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

If you have a disability and wish to request academic adjustments, please contact and/or meet with:

John Lepore @ Jlepore@qvcc.edu (860.932.4069) in Danielson (Student Affairs Office) as soon as possible.

PLAGIARISM

In order to support the process of promoting academic integrity at QVCC, any student who plagiarizes work from an outside source or from another student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. I will also follow the process, which is outlined in the Student handbook for anyone who is suspected of Academic dishonesty.

If at any time you have concerns or questions about what is expected, how you are progressing, your grades, or anything else, please see me right away.

For Information regarding school cancellations due to weather call QVCC at 860-412-7200

MAKE-UP WORK & EXTRA CREDIT

- 1. Missed In-Class Activities cannot be made up due to the nature of the activities.**
- 2. Extra credit may (or may not) be allowed at the sole discretion of the instructor. The only way to earn extra credit would be to attend an additional Deaf Event and write a reflection paper.**

	IN CLASS	HOMEWORK
1 Unit 1 Sept 11	<p>Introductions (ABCs) Unit 1 vocab (1st 1/2, pp. 3-17) Syllabus and Written Acknowledgement Deaf Awareness "quiz" Eye contact and sign space Purpose and 5 Parameters Elephant Game (?)</p>	<p>read syllabus and sign acceptance of course policies read pages xv – xxiv and pages 3 - 17 practice fingerspelling your first and last name vocabulary pp. 3-17 KNOW THE PURPOSE OF ASL AND THE 5 PARAMETERS OF ASL</p>
2 Unit 1 Sept 18	<p>QUIZ (purpose, 5 parameters, vocabulary) Fingerspelling tips/practice (workbook - unit 1, page 1) Facial expression – emotion, grammar Dominant vs nondominant Precision (parameters) Unit 1 vocab (2nd half, pp. 18-30) Classroom Ex A, p. 5 Deixis, p. 6 Classroom Ex B, C3 (PowerPoint) Numbers 1 – 10, unit 1, p. 63, ex 1 & 2</p>	<p>DVD: Watch Eyes on ASL 1 & 2 Read pages 18-33 DVD: Fingerspelling names Unit 1 vocabulary - ALL</p>
3 Unit 1 Sept 25	<p>QUIZ ? (purpose, 5 parameters, vocabulary) Fs practice (lists from workbook) Closing signal p. 9 Classroom Ex E,F,G DVD: Introducing a Friend (copy sign) Classroom Ex H Question-Maker (eyebrows up) p. 15 Classroom Ex I p. 15 Classroom Ex J2 p. 16 (Note closing signals.) Classroom Ex K1-2 Classroom Ex L1-2</p>	<p>DVD: Eyes on ASL 3 & 4 DVD: Interacting with Deaf People Classroom Exercise J1 (Be ready to sign it to the class next week.) Workbook – Unit 1. Read pp. 2-3. Do exercises 3,4,7 Bring any questions about readings from this chapter. Next week will be your last chance to ask before Unit 1 Test! TV Viewing reflection paper due next week</p>
4 Unit 1 Oct 2	<p>TV Viewing reflection paper due Questions about chapter readings (submit on sticky notes at start of class) Conceptually correct signs p. 23 Classroom Ex O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W</p>	<p>DVD: Good-bye Study, study, study! Test next week!</p>
5 Unit 1 & 2 Oct 9	<p>TEST: Unit 1 Expressive due at start of class (GoReact) Receptive in class Unit 2 vocab (pp. 39-51)</p>	<p>Unit 1 written (take home) Unit 2 vocab (pp. 39-51)</p>

