

College of Education and Human Development Division of Special Education and disAbility Research

Spring 2019 EDSE 115 001: American Sign Language (ASL) I CRN: 12706, 4 – Credits

Instructor: Aja Puopolo	Meeting Dates : 1/22/2019 – 5/15/2019
Phone : 703-993-2474	Meeting Day(s): Monday/Wednesday
E-Mail: apuopolo@gmu.edu	Meeting Time(s) : 4:30 pm – 6:20 pm
Office Hours: by appointment	Meeting Location: Fairfax, T 2021
Office Location: SUB 1, Suite 2500	Other Phone: NA

**Note: This syllabus may change according to class needs. Teacher Candidates/Students will be advised of any changes immediately through George Mason e-mail and/or through Blackboard.

Prerequisite(s): None **Co-requisite(s)**: None

Course Description

Focuses on introduction of American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. Teaches basic person-to-person conversational signing. Emphasizes development of expressive and receptive skills. Increases knowledge of ASL vocabulary and the syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of the language. Offered by <u>Graduate School of Education</u>. May not be repeated for credit.

Advising Contact Information

Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress through your program. Mason M.Ed. and Certificate teacher candidates/students should contact the Special Education Advising Office at (703) 993-3670 for assistance. All other teacher candidates/students should refer to their faculty advisor.

Course Delivery Method

Face to face

Learning activities include the following:

- 1. Class lecture and discussion
- 2. Application activities
- 3. Small group activities and assignments

- 4. Video and other media supports
- 5. Research and presentation activities
- 6. Electronic supplements and activities via Blackboard

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Develop initial proficiency in the language used to teach individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and master sufficient ASL conversational skills and vocabulary to effectively communicate with members of the Deaf community in the United States (DH1S2, VHI8).
- 2. Develop and enrich cultural competency relative to the deaf community and demonstrate awareness of dynamic language, culture, and multicultural issues alive in the Deaf community today (DH1S2).
- 3. Participate in an academic exploration of multicultural issues, linguistic code switching, and language dominance as it relates to spoken languages in general (DH1S2).

Course Relationship to Program Goals and Professional Organizations

Goals, objectives, and assignments in this class address NCATE Standard 1b/ Pedagogical Content Knowledge and 1c / Skills Professional and Pedagogical Knowledge and Skills, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Knowledge and Skill Standards, the Council on Education of the Deaf, and the Virginia Department of Education teacher licensure competencies. Code for CEC/CED Standards: CC = Common Core and DH = Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Code for VADOE Standards: VHI = Virginia's Hearing Impairments PreK-12 and VPS = Virginia's Professional Studies.

Required Textbooks

Smith, C., Lentz, E., & Mikos, K. (2008). Signing naturally: Units 1-6 student set. San Diego, CA: Dawn Sign Press.

Recommended Textbooks

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Required Resources

Newell, W., Sanders, C., Holcomb, B., Holcomb, S., Caccamise, F., Peterson, R. (2010). *ASL at Work: Student Text.* San Diego, CA: Dawn Sign Press.

For this course, the class will use the ASL lab to work on assignments from the ASL at Work textbooks. Students do not need to purchase lab books. Books are available in the lab. Students will attend lab sessions during open hours to complete the assignments.

Laptop, tablet, or IPad for in-class assignments

Whiteboard markers/white board (required for each class session, can be purchased at Dollar Tree)

Sign up and register GoReact, \$20 fee (invitation link will be sent via email and posted on Bb) https://goreact.com/

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, Tk20, hard copy).

Tk20 Performance-Based Assessment Submission Requirement

There is no required performance-based assessment for this course.

Assignments and/or Examinations

Performance-based Assessment (Tk20 submission required)

N/A

College Wide Common Assessment (TK20 submission required)

N/A

Performance-based Common Assignments (No Tk20 submission required)

N/A.

Other Assignments

ASL I CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

• <u>Syllabus Test</u> (5pts): Students will review the syllabus and answer questions based on the content. Test will be available on Blackboard. Test allows multiple attempts.

Post: Blackboard (Bb)

• <u>In-class Receptive Tests</u> (10pts each, the 3rd which is the final test): There will be three receptive tests during the semester. Students will be assessed on their ability to understand what is being signed to them.

