**ASL 1- Beginning American Sign Language Online CRN: 52700**

**Reedley College (RC) Fall, 2020**

**Instructor:** Christine Gough-Bise MA; NAD-V; NIC-Master

**Gender preferred pronouns:** She, Her, Hers

**Email:** [christine.bise@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:christine.bise@reedleycollege.edu)

**Reedley College Phone Number:** 559-638-3641 (For urgent needs and if email is not available)

**Conferzoom:** [www.conferzoom.org](http://www.conferzoom.org/)

**Recommended browser:** Chrome

**Class Location:** WEB/ 100% Online

**Office Location:** I do not have an office on campus and do not have scheduled office hours as an adjunct instructor; however, please email or Canvas message me and I will respond within 48 hours.

**Class Meeting Times:** 08/10-12/11/20

# Required Texts/Materials/ Supplies:

1. Bryant, R., Gelineau, L., Shannon, T., Harris, R., & Marbury, N. (2019). *TRUE+WAY ASL: Unit 1-6 student e-workbook*. Austin, TX: Purple Moontower. [http://truewayasl.com](http://truewayasl.com/)
2. Video feedback platform – example: Goreact.com, Flipgrid.com
3. Computer or laptop device with webcam
4. Consistent access to and use of Canvas and internet
5. Paper, pen/ pencil

**Important Deadlines & Dates: Please see Reedley College website.**

**Instructor Response Time:** I check email and Canvas messages daily Monday-Friday and plan to respond within 48 hours of receiving your messages. Typically, I may not respond on weekends. So, please plan ahead in working and exploring through your studies, lessons and assignments so that you may formulate your observations, comments and questions with as much advance notice as possible.

**Course Description:** This course is an interactive study of Units 1-6 from the *True+Way ASL* curriculum and online distance education instruction regarding American Sign Language (ASL), Deaf Culture and Deaf Communities. Students will cover topics related to diverse real-life experiences using ASL- a multi-dimensional and visual-spatial language. Emphasis will be on both receptive and expressive linguistic features for a beginning learner of ASL using question and answer, conversation and presentation parameters using ASL. This requires: intensive, collaborative and consistent practice of American Sign Language (ASL) which involves observing, analyzing, learning and using accurate: handshapes; palm orientation; location; movement and non-manual grammatical markers, facial expressions, finger-spelling, number-spelling, eye contact and use of eyes, grammatical syntax, semantics and pragmatics. This also encourages an understanding of information on and discussion of Deaf Cultural Norms. The course learning outcomes may be achieved through a series of: discussions, readings, lectures, homework lessons, viewings and presentations; as well as, individual and group activities, multi-media and partner pair conversations. The overall goals of ASL-1 are to have you appreciate and respect ASL as a living, distinctive and naturally-occurring language, and to respect Deaf people as a community who have a unique set of cultural experiences, norms and values. In using the *True+Way ASL* curriculum, the following course topics in culturally appropriate language functions may be introduced, modeled, practiced, used in conversation, demonstrated and presented.

**Course Topics:**

Unit 1 Welcome to the Deaf World! Unit 2 Academics

Unit 3 Family and Relationship

Unit 4 Residences and Communities Unit 5 Scheduling

Unit 6 Good Times

# Course Rationale/Objectives:

The purpose of this course is designed to help you develop the study skills you need to learn a language and to review and practice what you are learning in your language class. This may include lectures, small group activities, use of electronic media, participating in online ASL homework labs, and virtual online Deaf events. You will be encouraged to practice your receptive and expressive skills so that you can have an ongoing positive interactive experience with your language course. Students are expected to consistently participate in class by being well prepared to participate in weekly discussions, activities, and lessons. The grammatical explanations will be kept to a minimum and students will be required to work in pairs and small groups. Active participation in group work is required for the success of the class.

ASL 1: Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, the students should be able to:

* 1. Progress in Vocabulary Development
     1. Recognize and produce vocabulary items in each unit.
     2. Demonstrate comprehensive mastery of targeted vocabulary words drawn from class items, lecture, and videos.
  2. Grammatical Features
     1. Demonstrate comprehensive mastery of target, content-specific commands, questions, and statements in ASL.
     2. Identify grammatical features within short dialogues in ASL as directed by the professor.
  3. Conversational and Communication Skills
     1. Demonstrate comprehension and conversation facilitating behaviors.
     2. Demonstrate comprehension and production of regulating behaviors (i.e. attention getting techniques, turn taking signals, and others)
     3. Comprehend short narratives and stories in ASL as signed by the professor, Deaf users of ASL, or viewed on ASL videos.
     4. Demonstrate the ability to create, conduct and terminate a short content- specific conversation.
  4. Cultural Awareness
     1. Analyze and critique competing perspectives of diverse Deaf communities in the United States, Canada and/ or the world, ideas, aesthetic traditions, and cultural practices, and its history.
     2. Compare, contrast, and interpret differences and commonalities among Deaf and hearing culture

