

INTRODUCTION TO SIGNED LANGUAGE
SIGN 201/502
Tuesday/Thursday 4:30-5:45
Spring 2016 January 18-May 14 (16 weeks)

Instructor: Margie Zamora BS/ Sign Language Interpreting MA/ MSE/Multicultural Special Ed
NM Special Education Teacher License K-12 NM Education License 8-12

Office Hours: Academic Bldg. - PT Staff Room (M/W by appointment)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Signed languages and signing systems frequently used by deaf people are discussed. Cross-linguistic and cross-cultural information on ASL will be discussed. Focus is on ASL, signed English and fingerspelling, and the most common manually coded signed systems. In addition to the acquisition of basic vocabulary and grammar, this course emphasizes knowledge of the characteristics, values and cultural and linguistic diversity of the Deaf Culture. Additional activities and topics may include: discussions of challenges facing families with deaf members, singing/music in signed language, number subsets in ASL, historical and linguistic background of ASL and pioneers of ASL linguistic research.

REQUIRED TEXT: *A Basic Course in American Sign Language*, Humphries, Padden, O'Rourke, TJ Publishers: Silver Spring, Maryland.

Learning to See: American Sign Language as a Second Language, Wilcox and Wilcox

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. To be able to communicate both expressively and receptively on an entry level with individuals representing a cross-section of the Deaf Community.
- B. To understand the cultural diversity and dynamics of the Deaf Community.
- C. To understand and develop a respect for the linguistic diversity of the Deaf community.
- D. To become familiar with the differences between American Sign Language (ASL), signed English, and manually coded signed systems.
- E. To develop a basic understanding of the linguistics and historical recognition of ASL.

GRADING

Grades are determined from the total test scores accumulated, signing skills, class participation, two review sheets and weekly partner reports.

| Graded Activity | Target Dates | Percentage Worth |
|---|--|--------------------|
| Exams # 1 (written/receptive)..... | Thursday March 3..... | 15% and 15% |
| Exam # 2 (receptive)..... | Thursday April 14..... | 15% |
| Partner Reports/Class Participation/Songs/Dialogues/Review Sheets..... | | 5% |
| *Weekly Reports due by EMAIL(Blackboard Learn) before 6 PM Thursdays beginning Jan 28. | | |
| Review Sheets Due..... | Thursday February 25 and Thursday April 28. | |
| Final Exam (written/receptive)..... | Thursday May 5..... | 10% and 10% |
| Final Exam (expressive)..... | Thursday May 12 (4:00-6:00PM)..... | 30% |

Uses of Electronic Devices (cell phones/recording audio & video) are not permitted in class. Also no food or drink as per UNM VC policies.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students should inform instructor of special needs and provide the necessary university paperwork as soon as possible to ensure that those needs are met in a timely manner. Call 925-8560 or go to website <http://www.unm.edu/~vcadvise/equalaccess.htm>

REVIEW SHEETS

Review sheets are distributed in class at least a week before they are due. Copies of your completed review sheets are due on the dates listed.

EXAMS

Students are eligible to take a make-up exam [written only] if they (in UNM handbook)

1. Have an emergency that prevents them from taking the regularly scheduled exam;
2. Alert the instructor to the emergency prior to the regularly scheduled exam
3. Obtain the instructor's agreement that this is an emergency and that the regularly scheduled exam cannot be taken.

Make-up receptive exams are strongly discouraged due to the nature of sign language and the fairness to those who attended the scheduled test.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Student's found cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero for the exam or assignment in question.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation is essential in this class. Those who **participate regularly and well** will benefit. If they are within one point of the next higher grade level, they will earn the higher grade. For example, if a student had an 89 average and had participated regularly and well h/she would receive an A- rather than a B+ for the course. This does not apply for grades between an A and an A+.