Post: In-class assignment, bring laptop/tablet/IPad

- Expressive Tests (10pts each): There will be two expressive video tests during the semester. Students will be assessed on their ability to express themselves in ASL. Students will sign a simple story using the vocabulary and grammar structures learned in class
 - Test 1: Your Autobiography, page 90. Students will create a video describing their autobiography.

Test 2: Your Narrative, page 149. Students will create a video describing their narrative.

Post: GoReact

• Final Exam Video Sign Presentation (10 pts, See Assessment Rubric below): Students will prepare a video (outside of class) using the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned throughout the semester (based on the units and lessons in class) to express a narrative. The video should be approximately 5 minutes. It will be due 1 week prior to the final receptive test. A written script in Word document must be provided and submitted on Blackboard. The presentation must be cohesive and make sense (it does not have to be true).

Narrative: This will entail all elements from Expressive 1 and 2 tests (pg. 90 and 149). Students will add new elements from pg. 213-214 (this will serve as a model to help personalize the student's version). The more detailed information, the better! Do not overuse fingerspelling. Post: Video in GoReact, Script in Bb

• Written Final Exam (20 pts): Comprehensive short answer, multiple choice, and T/F questions based on information presented in class and in the required text.

Post: In-class Bb assignment

• Deaf Community Events (20 pts) Students are required to attend two (2) Deaf community events. Students can find events using the websites below.

Fairfax ASL Social:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/aslclub2015/

ASL Dinner (MD/DC):

http://asldinner.webs.com/

ASL Bridge:

https://www.meetup.com/ASLBridge/

Silent Dinner-Alexandria/Woodbridge/Stafford:

https://www.meetup.com/Silent-Dinner-Alexandria-Lorton-Woodbridge/

Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Persons (click on community events calendar):

https://nvrc.org/news/

Gallaudet University:

https://my.gallaudet.edu/calendar

ASL Trivia (must be 21+ to participate):

https://www.facebook.com/ASLTriviaDC/

Deaf Coffee -Winchester

https://happy.deafcoffee.com/listing-category/virginia/

Another option is to Google the following – Silent Dinner in (city, VA), Silent Supper in (city, VA), or Deaf Event in (city, VA).

The purpose of this activity is for students to practice their signing skills and to engage with the Deaf community. Captioned movies do not count toward a Deaf Community Event activity. It is the student's responsibility to find a Deaf event to attend. If students are unsure if the event is acceptable, please seek approval from instructor.

After the event, students will write a paper detailing their experience. The paper must be a maximum of one page and double-spaced for each event. Include a picture of yourself at the event, and a comprehensive and concise answer to each question below.

- 1. Name of the Deaf Community Event
- 2. When the event occurred

- 3. The purpose of the event
- 4. Describe the people who attended.
- 5. What observations were made?
- 6. Describe the feelings evoked.
- 7. Thoughts and feeling toward this event (before and after)
- 8. What was learned from this experience?
- 9. Describe any differences between a hearing event and a Deaf event.
- 10. Other keen observations, thoughts or unanswered questions

Post: Attach a Word doc in Bb with all events included in one submission

• <u>Homework and Self-Assessments</u> (65 pts): During each unit, it is expected that students watch the DVD and complete the activities and reading. Since the class moves quickly, it is recommended that students watch the DVD immediately prior to a unit, and again during a unit.

Unit 1:	Unit 3:
1:2 pg. 7 "Write the Number"	3:5 pg. 120 "Minidialogue 1-3"
1:3 pg. 13 "Circle the Letter 2"	3:8 pg. 129 "How Many of What?"
1:8 pg. 27 "Minidialogue 1-6"	3:10 pg. 134 "Expressing Needs"
Unit 2:	Unit 4:
2:2 pg. 59 "Write the Number"	4:5 pg. 191 "Minidialogues"
2:4 pg. 63 "Language Background"	4:7 pg. 198 "How Old?"
2:6 pg. 69 "Who Enjoys What?"	4:13 pg. 207 "David's Keys"
2:9 pg. 80 "Names and Tidbits"	

Post: Bb, either upload picture of the completed pages from workbook, or submit questions/answers in a Word doc (submissions must be one attachment, do not submit separate files). Handwritten assignments *must* be eligible. Points will be deducted for ineligible work.

ASL LAB ASSIGNMENTS

Lab Homework: (55 pts.) Students will be required to attend the ASL Lab on a weekly basis.