**ASL Zone:** This course space is an ASL Zone, avoid voicing or spoken language mouthing during class time. Once any of our ASL sessions begin, please silence yourself and sign with your class peers and instructor to the best of your ability applying what you have learned from what has been assigned. Talking without signing in the presence of a Deaf professor or any Deaf person is considered rude in Deaf culture. Write notes to each other if you must or SIGN! This NO VOICE rule will be enforced from the beginning until the end of the class. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the class sessions.

Below is a Tentative Course Schedule, PLEASE Wait for the Assignments to be officially assigned in Canvas.

# Tentative Course Schedule\*

***Week Unit***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Syllabus | Unit 1: Welcome to the Deaf World! (1.1) |
| 2 | Unit 1.2 & 1.3 |
| 3 | Unit 1.4 & 1.5 | Unit 1 SOAR |
| 4 | Unit 2: Academics (2.1 - 2.3) |
| 5 | Unit 2.4 & 2.5 | Unit 2 SOAR |
| 6 | Unit 1 & 2 Review | Unit 1 & 2 Test |
| 7 | Unit 3: Family and Relationships (3.1 & 3.2) |
| 8 | Unit 3.3 & 3.4 | Unit 3 SOAR |
| 9 | Unit 4: Residences and Communities (4.1 - 4.3) |
| 10 | Unit 4.4 | Unit 4 SOAR |
| 11 | Unit 3 & 4 Review | Unit 3 & 4 Test |
| 12 | Unit 5: Scheduling (5.1 & 5.2) |
| 13 | Unit 5.3-5.6 | Unit 5 SOAR |
| 14 | Unit 6: Good Times (6.1 - 6.3) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 15 | Unit 6.4 & 6.5 | Unit 5 & 6 Review | Unit 6 SOAR | Unit 5 & 6 Test |
| 16 | Review | Final Exam |

***\**** *varies depending on several factors such as whether your campus has ASL Lab (hours and tutors), the class format, total of contact hours, and/or technology accessibility/availability.*

**Methods of Instruction:**

An effective way to learn a language is to be acculturated in the language and culture through naturally using it in daily conversations. To encourage the development of your ASL linguistic and Deaf cultural knowledge and skills, students are highly encouraged to use visual ways to communicate; rather than using their voices, unless invited to do so. This class is **highly interactive** so most of the classspace activities involve partner pair, small and large group activities. The instruction and activities will vary widely in format and will include homework lessons, ASL, props, miming, pictures, visual projections, written instructions, etc. **ASL-1 is cumulatively building on each previous lesson and unit.**

**Student Learning Objectives and Outcomes:**

Vocabulary Development **:** Given a set of targeted vocabulary, syntactic and pragmatic items drawn from Units 1-6 of the True+WayASL Electronic/ digital text book and videos, students are encouraged to demonstrate comprehensive mastery of vocabulary, syntactic and pragmatic items in natural conversations, class activities and presentations.

Grammatical Features: Students are highly encouraged to demonstrate comprehensive mastery of target, content-specific commands, questions, and statements in ASL.

Students will be exposed to short dialogue in ASL as modeled and guided by instructor and other language role models via videos, etc.

Conversational Skills: Students are encouraged to demonstrate comprehension and conversation facilitating behaviors.

Students will learn pragmatic features of ASL and Deaf Cultural behaviors by being exposed to and demonstrating: attention getting techniques, turn-taking signals, maintaining and shifting topics.

Students are encouraged to demonstrate the ability to initiate, maintain and terminate short content-specific conversations.

Cultural Awareness: Students are encouraged to attend virtual and/ or physical social functions/events at which members of the Deaf community are present while observing and following all social distancing and observing and following federal, state and local laws and mandates and protocols. (Optional but HIGHLY encouraged), Throughout the course, Deaf culture will be shared through viewings, readings and discussions.

**Course Policy:** Consistent weekly online attendance through weekly participation, preparation, engagement and practice of class activities and lessons during class and of assigned homework outside of class are the keys to success in this course. Students are highly encouraged to find sufficient time for analyzing, practicing, collaborating, inquiring, completing homework and assignments before class starts.

