

REEDLEY COLLEGE
Beginning American Sign Language
ASL - 1 - 56923 (Tuesday/Thursday)
August 18 - December 15, 2015
6:00 p.m. to 7:50 p.m.

Fall Semester 2015

Instructor:

Betty Shaw

Phone/Text: 559-908-3764

Email: betty.shaw@reedleycollege.edu

Required Text:

Learning American Sign Language
by Tom Humphries and Carol Padden
Deaf Like Me
by Thomas S. Spradley

Course Description:

An introduction to the study of American Sign Language. Cultural differences between Deaf and hearing people and appropriate behaviors for social interaction will be examined.

Course Objectives:

Students will:

1. gain insight into common myths associated with the Deaf.
2. distinguish between acceptable and unacceptable ways to interrupt signing conversations depending on the situations.
3. identify a socially acceptable way to start or end a signing conversation and how this differs from hearing people.
4. write analytically and critically in two research papers relevant to topics in the course outline.
5. be able to converse in American Sign Language.

Course Requirements:

Students will:

1. bring textbook to class each week.
2. participate in class discussions and cooperative groups.
3. take notes during videos and complete homework assignments (5 points) each class period.
4. take quizzes (20 points) each class period.
5. develop a class binder (50 points).
6. complete two two-page research papers (40 points each) on topics of choice related to the Deaf. Both must be completed for A grade.
7. read and take an exam on the book, Deaf Like Me (120 points).
8. choreograph and sign a song to be performed in class (100 points).
9. take a final performance and written exam (150 points) on last day of class, Dec. 10, 2015.
10. maintain good attendance. (5 tardies = absence and on 6th absence, student will be dropped from class - No Exceptions). Last day to drop a class without penalty is October 16, 2015.

Late Assignments:

Receive 1/2 credit.

Extra Credit:

Opportunities will be given throughout the semester for assignments equivalent to 80 extra credit points.

Holidays:

Thanksgiving – November 26, 2015

Grade Distribution

Grade	Percent
A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	below 59%

Total Points

Performance quizzes	520
Performance song	100
Video notes & homework	40
Research papers (40 ea)	80
Notebook	50
Tests (40 ea)	120
Final	150
Total points	1060

RESEARCH PAPER - PERSON
ASL - 1
Fall 2015 (Reedley College)

Students will write one research paper about a person who is Deaf or a person who has contributed significantly to the Deaf culture/community. The first page is the cover page. The body of the research paper must be at least two full pages in length with one-inch margins, typewritten in size 12 font, and double-spaced. At least two sources must be noted on the fourth page. The paper must be composed in the student's own words.

The body of the research paper will have the following format:

Introduction: Explain why you are interested in this person.

2nd paragraph: Describe the significant life events of the person

including how/when/why person became deaf.

3rd paragraph: Describe the person's significant contributions to

the world.

4th paragraph: Answer the following question and give reasons

for your answer. "Did deafness have a positive or

negative influence on the person's life (or both)?"

Conclusion: If you feel you can generalize, tell what you have

learned about the Deaf experience from studying

this person OR tell how this person has helped you

better understand the Deaf experience.

Choose a person of interest to you. **Original research paper and one**

copy must be submitted to instructor no later than **Tuesday, September 8, 2015.**

Research paper is worth 40 points and must be completed for an A semester grade. Late papers will be accepted for one-half credit.

RESEARCH PAPER - ORGANIZATION
ASL - 1
Fall 2015 (Reedley College)

Students will write one research paper about an organization which supports the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community. The first page is the cover page. The body of the research paper must be at least two full pages in length with one-inch margins, typewritten in size 12 font, and double-spaced. At least one source must be noted on the fourth page. The paper must be composed in student's own words.

The body of the research paper will include the following information:

Name and address of organization

Date of inception, name of founder, story behind its beginning

Name of current president

Funding source

Purpose of organization

Services the organization provides

Additional interesting information

Personal comments

Choose an organization of interest to you. **Original research paper**

and three printed pages of information from organization must be

submitted to instructor no later than **Tuesday, October 27, 2015**. Research

paper is worth 40 points and must be completed for an A semester grade. Late

papers will be accepted for one-half credit.

FALL 2015 SCHEDULE - Reedley College - ASL - 1 - 56923

Introduction	Aug 18/20	T/TH
Unit 1	Aug 25/27	T/TH
Unit 2/ Work on Research Paper - No Class	Sep 1/3	T/TH
Unit 2/Unit 3 Research Paper "Person" Due T 9/8	Sep 8/10	T/TH
Unit 3/Unit 4	Sep 15/17	T/TH
Unit 4/Unit 5 Deaf Like Me Ch 1-7 Test T 9/22	Sep 22/24	T/TH
Unit 5/Unit 6	Sep 29/Oct 1	T/TH
Unit 6/Unit 7 Deaf Like Me Ch 8-14 Test T 10/6	Oct 6/8	T/TH
Unit 7/Unit 8	Oct 13/15	T/TH
Unit 8/Unit 9 Deaf Like Me Ch 15-20/Epiogue Test T10/20	Oct 20/22	T/TH
Unit 9/Unit 10	Oct 27/29	T/TH
Unit 10/Work on Research Paper - No Class Research Paper "Organization" Due T 11/3	Nov 3/5	T/TH
Review Units 1-10/Deaf Culture Video	Nov 10/12	T/TH
"Love Is Never Silent" Movie Exchange for Deaf Event - No Class	Nov 17/19	T/TH
Nov 24	Nov 24	T
Thanksgiving Holiday	Nov 26	TH
Perform Song	Dec 1/3	T/TH
Final Review/Extra Credit Due	Dec 8	T
Final Exam/Binder Due	Dec 10	TH