Lab: Read pgs. 6-8, Answer questions #1-3 on pg. 18

Lab: Read pgs. 10-12, Answer questions #4-8 on pg. 18

Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 19-21. Comprehension Practice 1.1 & 1.2, Answer questions pgs. 15-16

Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 17, #1-5

Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 17, #6-10

Lab: Read pg. 25. Practice Fingerspelling Drills on pgs. 26-27 (no post required)

Lab: Read pgs. 34-45, Answer questions #1-8 on pg. 52

Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 53-56, Comprehension Practice 2.1 & 2.2, Answer questions pgs.49-50

Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 51, #1-8

Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 51, #9-16

Lab: Read pgs. 62-75, Answer questions #1-11 on pg. 84

Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 86-93, Comprehension Practice 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3, Answer questions pgs. 79-81

Additional Lab Homework: (15 pts.)

Lab: Video, Numbers 1-100. No book required for this assignment.

Post: Video in GoReact, Workbook assignments in a Word doc/Pic in Blackboard. Either upload picture of the completed page from workbook or submit questions/answers in a Word doc (written and videos must be submitted in *one* attachment, *not* several files). Handwritten assignments *must* be eligible. Points will be deducted for ineligible work.

Video Submission Requirements: Any video assignment that does not meet the below criteria will result in a zero for the assignment.

- 1. Students must be in the center of the video where the instructor can see the top of student's head and the bottom of the student's chest area.
- 2. Make sure that the background is clean (one-colored wall) and free of "visual noise" (books, DVD's, TV running, kitchen items, dog appearing, etc.). *This does not apply to lab videos.
- 3. Wear only solid-colored shirts and free of logos. Shirt color should contrast skin tone. Avoid red, yellow, and orange shades. Tattoos should be covered, wear long-sleeved shirts. **This does not apply to lab videos*.
- 4. Remove hats and excessive jewelry. Wedding rings and small earrings are acceptable.
- 5. If sitting, do not swivel.
- 6. Beds are not appropriate places to create videos.
- 7. All videos must be submitted in one continuous file.
- 8. Review videos before submitting. Each video must be good visual quality (no static).

Course Policies and Expectations Attendance/Participation

Class attendance and participation is required. In order to learn and develop expressive and receptive skills in ASL, students must be present and on time during instruction and participate in the discussions and small group work that occurs during the class period. In the event of an absence, please see the schedule for material covered in class, and obtain notes from classmates.

Students are allowed two absences without penalty. Each absence thereafter will have a 10% deduction from the total grade as shown below:

First absence – no penalty.

Second absence- no penalty.

Third absence -10% deduction of the final grade.

Forth Absence – 20% deduction of the final grade.

Fifth absence -30% deduction of the final grade.

Two (2) late arrivals/early departures will be equivalent to one absence which will be applied to the policy stated above.

• No Voice Policy: Our class has a NO VOICE policy. This class is a signing environment at all times for two reasons: (1) It is not considered inclusive to talk in front of a Deaf person and not

make the information accessible. It is imperative that students develop the habit of signing when Deaf people are present. (2) This is an immersion class. Using ASL helps students develop their comprehension skills and their expressive skills quickly and effectively. Talking disrupts this process. If a fellow student asks for help, feel free to help by using signs previously learned or by writing back and forth. Part of the first class will be presented in voice but subsequent classes will be voice-off with **no whispering**. Some exceptions for voice-on will apply and will be explicitly announced.

***If voicing becomes a persistent problem, students will be asked to leave the class and it will count as an absence for the day. ***

Late Work

See schedule for due dates. Due dates are posted in the syllabus. All submissions are time-stamped in Bb and GoReact. Late submissions will receive a 10% deduction of the available points for each day thereafter. There are no exceptions.

Other Requirements

Use of devices in class is strictly prohibited (mobile phones, tablets, laptops, iPads, game systems, etc.) except for in-class assignments (see schedule for these dates).

Grading Scale

Assignments	Points	Grading Scale
Syllabus Test	5	A+ 97-100
Receptive Tests 1 & 2	80 (40 each)	A 94-97
Expressive Tests 1 & 2	80 (40 each)	A- 90-93
Deaf Community Reflection Paper	20	B+ 87-89
Lab Assignments	70	B 84-86
Final Video Sign Presentation	80	B- 81-83
Receptive Test 3	80	C+ 79-81
Written Exam	20	C 76-78
Homework	65	C- 74-75
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE	500	D 70-73
		F Below 70

*Note: The George Mason University Honor Code will be strictly enforced. Students are responsible for reading and understanding the Code. "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work." Work submitted must be your own or with proper citations (see https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/.