**Late Work Is Not Accepted:** Students are given reasonable amount of time in assignment and lesson preparation, study and practice in advance and need to submit all assignments by the due dates in Canvas. Late work is generally not accepted unless there is an extenuating circumstance by which extra credit assignments may be offered to all students.

**Student Learning:** Skills and Knowledge Enhancement Exercises include online, remote activities and homework lessons which are designed to help you gain natural use of ASL. These activities will be assigned participation points. All assignments are due at the specified due dates in Canvas.

**Finger-spelling, Number-spelling and Core Vocabulary Review:** Constant review of the vocabulary and regular practice of fingerspelling and numbers is critical to your progress in this course. Practice by doing the homework lessons for at least 2 hours before each class session and at least 2 hours after new material has been learned. Practicing intermittently every week may help you recall and utilize language features that you have learned and explore where you may need to improve while validating what you may have mastered. Practicing with a partner may also help you learn receptively (visually) and expressively (tactilely).

**Dialogues:** In this course, you may be frequently practicing dialogues. The purpose of these exercises is to support your development of grammatical and functional/ pragmatic application of the language and give you an opportunity to get feedback on your progress from your peers and your instructor.

**Cultural and Grammatical Readings:** Culture and language coexist. To fully appreciate any language and culture, you must also have a sense of the communities who use the language. We may explore diverse Deaf communities by discussing various readings and/ or viewings on Deaf Communities/Deafness/Deaf population/Deaf services.

**Assessment and Evaluation:** Any opportunity for feedback and evaluation is an opportunity for learning and growth. This course is structured so that you will receive feedback continually throughout the semester, and from this feedback you can determine your progress.

Quizzes, assignments, assessments and projects may cover all materials assigned from Units 1-6 viewings, homework and practicing as well as those presented or discussed and must be taken during the scheduled due dates. Students are responsible for regularly participating in classes. Students are also responsible for attending and being prepared for all quizzes, midterm examination and final examination. The instructor may reschedule quizzes due to class progression. NO MAKE-UPS FOR QUIZZES, MID-TERM OR FINAL WILL BE GIVEN.

**Plagiarism and Course Cheating Policy:** Plagiarism/cheating is a serious academic offense that is not tolerated. A student who plagiarizes on an exam or other assignments will receive a grade of 0 points for the assignment or exam. Further follow-up will be handled in accordance with the college’s policies and procedures.

**Communication/ Email:** Any student who misses partial or full assignments is highly encouraged and expected to contact fellow classmates for further information. If you have any questions or concerns, please send an e-mail to the instructor or communicate with the instructor as soon as you are reasonably able or before/ after the due date. Instructor cannot be expected to reteach due to your absence; however, the homework and conversations with fellow classmates may help support what you may have missed.

**Class Space/ Distance Education/ Online Space Behavior:** Students are asked to treat the instructor and each other will respect. Using ASL further promotes your progress in becoming more familiar with using ASL. Students should not behave in a manner that is disruptive to the learning environment or infringes on the rights and safety of other class members.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation per the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please communicate with the instructor as soon as possible. If you are a student with a disability and/ or have questions regarding people with disabilities and services this office may provide, you are encouraged to access the DSP&S Disability Students Programs and Services office with the college campus.

**Class Contributions, Absences and Participation: 360 points (18 week class sessions)**

Classroom instruction and interaction is primarily achieved using ASL. Weekly participation is critical for learning and each class Discussion lesson is valued at 20 points toward your participation grade. This is a college level course so lack of participation through completion may result in deduction of points. Students are highly encouraged to check Canvas weekly regarding individual student’s attendance record and report to the instructor in a timely manner any discrepancy of that record. Students are required to participate for the full final period as part of the overall presentation/ observation rubric grade.

**Grading Plan and Assignments Include Participation/ Quizzes/ Assignments/ Mid-Term/ Final**

* **Participation (360 points)**
* ***Quiz #1* Units 1 & 2 (100 points)**
* **Documentary Viewing (50 points)**
* **Documentary & Group Discussion Project (50 points)**
* ***Mid-Term Project* Units 1-3 (100 points)**
* ***Quiz #2* Units 1-5 (100 points)**
* ***Final ASL Presentation/ Observation Project* Units 1-6 (100 points)**

**Assignments/ Assessments:** Making connections

**Assignments throughout the semester:** Assignments from our digital text may be assigned weekly in Canvas. These assignments will be assigned as we progress as a class through each lesson to avoid working ahead and to promote collaboration, focused time with each lesson and student equity in progress. The assignments count toward overall participation contributions under the participation points. Additional activities will be assigned as part of in-class work as we move through the material.

