

Classical Cottage School

ASL 201 - American Sign Language III

Meeting Days & Times: Thursdays, 2:00PM – 3:30PM

2021/2022

Instructor: Becky Marks

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Course Description:

ASL 201, American Sign Language III, develops vocabulary, conversational competence, and grammatical knowledge with a **total immersion approach**. It introduces increasingly complex grammatical aspects including those unique to ASL. It discusses culture and literature. Contact with the Deaf Community is encouraged to enhance linguistic and cultural knowledge. I try and provide authentic/real life situations that will enhance your language usage. Again, welcome, and I look forward to getting to know each of you.

General Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to continue to develop ASL vocabulary while incorporating more complex grammatical structure. Emphasis also will be on developing the use of space, classifiers, and non-manual signals.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites:

Completion of ASL 102 or equivalent with permission of instructor.

Additionally, students should be able to expressively sign and receptively understand Signing Naturally, Level 1 - Units 1-12.

Student Learning Outcomes and Educational Objectives:

By completing any ASL course students will:

- Engage in one-to-one conversation and share basic information related to themselves with 80% accuracy in the target language.

- Demonstrate the ability to use and recognize appropriate listener feedback during one-to-one conversation (e.g., head nod, head shake) in the target language with 80% accuracy.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of American Deaf culture with 80% accuracy in responses when asked.

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The student, by the end of the course, will be able to:

- accurately produce the correct sign movement when choosing an inflection for temporal aspect within ASL discourse.
- accurately provide and obtain information regarding opinions introduced and practiced in both controlled and free expressive situations at 85% or better,
- accurately express sequential steps related to cooking including measurement signs at 85% or better.
- accurately describe objects in ASL using classifiers including comparing and contrasting object descriptions at 85% or better.
- narrate stories related to weekend events including the use of time indicators and idiomatic expressions related to disrupted weekend plans at 85% or better.
- narrate stores including weather patterns related to seasons utilizing ASL elemental classifiers at 85% or better.
- comprehend the sign vocabulary, lexicon, grammatical features introduced and practiced in class at 85% or better,
- comprehend and produce fingerspelled words and fingerspelled loan signs produced in context at a normal, everyday rate of communication,
- understand and explain elements of Deaf Culture and ASL grammar introduced and discussed in the content of the course.

Procedures:

*(Only the use of ASL is used in the classroom environment. I ALWAYS insist on maintaining a signing environment in the classroom for two reasons: First, culturally speaking, it is considered rude and insulting to talk in front of a Deaf person and not make the information passing between you and the other person accessible. Since a good number of you have the goal of getting to know Deaf people in the community and potentially working in the field it is important to know cultural values. It is imperative that you develop the habit of signing when Deaf people are present. Secondly, this is an immersion class, which means only the target language is used. Using only ASL helps you to develop both your

comprehension skills and your expressive skills quickly and effectively. Talking disrupts this process for you and others and delays language development and acquisition.

*It is EXPECTED that students will check their email account PRIOR to each class meeting. Students should also be aware that I will communicate with the class via email and Canvas any changes or updates to the course syllabus or other essential information to the course.

Virtual Meeting Expectations: *“Joining the weekly ZOOM meeting is functionally equivalent to walking into a classroom. Please behave professionally, treat others with courtesy and respect, use language thoughtfully, wear appropriate clothing, and avoid inappropriate surroundings. Ideally you will join class from a suitable, quiet location, with a device that permits full participation in the class activities.” (Harvard).*

Learning Resources

- Textbook: **Signing Naturally, Level 2, with the Student DVD**

Author: Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos

ISBN#: 978-1-58121-131-3



Online	Free- American Sign Language University	
Author	Bill Vicars	
*Website	http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/	

* If you choose to write in this Signing Naturally workbook, you will NOT be able to sell it back to the bookstore at the end of the semester.

Technology Resources

- High-speed internet is needed to be able to use the online curriculum, access the online dictionaries among other things. If you do not have high speed internet at home, you need to make sure that you can access it on a **REGULAR** basis from LFCC or elsewhere. Not having

access to high-speed internet will not be an accepted excuse for incomplete work or poor test grades. You also must have the ability to video yourself which will be submitted for a grade.