Class Schedule

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

	Day	Class Topic	Reading/Assignments	
Week 1	21- Jan	No class	No class	
	Jan -23	Introduction to Deaf Culture and Awareness Unit 1: Lessons 1 and 12	Practice fingerspelling	
Week 2	28- Jan	Unit 1: Lessons 1 and 12, Cont.	Lab: Check out the ASL Lab, sign in, quickly review the book and assignments	
	30- Jan	Unit 1: Lessons 2, 3, and 6	 Syllabus Test due by Friday, 1 Feb @ midnight Lab: Read pgs. 6-8, Answer questions #1-3 on pg. 18 due by Friday, 1-Feb @ midnight 	
Week 3	4-Feb	Unit 1: Lessons 2, 3, and 6, Cont.	Review/practice	
WCCK 3	6-Feb	Unit 1: Lessons 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10	Lab: Read pgs. 10-12, Answer questions #4-8 on pg. 18 due by Friday, 8-Feb @ midnight	
	11-Feb	Unit 1: Lessons 4, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Cont.	Review/practice	
Week 4	13- Feb	Unit 1: Review	 Unit 1 Homework due by Friday, 15-Feb @ midnight Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 19-21 Comprehension Practice 1.1 & 1.2, Answer questions pgs. 15-16 due by Friday, 15-Feb @ midnight 	
Week 5	18-Feb	Unit 2: Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4	 Review/practice Lab: Numbers 1-100 Video, due by Friday, 22-Feb @ midnight 	
	20- Feb	Unit 2: Lessons 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, and 12	 Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 17, #1-5 (Post on GoReact) due by Friday, 22-Feb @ midnight 	
	25- Feb	Unit 2: Lessons 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, and 12, Cont.	Review/practice	
Week 6	27- Feb	Unit 2: Lessons 6, 9, 11, and 12	Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 17, #6-10 (Post on GoReact) due by Friday, 1-March @ midnight	
	4-March	Unit 2: Review	• Unit 2 Homework due by Friday, 8-March @ midnight	
Week 7	6-March	Unit 2: Review and Test 1	 Receptive Test 1 (in-class on 6 March) bring laptop Expressive Test 1 due by Friday, 8-March @ midnight 	
Week 8	11- March	SPRING BREAK	Review and Practice	
	13- March	SPRING BREAK	 Review and Practice Lab: Video, Numbers 1-100 due by Friday, 15-March @ midnight 	
Week 9	18- March	Unit 3: Lessons 1, 5, 8, and 9	 Lab: Read pgs. 34-45, Answer questions on pg. 52 #1-8 due by Friday, 22 March @ midnight 	

	20- March	Unit 3: Lessons 1, 5, 8, and 9, Cont.	Review/practice	
Week 10	25- March	Unit 3: Lessons 3, 6, 12, and 13	 Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 53-56 Comprehension Practice 2.1 & 2.2, Answer questions pgs.49-50 due by Friday, 29- March @ midnight 	
	27- March	Unit 3: Lessons 3, 6, 12, and 13, Cont.	Review/practice	
Week	1-April	Unit 3: Lessons 2,3,6,10,13, and 14	 Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 51, #1-8 (Post on GoReact) due by Friday, 5-April @ midnight 	
11	3-April	Unit 3: Lessons 2,3,6,10,13, and 14, Cont.	Review/practice	
XX 1	8-April	Unit 3: Review	• Lab: Expressive Practice Prompts pg. 51, #9-16 (Post on GoReact) due by Friday, 12-April @ midnight	
Week 12	10-April	Unit 3: Review and Test 2	 Receptive Test 2 (in-class on 10- April) bring laptop Expressive Test 2 due by Friday, 12-April @ midnight Unit 3 Homework due by Friday, 12-April @ midnight 	
Week	15-April	Unit 4: Lessons 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9	Review/practice	
13	17-April	Unit 4: Lessons 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9, Cont.	 Lab: Read pgs. 62-75, Answer questions #1-11 on pg. 84 due by Friday, 19- April @ midnight 	
	22-April	Unit 4: Lessons 11, 13, and 14	Review/practice	
Week 14	24-April	Unit 4: Lessons 11, 13, and 14, Cont.	 Lab: Review Vocabulary, pgs. 86-93, Comprehension Practice 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3, Answer questions pgs. 79-81 due by Friday, 26- April @ midnight 	
Week	29-April	Unit 1-4 Review and Catch up	Review/practice	
15	1-May	Unit 1-4 Review and Catch up	Unit 4 Homework due by Friday, 3-May @ midnight	
Week 16	6-May	Review	Review	
Exam 8-May • Written Final (in-class) bring laptop • Final Sign Video Presentation and Scri 10-May @ midnight		 Written Final (in-class) bring laptop Final Sign Video Presentation and Script due by Friday, 10-May @ midnight Deaf Community Event Reflections due by Friday, 10- 		

