

**INTRODUCTION TO SIGNED LANGUAGE...SPRING 2019**

**Monday/Wednesday 3:00 – 4:15 Room HS 101 SIGN 201/501 CRN 33620**

**Instructor:** Barbara M. Flett RID CI/CT NM Community Interpreter License  
BS/ Education, MA/Multicultural Special Education

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

**Phone: \*Text Only\*: (505)480-0731, bflett@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 Community. 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**

Students will effectively communicate at a basic level with Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals representing a cross-section of the deaf community.

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the basic education and access issues faced by the American Deaf community.

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the differences between American Sign Language and manually coded English systems.

Students will identify basic linguistic principles and describe the history of the recognition of American Sign Language.

Students will describe the cultural diversity and dynamics of the Deaf Community.

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<b>Graded Activity</b>	<b>Target Dates 2019</b>	<b>Percentage Worth</b>
Exam # 1 (written/receptive).....	<b>Wednesday FEBRUARY 27</b> .....	15% and 15%
Exam # 2 (receptive).....	<b>Wednesday APRIL 10</b> .....	15%
Partner Reports/Class Participation/Songs/Dialogues/.....		5%
<b>Partner Reports are due each Wednesday in <u>UNM LEARN</u> /JOURNAL beginning on JAN 30</b>		
Final Exam (written/receptive).....	<b>Wednesday MAY 1</b> .....	10% and 10%
Final Exam (expressive).....	<b>Wednesday MAY 6</b> .....	30%

**\*\*\*\*\*UNM LEARN & EMAIL\*\*\*\*\***

**Please maintain and check your UNM email daily!**

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

This class will make extensive use of Learn. You should check the website **frequently** as you will find class announcements, assignments, private e-mails and other information. If you are having problems with Learn, you can contact free technical support via telephone (505-277-0857) or email (learn@unm.edu). It is your responsibility to learn and effectively use Learn and questions are not to be directed to your instructor, as other resources are available to assist you.

### **PARTNER REPORTS**

**Required** outside classroom participation: selection of a partner from within the class. The pair must meet a minimum of thirty minutes each week to practice signing without their voices. A Journal entry is expected from each partner specifying location of practice, time, a brief summary. **Reports are submitted weekly on Wednesdays before 10PM through UNM LEARN throughout the semester. Partner reports will NOT be accepted if late.**

### **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.

#### **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 class (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.

## **Campus Policy Regarding Sexual Misconduct**

Title IX: The Equal Opportunity in Education Act of 2002 (known as Title IX) states that “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” As a member of the UNM faculty, I take this responsibility seriously.

It is important for all faculty, teaching assistants, graduate assistants, staff and students to understand the following. 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 (<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>, p. 15). 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](http://oeo.unm.edu)). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>. There are organizations on campus that can maintain anonymity and are not required to report possible Title IX violations. These include Student Health and Counseling, CARS, and UNM Advocacy centers including the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, the Women’s Resource and the LGBTQ Resource center.

## **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. If you miss an exam without the permission of the instructor a score of zero will be assigned. Make-up exams are granted at the discretion of the instructor, only with prior arrangement, and must be completed prior to the next class meeting (unless circumstances involved make this clearly impractical).

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**

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

## **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 a 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

## **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**

**\*ALL 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.

## **NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN CLASSROOM PER VALENCIA CAMPUS POLICY**

**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

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).

### **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.**

Please follow this template to submit a weekly Partner Report each WEDNESDAY by 10 PM

**Partner Report Submitted by** \_\_\_\_\_

Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

MY GOAL for this session \_\_\_\_\_

Material studied:

Vocabulary/Grammar \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Problems \_\_\_\_\_

**Positive Feedback** for Partner \_\_\_\_\_

**Constructive Criticism** for Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Comments for the Instructor \_\_\_\_\_

UNM – Valencia SIGN 201 Monday/Wednesday

Syllabus **Target** Dates for INTRO to SIGN 201 501

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/ Dialogue, Ch 4 (explain negation),

Wk 7 **EXAM # 1**, Ch 4, WH? pg 97, Countries, Numbers,

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

\*\*\*\*\***Mid Semester** \*\*\*\*\***SPRING/FALL 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 / **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 \* **Multiple Choice / Receptive Finals during class Wednesday MAY 1 \***

\* Finals Week Expressive Final **Wednesday MAY 6 3:00 – 5:00 PM** \*