I. Course Description:
This class is an introduction to American Sign Language and Deaf Culture. All of the following are included but not limited to the principles, methods and techniques for communicating with deaf individuals who use ASL. An emphasis will be placed on the development of basic expressive and receptive skills for simple conversation with deaf individuals using ASL. Also, a brief history of signs will be included. This semester we will meet only through D2L. You will have recorded lectures to watch, and materials to practice and be quizzed on. You will have modules and content on D2L to help you practice on your own, and opportunities to practice through Zoom will be available prior to exams. Active participation will prepare you for the exams in this course. You must sign along with the videos and content if you want to do well in this course.

Pre-requisite: You must make a B or better in this course to advance to the next level of ASL.

Time Requirement:
SGNL 1301 “Beginning American Sign Language” (3 credits) meets three times a week by D2L and Zoom in 100-minute segments for 8 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination within that 8-week period. Students have weekly receptive and expressive assignments, are expected to take content quizzes, produce individual expressive videos, take receptive exams, and a final examination. Students are required to participate in various class activities, and required to submit a 3-minute signed autobiography. These activities average at a minimum of 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours.

Hybrid Explanation: A hybrid/blended course is defined in Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter P, Rule 4.257 as “a course in which a majority (more than 50 percent but less than 85 percent), of the planned instruction occurs when the students and instructor are not in the same place.”

Communication:
E-mails: Any email sent M-F will receive a response within 48 hours. Please use email posted above. If you email me through the D2L system, you will not receive a response as quickly.

Text Messaging: You may sign up for Remind, and have the ability to also text questions to me for faster response. This will be posted in D2L for you to sign-up.

Face-to-Face Communication: If you need to meet with me “face-to-face”, my office hours will also be utilized for Zoom conferencing. A Zoom link is provided in D2L that says "Office Hours". You may click the link to access the virtual hours for the week. If you need me outside of those virtual hours, email me at mseybold@sfasu.edu, and we can pick a time that works for us both.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives: (Program/Student Learning Outcomes)

Program Learning Outcomes:
This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
- Students will demonstrate basic proficiency when using receptive and expressive American Sign Language adequate for basic/simple conversations with the deaf.
- Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of Deaf culture and the Deaf community.
- Students will demonstrate basic knowledge of English grammatical sign order while maintaining signs that are based on the **meaning and intent of the original message.**
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in the vocabulary and grammar introduced in at least 4 units from Signing Naturally Level 1 including: Recognition of words, sentences, number’s, fingerspelling and short narratives.
- Students will properly fingerspell their own names
- Students will communicate with each other given a context provided by the instructor.
- Students will expand vocabulary and fluency beyond the classroom through practice and projects.

**General Education Core Curriculum ****Not a collection semester**
The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

By enrolling in SGNL 1301 you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the teamwork requirement. You will see this course on your D2L list.

At one point during the semester, you will receive an assignment that fulfills both the requirements of this course and the needs of Stephen F. Austin State University’s Core Curriculum Assessment Plan with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. When you complete this one assignment, you need to upload the assignment to both your standard course dropbox determined by your instructor and the “Core Curriculum” dropbox. The Core Curriculum dropbox will be identified by the Objective for which work is being collected. (Examples: Critical Thinking, Teamwork, Social Responsibility Empirical & Quantitative Skills, Personal Responsibility, Communication Skills-Written, Communication Skills-Written & Visual, and Communication Skills- Oral & Visual.) Please note that this only applies to the approved assignment. All other assignments should be submitted according to regular class operations.

When you complete the assignment mentioned above, you will upload the assignment to both the SGNL 1301 dropbox and the Teamwork dropbox.

Please note that this only applies to the specific assignment listed in the matrix below. All other assignments should be submitted according to regular class operations.

If you have any questions, please see your instructor, or contact the at Office of Student Learning and Institutional Assessment at (936) 468-1130.
Core Curriculum Objective Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
<td>Autobiography Peer Review and Critique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.</td>
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</table>

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology:
You are expected to participate in class activities and practice individually in ASL communication techniques and in Deaf culture. The units are designed so that students learn language in context, retain language by activities that are meaningful and therefore necessary in order to develop these skills.

