

INTRODUCTION TO SIGNED LANGUAGE Spring 2020

Tuesday/Thursday 4:30 – 5:45 SIGN 2125/502 CRN 50890 Room H101

Instructor: Margie Zamora Special Education K-12; Regular Education 8-12;
BS/ Sign Language Interpreting; MA/Multicultural Special Education; Licensed
Educational Diagnostician

Office Hours: Academic Bldg. - Adjunct Staff Room T/TH (4:15-4:30 5:45-6:00 or by appointment)

Phone: Cell: call or text 505-385-1129 mvillell@unm.edu

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 TEXTS: *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

- By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate, expressively and receptively, at a basic level with Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals representing a cross-section of the deaf community.
- By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the basic issues faced by the American Deaf community.
- By the end of the course, students will be able to identify the differences between American Sign Language and manually coded English systems.
- By the end of the course, students will be able to evaluate their own signing.

| Graded Activity | Target Dates | Percentage Worth |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Exam # 1 (written/receptive)..... | <u>Thursday March 5</u> | 15% and 15% |
| Exam # 2 (receptive)..... | <u>Thursday April 9</u> | 15% |
| Partner Reports/Class Participation/Songs/Dialogues/..... | | 5% |
| Weekly Reports due by EMAIL in LEARN before Thursdays beginning January 30 before 10:00 PM. | | |
| Final Exam (written/receptive)..... | <u>Thursday May 7</u> | 10% and 10% |
| Final Exam (expressive)..... | <u>Thursday May 12 (4:30-6:30)</u> | 30% |

Credit Hour

Federal Credit Hour Definition: A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

(1) one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other activities as established by an institution, including laboratory work,

internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading toward to the award of credit hours. 34CFR 600.2 (11/1/2010) <https://www.hlcommission.org/Policies/assignment-of-credits.html>
This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for two 75-minute sessions of direct instruction for fifteen weeks during the semester. Students are expected to complete a *minimum* of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

UNM STUDENT EMAIL

Please maintain and check your UNM email!

Notices and reminders will be posted as needed through UNM LEARN.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students must 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.valencia.unm.edu> Qualified students with disabilities should contact the Accessibility Resource Center. Reasonable accommodations will be given to any individual with a legitimate disability. Please contact the instructor privately for arrangements. If you are a qualified person with disabilities who might need appropriate academic adjustments, please communicate with me as soon as possible so that we may make appropriate arrangements to meet your needs in a timely manner. Frequently, we will need to coordinate accommodating activities with other offices on campus. Course materials can be made available in alternative formats.

In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow. Contact Accessibility Resource Center at 277-3506 or arc.unm.edu for additional information.

If you need an accommodation based on how course requirements interact with the impact of a disability, you should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment, we can discuss the course format and requirements, anticipate the need for adjustments and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Disability Services Office for assistance in developing strategies and verifying accommodation needs. If you have not previously contacted them, I encourage you to do so.

Religious Holidays

Students must submit written requests for accommodation to their course instructor. The student should submit the request by the end of the second week of the semester. The request should include the date, times, and specific event for which accommodation is being requested.

Use of Electronic Devices (cell phones/recording audio & video) is not permitted in class.

Cell phones are very disruptive to class. As a matter of courtesy, all audible signals of communication devices should be turned off or disabled during classes (that is, you are prohibited from using a cell phone or smartphone during class). Individual discretion should be used in determining when exceptions should be made relative to emergency personnel or situations. Students are permitted to use computers during class for note-taking and other class-related work only. Those using computers during class for work not related to that class will be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder

of the class period.

No Food or drinks in Classrooms/VC policy.

