

~~AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 2~~
FALL SYLLABUS 1999

Instructor: Christine ~~Smith~~
Classes: Mondays and Wednesdays
6:00pm - 7:50pm

Phone: 230-2879
Office Hours: By Appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

* Smith, Lentz, & Mikos, **SIGNING NATURALLY: STUDENT WORKBOOK**, Level Two, Dawn Sign Press, Berkeley, CA. 1988.

* Smith, Lentz, & Mikos, **SIGNING NATURALLY: STUDENT VIDEOTEXT**, Level Two, Dawn Sign Press, Berkeley, CA. 1988.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

* This course is designed to continue to introduce students to a visual-gestural, multi-dimensional language (ASL) which is used by the Deaf community in the United States and Canada. It will introduce students to the culture of the Deaf community and its appropriate behaviors. Students will also be engaging in conversation using ASL at a level expected for ASL 2 learners. Students are expected to actively participate in a variety of class activities in each class session throughout the entire semester.

ATTENDANCE:

* Attendance is strongly encouraged in order to provide a conducive learning environment for the entire class; as well as individually. If you miss a class, are late, and/or leave early; your participation grade will be affected as a deduction of points will occur. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor when you have missed an exam. If you miss an exam, there will not be any make ups offered. If you miss an exam, you will be able to drop your lowest score.

PUNCTUALITY:

* Students are expected to arrive to class on time and attend for the entire class period. I cannot teach you if you are not in class. We will take breaks accordingly.

HOMEWORK & CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION:

* When assignments are given, I strongly encourage you to complete them to the best of your ability. I also expect them to be turned in at the assigned due date. Your classroom participation plays a significant role in the assessment of your final grade; as well as, how well you learn the language. Experience has shown that students who participate and are motivated learn more and sign better.

EXAMINATIONS:

drop date

* The Mid-term and Final exams will be cumulative. Occasionally, I will administer a pre-announced POP quiz. This means that each student must be well prepared for each and every class.

PRESENTATIONS:

* There will be 1-2 presentations during this semester. This is tentatively scheduled. However, I feel strongly that students have the opportunity to present to the class so that their skills can be fostered in the expressive manner.

EXPECTATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE STUDENTS:

* Please wait until I assign readings and viewings of the videotape; otherwise, you may experience frustration. The timing of the material is crucial to the success of learning each task.

* In order to facilitate the learning and mastery of ASL at this level, students are not allowed to speak during class. Pretend you are in the Deaf world when you enter the classroom. This means to **TURN OFF YOUR VOICES PLEASE**.

* Students are not allowed to act as "pseudo" interpreters. This means that if you know more signs than another student, you are not to interpret. This is to ensure that each student has the opportunity to learn at his/her own pace. We all learn differently and I embrace this quality as individual learners.

***Remember, ASL and English are two distinct languages possessing their own linguistic features in terms of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and discourse. Thus, the sign vocabulary will be taught in context since many signs in ASL do not have English equivalents.

EVALUATION AND GRADES BASES ON THE FOLLOWING:

Class Participation	5
Quizzes (5, 1 lowest score dropped)	25 each
Mid-term	100
Final	100
Presentations	10 each
TOTAL	325

Your lowest quiz score will be dropped so please be advised that there will be no makeup quizzes. If you have an extenuating circumstance, please see me and I will make a discretionary decision. You will be allowed to make up the Mid term or Final IF you notify me in advance. Otherwise, you will receive a zero for that exam.

FINAL GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

325-290 A

289-255 B

254-220 C

219-185 D

184-0 F

Please Note that the following dates are holidays and class will not be held on those dates.

Holidays: Monday, September 6

Thursday, November 11

Thursday-Friday, November 25-26

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns; please **PLEASE** do not hesitate to contact me via the aforementioned phone number. I am more than happy to meet with you by appointment in a private meeting or talk with you on the phone. I am very approachable and understanding but I also expect honest and clear communication so that we both may ensure a successful semester for each of us. Thank you!

I encourage you to ask questions during class at **ANY TIME!!!!** I am always happy to answer questions and when I lack the answer, I will find someone who will have the answer. I look forward to a wonderful semester as we learn together in ASL 2. Remember, mistakes are to be expected, that is part of normal linguistic development. Mistakes are your best tool! My teaching philosophy is a collaborative, student-directed, student-empowered, team approach. Thus, this is your game so let's **PLAY SERIOUSLY!!!**

Thank you.