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

• Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).

- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see http://ods.gmu.edu/).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to <u>tk20help@gmu.edu</u> or <u>https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20</u>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <u>http://coursessupport.gmu.edu/</u>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/.

Appendix

Due date	Assignment	
Friday, Feb 1	Syllabus Test	
Friday, Feb 1	Lab page 18 #1-3	
Friday, Feb 8	Lab page 18 #4-8	
Friday, Feb 15	Unit 1 Homework	
Friday, Feb15	Lab pages 15-16	
Friday, Feb 22	Lab Prompts page 17 #1-5	
Friday, March 1	Lab Prompts page 17 #6-10	
Wednesday, March 6	Receptive Test 1, in class	
Friday, March 8	Unit 2 Homework	
Friday, March 8	Expressive Test 1	
Friday, March 15	Lab Video #1-100 (no book required)	
Friday, March 22	Lab page 52 #1-8	
Friday, March 29	Lab page 49-50	
Friday, April 5	Lab prompt page 51 #1-8	
Wednesday, April 10	Receptive Test 2, in class	
Friday, April 12	Lab prompt page 51 #9-16	
Friday, April 12	Unit 3 Homework	
Friday, April 12	Expressive Test 2	
Friday, April 19	Lab page 84 #1-11	
Friday, April 26	Lab pages 79-81	
Friday, May 3	Unit 4 Homework	
Wednesday, May 8	Receptive Test 3 (Final), in class	
Wednesday, May 8	Written Final	
Friday, May 10	Expressive Test 3 (Final Video Presentation)	
Sunday, May 12	Deaf Community Reflection	

Appendix

Assessment Rubric(s)

	EXCEEDS	MEETS	DOES NOT MEET
	EXPECTATIONS	EXPECTATIONS	EXPECTATIONS
Vocabulary: Correct and accurate use of parameters, Vocabulary variety Non-manual Markers:	Accurate, relevant use of wide variety of vocabulary used from all units studied, includes relevant variety of vocab (20) A variety of elements are	Generally accurate, relevant use of vocabulary from more than half the units studied, includes some relevant variety of vocab (10) A variety of elements are	Vocabulary inaccurate and used covers less than half the units studied, relevant variety is sparse Grammar elements are
Yes/No Questions, "Wh— "Questions, Location, Negation/Affirmation, Contrastive Structures, referents, appropriate and matching facial expressions	used; solid knowledge of sentence types/structure is evident (20)	used; errors do not compromise meaning; use demonstrates effort and thought (10)	awkward and confusing; errors compromise meaning; effort and practice not evident
Sentence Structure: Use of Topic-Comment, Avoiding English word order	Sentence structure is consistently accurate and appropriate; use precisely expresses intended meaning (20)	Sentence structure is generally accurate and appropriate; errors do not compromise the intended meaning; good effort (10)	Sentence structure is either incorrect or awkward; interferes with intended meaning; effort and practice not evident
Fluency: Smoothness and fluency of signs, Conceptually accurate ideas/messages, to include script	Use is consistently accurate and appropriate; use precisely expresses intended meaning (20)	Use is generally accurate and appropriate; errors do not compromise the intended meaning; good effort (10)	Use is either not present or awkward; sometimes interferes with intended meaning; effort and practice not evident
TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE = 80			

Go React Grading Key:
FE= FACIAL EXPRESSION
NMM=NON-MANUAL MARKER
FS=FINGERSPELLING
ER=ERROR REPEAT
PE=PRODUCTION ERROR (refers to parameters)
BS=BODY SHIFT/CONTRASTIVE STRUCTURE
TM= TOPIC MARKER