**Homework/ Extension Work:** The purpose of homework is to continuously extend the learning outside of the classroom in various spaces across time with multiple people and touch points. Homework is not graded; however, is regularly assigned weekly on Canvas as a way to encourage and promote learning outside of the class space. Consistent completion of homework may promote overall significant, individual student success toward learning course content. All homework is directly tied to what we learn in this course and what may be assessed as part of any assessment. Homework is due every week after it has been assigned from the prior class week so that students can prepare to apply it to future assignments and assessments. Due dates will be posted in advance in Canvas. This means that students are highly encouraged and expected to have experienced progressive and consistent completion of the homework lessons so that students may continue to progressively prepare and contribute to each next class session and not work ahead as we move forward learning future lessons.

**Quizzes:** There will be a total of 2 cumulative quizzes this semester at 100 points each:

* **Quiz #1: Units 1 & 2**
* **Quiz # 2: Units 1-5**

**Mid-Term Conversational Tasks Units 1-3:** Students may engage in several, various assigned conversational tasks using ASL covering Units 1-3 during the mid-term. **100 points**

***Through Deaf Eyes* PBS documentary viewing and group discussion/review questions:** After students view the documentary, on Discussions within small groups, you will discuss important questions and share observations and experiences regarding American Deaf Culture, ASL and your individual, unique culture(s), language(s) and experiences. During the viewing of the film, students will note his/ her observations and curiosities while answering questions on a worksheet provided by the instructor. Film viewing and notes on worksheet = 50 points; Class discussion = 50 points. **Total =** **100 points Due: End of class discussion**

**Final Exam Project Units 1-6: Famous Person who is Deaf ASL Presentation:** Research any famous Deaf person of your choice from anywhere in the world and share introductory information about this person by presenting **­in ASL using content learned from Units 1-6** in a 1-2 minute presentation to the class using what you have learned in ASL-1 and observe fellow classmates’ presentations. Provide a minimum of 5 visual aids to support and enhance your presentation to include using an electronic presentation format. Examples of electronic presentation formats may include Power point or Prezi. A rubric will also be provided. Information to include: First and last name of person; Still living or deceased; Born when/ where; If Died when/ where; From where; Currently lives where; Why he/ she is famous and Any additional information/ details as it relates to the presentation and as time allows. **100 points**

**Grading Points: 860**

**Quiz #1: 100**

**Documentary Viewing: 50**

**Documentary group discussion: 50**

**Mid-term: 100**

**Quiz #2: 100**

**Final: Famous Person Project Presentation & Observation: 100**

**Participation (tallied at end of final session of this semester): 360**

**Total Possible Points = 860**

A 90-100% 774-860

B 80%-89% 688-773

C 70-79% 602-687

D 60%- 69% 516-601

F 59% or below 515 or below

**COURSE OUTLINE ASL 1- Beginning American Sign Language Fall, 2020**

**ASL-1 is cumulatively building on each previous lesson and unit. **

Aug 10-14: Syllabus, Course Outline, Introduction & Unit 1

Aug 17-21: Unit 1

Aug 24-28: Unit 1 and Begin Unit 2

Aug 31-Sept 4: Continue building on Units 1-2

**Sept 7: Labor Day (No classes held; campus closed)**

Sept 8-11: Continue building on Units 1-2

Sept 14-18: Continue building on Units 1-2 and Begin Unit 3

Sept 21-25: Continue building on Units 1-3

Sept 28- Oct 2: Continue building on Units 1-3 and Begin unit 4

Oct 5-9: Continue building on Units 1-4

Oct12-16:Continue building on Units 1-4 and Begin Unit 5

Oct 19-23: Continue building on Units 1-5

Oct 26-30: Continue building on Units 1-5

Nov 2-6: Continue Units 1-5

Nov 9-13: Continue Units 1-5 and Begin Unit 6

Nov 16-20: Continue Units 1-6

Nov 23-25: Continue Units 1-6

**Nov 26-27: Thanksgiving (No classes held; campus closed)**

Nov 30-Dec 4: Continue Units 1-6 and Prepare for Final

**Dec 7-11 Finals Week FINAL Famous Person Project Presentation & Observation FINAL IS DUE BY FRIDAY DEC 11 AT 5:00PM**

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