- Your technological device must have speakers, webcam, and a microphone for the purposes of Zoom meetings.

Grading and Evaluation

Type of Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Assignments/Class Participation	20%
Signed Presentations	35%
Quizzes	10%
Tests	25%
Final Exam/Project	10%
	Total: 100%

ASSIGNMENTS/CLASS PARTICIPATION: Participation is based on being prepared for class and actively using ASL, attending during signed lectures and practicing classroom activities with a partner or as a group. You are required to attend one Deaf Events outside of class time. The experience must be interactive in authentic/real world. The goal is for you to have exposure to persons who use American Sign Language fluently and for you to attempt conversations with them. This may be meet through participating in a Deaf Zoom chat or other type of online interaction within the Deaf Community.

QUIZZES/TESTS: Quizzes/Tests are cumulative. They are based on vocabulary, ASL syntax and semantic structures. They will cover any material covered in class or assigned in your text(s). You must be present in class for each test. You cannot receive more than 100% on tests (including extra credit). Studying with 3 or more people prior to each test is very beneficial.

SIGNED PRESENTATIONS: You will be preparing and signing 5 stories in class. Each story is to be approximately 2 minutes in length. There will be time limit deductions. Stories will be recorded and played back in class. Topics for each presentation are below...more details will be given for each assignment.

Story 1 – Re-tell a disrupted plans story from SN: Unit 17.

Story 2 – Narrate the life events of a famous person that contributed to the Deaf World.

Story 3 – Tell sequential ordering of a recipe including ingredients and measurements.

Story 4 – Create and sign your own Ailments Commercial.

Story 5 – Describe your future dream home using classifiers as taught in Unit 13

PALS – (Performance Assessment Language Sample)

FINAL EXAM – The final exam is cumulative. It will cover anything covered during the semester. If you have a 93% average before the final exam, you are exempt from the written portion of the final which will be administered exam week. (Only if all assignments have been turned in).

Students will be assigned the following final letter grades, based on calculations coming from the course assessment section above.

Grading Scale

Grade	Interval
A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	Below 59

Submitting Assignments

- Late-work:** To treat everyone fairly, assignments must be completed on or by the announced or published due dates. If you know in advance that you will not be in class for an assignment, you may arrange to take that assignment early to avoid a "0" or a point deduction. If there are extenuating circumstances, like an illness, accident, etc. I am willing to work with you but, late is unacceptable and will carry some form of grade penalty.

All assignments will have 10 percent deducted after the announced due date and will not be accepted after 5 days, unless prior approval has been secured, and a zero will be recorded.

- Make-up work:** Tests and Quizzes may NOT be made up unless prior arrangement is made, or extenuating circumstances as stated above. The final may be made up *only* if missed for extenuating circumstances. Make-ups for these assignments, *if granted*, will not be the same exam administered to the rest of the class.
- Re-grade:** Assignments will not be re-graded but potential errors in grading may be brought to the attention of the professor. However, a student may one-time request for a Signed Story with a

grade less than 90% to be re-submitted and re-graded. This request needs to be made in writing within one week of receiving the original graded assignment and resubmitted no later than two week of original assignment due date.

A Note on Zeroes: Zeroes will destroy your grade quicker than anything else. And in college, zeroes are zeroes. They are not “really” 50’s. A zero in college is NO credit AT ALL. There will also be no last-minute reprieve where all late work can be turned in for some credit. There will be no “extra credit” to offset a zero. Bad grades on assignments, even "F's" are significantly less damaging to your grade than a zero. For example, you have 3 grades, 90, 90, & a 50 (2 A's and an F) for an average of: 76/C. Now, make that 90, 90, and a 0 and the average plummets to: 60/D-, almost an F. Bottom line:

- Do EVERY assignment (This is YOUR responsibility, not the professor’s)
- Keep up with everything (This is YOUR responsibility, not the professor’s)
- Communicate with the professor and ask about making up anything you may have missed so you can avoid that grade-destroying zero. (This is YOUR responsibility)