Title IX:

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered “responsible employees” by the Department of Education (see pg 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

Title IX prohibitions on sex discrimination include various forms of sexual misconduct, such as sexual assault, rape, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. Current UNM policy designates instructors as required reporters, which means that if I am notified (outside of classroom activities) about any Title IX violations, I must report this information to the Title IX coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted and would like to receive support and academic advocacy, there are numerous confidential routes available to you. For example, you can contact the Women’s Resource Center, the LGBTQ Resource Center, Student Health and Counseling (SHAC), or LoboRESPECT. LoboRESPECT can be contacted on their 24-hour crisis line, (505) 277-2911 and online at loborespect@unm.edu. You can receive non-confidential support and learn more about Title IX through the Title IX Coordinator at (505) 277-5251 and <http://oeo.unm.edu/title-ix/>. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UNM Police Department at (505) 277-2241.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. As for all students in the class, family emergency-related absences are normally excused with reasonable notice to the professor, as noted in the attendance guidelines above. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration’s welcome is found on our website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/>.

Get Help Now at <https://loborespect.unm.edu/Get%20Help%20now/index.html> LoboRespect Advocacy Center, for concerns such as sexual misconduct, hate/bias, bullying, hazing.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation is essential in this class. The key advantage of class participation is that it forces each student to be well-prepared and thus become an active, rather than passive learner. Participation also provides you with the opportunity to gain from the experiences and talents of everyone in the class. You should feel free to ask questions, provide supportive comments, or challenge constructively what has been said. 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, he/she would receive an A- rather than a B+ for the course.

This does not apply for grades between an A and an A+ (check grading chart below).

It is expected that you will attend every class and that you will arrive on time. Recurring lateness or repeated absences will be considered grounds for removal from the course. If a guest speaker is scheduled for class, it is imperative that you arrive promptly.

PARTNER REPORTS

Requirements outside classroom participation: selection of a partner from within the class. The pair must meet a minimum of sixty minutes 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 via UNM Learn. No partner reports will be accepted late.**

DEAF/HH VISITORS

Deaf/HH children and adults from the community may be 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 are on UNM Learn:

Brief history of sign language. Descriptions of manually coded sign systems

Various articles on mainstreaming, linguistics of ASL, or other appropriate material

Videotapes: “A Basic Course in American Sign Language” Tape #1 (on reserve in the library)

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 CHES and to the Dean of Instruction.

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

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

UNM Plagiarism Policy <http://www.unm.edu/~unmvclib/handouts/somplagiarism.pdf>

Students found cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero for the exam or assignment in question.

GRADING CHART Grades are determined from the total test scores accumulated, signing skills, class participation, and weekly partner reports.

98-100 : A+

Students must have a 98-100 average and do an extra credit paper in order to qualify for an A+ for the course.

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 94 - 97: A | 80 – 83: B- | 67 – 69: D+ |
| 90 – 93: A- | 77 – 79: C+ | 64 – 66: D |
| 87 – 89: B+ | 74 – 78: C | 60 – 63: D- |
| 84 – 86: B | 70 – 73: C- | 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).

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance is taken at the beginning of each session. **Students with two (2) or more consecutive absences or three (3) 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.**

Copy this to email...fill it out weekly send to me on Thur...Via Blackboard Learn Partner Report

Partner Report

You will receive full credit if you do the following:

- * Submit Document to Journal in Learn on time
- * Complete the report with thought
- * Write your own report
- * Write the report using complete sentences and grammatically correct English
- * Use the template below

Your Name:

Partner Name(s):

Date You Met:

Start and End Time:

Where Did You Meet?

Comment to Instructor:

Summary of practice:

Self-Analysis: (What you need to improve, your goal, and your plan to achieve that goal)

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Syllabus **Target** Dates for INTRO to SIGN 2521

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

Wk 7 Ch 4 (negation), WH ? pg 97, Countries, Numbers, Dialogue **EXAM # 1**

Wk 8 Dialogue, Ch 4-5 Time markers, Cities, Time and Money

*******Break*******

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 / Introduce CH 6 , WH ?, CL:

Wk 12 EXAM # 2 Ch 6 activities and Foods H/O, **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 *** Multiple Choice / Receptive Finals during class Thursday, May 7***

Expressive Final Tuesday, May 12, 4:30-6:30