	Class activities	
6 Unit 2 Oct 16	<p>TEST: Unit 1 written collected at start of class</p> <p>vocab review</p> <p>p. 45 Homework Ex 1A (in class)</p> <p>DVD: My Advice (copy sign: nms, signs, combine)</p> <p>DVD: p. 40 Asking for Help. Pair up and sign dialogue.</p> <p>Unit 2 vocab (pp. 52-66)</p> <p>Classroom Ex A/1&2</p> <p>Classroom Ex B/1&2 (1st nms only, then add signs)</p> <p>Classroom Ex D1 (closed book, sentence strips)</p> <p>Classroom Ex D2 (closed book, powerpoint)</p>	<p>Unit 2 vocabulary – ALL</p> <p>DVD: I don't understand – practice signing the dialogue (Classroom Ex C4)</p> <p>Read Unit 2. Bring questions next week.</p>
7 Unit 2 Oct 23	<p>Vocabulary quiz</p> <p>Classroom Ex E (pairs)</p> <p>Classroom Ex F2 (pairs)</p> <p>Classroom Ex H (I ask to students.)</p> <p>Homework Ex A2 p. 51</p> <p>Classroom Ex I/1,2,3 (whole class)</p> <p>Classroom Ex J2 (whole class)</p> <p>DVD: Eyes on ASL #5</p> <p>Classroom Ex K1 (I ask to class.)</p> <p>Classroom Ex K2 (pairs)</p> <p>DVD: My Routine</p> <p>Classroom Ex L1 (I ask to students.)</p> <p>Classroom Ex M1&2 (combine): students interview each other and present to class</p>	<p>Watch <u>Through Deaf Eyes</u>. Reflection paper due next week.</p> <p>Bring any remaining questions from Unit 2 readings.</p>
8 Unit 2 Oct 30	<p>Through Deaf Eyes reflection paper due</p> <p>Classroom Ex N1&2 (I ask to class.)</p> <p>Classroom Ex O1 (pairs)</p> <p>DVD: Eyes on ASL #6 (no volume)</p> <p>Classroom Exercises P-R</p>	<p>Study, study, study! Test next week!</p> <p>You are responsible for ALL material from Unit 2 Master ASL book and DVD.</p>
9 Unit 2 & 3 Nov 6	<p>TEST: Unit 2</p> <p>Expressive due at start of class (GoReact)</p> <p>Receptive in class</p> <p>Unit 3 (1st 1/2 vocab)</p> <p>Class activities</p>	<p>Unit 2 written (take home)</p> <p>Unit 3 vocabulary – 1st half</p>
10 Unit 3 Nov 13	<p>TEST: Unit 2 written collected at start of class</p> <p>Unit 3 (2nd 1/2 vocab)</p> <p>Numbers 30 - 100 (handbook)</p> <p>DVD: Where are you from? Copy sign then</p>	<p>Unit 3 vocabulary – ALL</p> <p>Read pages 73-93</p> <p>DVD: Where do you live? (Kelly & Sean)</p>

	<p>answer questions as a class.(A2)</p> <p>A1: students interview each other (whole class) “oh-I-see”</p> <p>B2: partners</p> <p>C1: I read to students. Yes/no vs WH-face. Sign each sentence</p> <p>C2: partners. Open book.</p> <p>Fingerspelling practices: state capitals (whole class)</p> <p>PP slides: Describe. Where would you do the activity?</p> <p>If time: D1 & D2</p>	<p>Hmwk Ex 2B, p. 83 You will sign to class, using the state/country names.</p> <p>Classmates will ask questions.</p>
<p>11 Unit 3 Nov 20</p>	<p>Review months</p> <p>Receptive practice</p> <p>month, day, year</p> <p>Body shift:</p> <p>PP pictures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •I ask to class (slides 22 & 26) •Work in pairs <p>–switch between pictures (slides 21 & 28)</p>	
<p>12 Unit 3 Nov 27</p>	<p>Email addresses</p> <p>More question strips</p> <p>–small group</p> <p>More with PP slides</p> <p>Class Ex U</p> <p>–</p> <p>small group (sentence strips)</p> <p>Handout expressive for Unit 3 Test</p> <p>Receptive practice for Unit 3 Test</p> <p>Read: Older man needs hearing aids</p>	
<p>13 Unit 3 Dec 4</p>	<p>TEST: Unit 3</p> <p>Expressive due at start of class (GoReact)</p> <p>Receptive in class</p>	<p>Unit 3 written (take home)</p>
<p>14 Unit 3 Dec 11</p>	<p>TEST: Unit 3 written due at start of class</p> <p>Deaf Focus Panel</p>	<p>Final Exam video due next week by 6:30pm - childhood story</p>
<p>15 Dec 18</p>	<p>FINAL EXAM</p> <p>Childhood Story video submission due at start of class</p>	