PARTNER REPORTS

Requirements outside of the classroom participation: selection of a partner from within the class. **The pair must meet for a minimum of one hour each week to practice signing without their voices.** A written report is expected from each partner specifying **location of practice, time,** and a **brief summary** and **both signatures.** Reports are **collected weekly** throughout the semester. **Late partner reports will not be accepted.**

DEAF/HH VISITORS

Deaf/HH children and adults from the community are invited to attend the class to add input and to make certain that no stereotyped image of the "typical" deaf person prevails. Students will be asked to prepare questions for these dates that will be announced later in the semester.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Handouts: Brief History of Signed Languages, Signed Systems, various appropriate articles on linguistics of ASL, linguistic research, Deaf Culture, etc. are available on Blackboard Learn

Videotapes:

"A Basic Course in American Sign Language" Tape #1 (on reserve in the library)

UNM STUDENT EMAIL

Please maintain and check your UNM email and Blackboard Learn... notices and reminders will be posted often.

GRADING CHART

98-100 : A+
94 - 97: A
90 - 93: A-
88 - 89: B+
84 - 87: B
80 - 83: B-
78 - 79: C+
74 - 77: C
70 - 73: C-
68 - 69: D+
64 - 67: D
60 - 63: D-
0 - 59: F

The grade of **INCOMPLETE (INC)** is given only when extenuating personal circumstances prevent completing the work by the official ending date of the course (as per UNM Faculty Handbook, F-9).

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each session.

Students with three (3) or more consecutive absences for four (4) or more regular absences may be dropped from the class by the instructor. *Student's grades will be affected by absences, dropping half a grade for every three absences.**

***Weekly Reports due by E-MAIL(Blackboard Learn) before 6 PM Thursdays beginning Sept 5.**

Submitted by _____

Partner _____ Date _____

Time _____ Location _____

Material studied:

Vocabulary _____

Comments/Problems _____

Grammar _____

Comments/Problems _____

Positive Feedback for Partner _____

Constructive Criticism for Partner _____

Comments for the Instructor _____

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

While the instructor does not expect problems when working with adult learners, a guiding principle of respect for one another will ensure a safe and productive environment. Interruptions with non-related comments are discouraged. There may be issues a student needs to discuss that would be more appropriately handled in private and outside of the classroom. No Toleration policy for obscene language, sexual harassment, and threatening behavior towards students or instructor. There is a process in place to handle complaints...report to The Chair of CHESS and to the Dean of Instruction

Syllabus **Target** Dates for INTRO to SIGN 201

- Wk 1 Introduction to Text, Manual Alphabet, ASL Lecture
- Wk 2 Ch 1 text, Manual Alphabet Activities, ASL Lecture, **Last day to Change Sections**
- Wk 3 Ch1 activities, Manual Alphabet, ASL Lecture, Ch 2 **Last Day to Drop w/\$ ref. w/o grade**
- Wk 4 Manual Alphabet, ASL Lecture, Ch 1 /Ch 2 activities **Last Day Grade Change Option**
- Wk 5 Ch 3 (adj), Manual Alphabet, ASL Lecture, CL: , Give Review H/O
- Wk 6 Review Sheet due, Ch 1, 2, 3 activities/ **EXAM # 1** Ch 4
- Wk 7 Ch 4 (negation), WH ? pg 97, Countries, Numbers, Dialogue
- Wk 8 Dialogue, Ch 4-5 Time markers, Cities, Time and Money
- *******Mid Semester*******
- Wk 9 Numbers/Time/Money, Food H/O, Ch 1-5 activities, WH ?
- Wk 10 Foods/Animals/Cities, 1- 5 activities / “God Bless America”
- Wk 11 Music, Review / **EXAM # 2** Introduce CH 6
- Wk 12 Ch 6 activities and Foods H/O, WH ?, CL: **Last Day to W/D w/o Approval**
- Wk 13 🎵 “Who is a Signer...” Give H/O, Discuss H/O 1 - 6 activities
- Wk 14 Chapter Reviews / Give H/O Review for Final, Dialogue 2
- Wk 15 Activities Numbers / Money /Time, Review sheet H/O Due **W/D w/Approval**
- Wk 16 Written Final/ Receptive Final / Expressive review

Final Expressive Final May 4 (5:00-7:00)