- **All lectures** for the week will be posted on **Monday by noon**. This will include instructions on what to practice each week, going over certain skills, practice opportunities, etc. You will need to watch the course lecture within 24 hours of it being posted in order to stay on track. You will have vocabulary and phrase practice each week to prepare you for your quizzes, midterm and final exam.
- Students are **required to sign** all communication that happens in the classroom. (This will help you while you are practicing!)
- Students may not use their voices while in the classroom during “voice off” activities and exams. Do not use your voice while recording any of your Performance Assignments!
- Those students exhibiting bad manners will be asked to leave the classroom for the duration of the class. (When in Zoom whole group practice)

**EXAM GRADES: Signed EXAMS (Receptive):**
Two major exams: Midterm and Final Exam (Both will be taken through D2L under Quizzes)
Each exam will contain fingerspelling, old and new material (each test is comprehensive).
All tests will be signed and students are expected to select the intent and meaning based on good English grammar.
You will have a window of time to take both exams, a grade of 0 will be recorded if you do not take your exams by the deadline listed. Please see me WELL in advance (at least one week) for a known conflict, such as university sponsored sports activities, etc.
Your exams are timed. If your internet connection freezes, during the exam, you will not get to see the missed questions. You will need to arrange to be in a place with stable internet for both exams.

MIDTERM EXAM: Sept. 16 (Opens at 8:00 AM on Sept. 16, and closes at 11:59 PM on Sept. 17) (100 points)
- Units 1-2
- Finger-spelling
- GLOSS
- Signed sentences incorporating ASL syntax, vocabulary, numbers, and vocabulary from the Signing Naturally DVD.
- You will take this exam through the “quizzes” in D2L. Your exam is timed, and multiple choice.
- Your test will be graded at the completion of your submission.
- The window of time you have to take the exam is listed above. The exam will cut-off at 11:59 PM on the final date listed to take the exam. Plan accordingly. *Students with a disability on record through Disability Services, and has extended time on assessments, must reach out to me to make sure we have your exams set correctly.

COMP FINAL EXAM: October 7 (Opens at 8:00 AM on Oct. 7, and closes at 11:59 PM on Oct. 8) (200 points - Counts TWICE)
- The comprehensive final exam is comprised of signed phrases you will have to write in correct English grammar. Covers Units 1-4, and is all phrases.
- You will take your final exam through the “quizzes” in D2L. Your exam is timed, and multiple choice.
- Your test will be graded at the completion of your submission.
- The window of time you have to take the exam is listed above. The exam will cut-off at 11:59 PM on the final date listed to take the exam. Plan accordingly. *Students with a disability on record through Disability Services, and has extended time on assessments, must reach out to me to make sure we have your exams set correctly.

PERFORMANCE GRADES
UNIT Homework: (100 points each quiz/Performance grade)
Practicing on your own time is very important to your success in this class. We will be doing different homework exercises from Signing Naturally throughout the semester. This book has 2 discs in the back. You will use them to complete your homework. You will have homework due from each of the 4 Units. (You can just write the answers on separate pieces of paper, it does not have to be written in the book.) Once you complete your homework you will take your homework quiz using your completed homework. You do not actually submit your homework you just use it for your quiz.

Unit 1 & 2 Homework Quiz Due Sept. 15: You will complete the sections of homework listed below. You only have to complete these sections to take your homework quiz. Once you have completed these homework sections, log on to D2L and take the quiz for Unit 1 & 2 Homework. You will need to USE YOUR COMPLETED HOMEWORK in order to do well on this quiz.
For Unit 1, please complete the following sections from your Signing Naturally textbook and discs: 1:6, 1:7, 1:8, 1:9.
For Unit 2, please complete the following sections from your Signing Naturally textbook and discs: 2:2, 2:6, 2:7, 2:10.
Unit 3 & 4 Homework Quiz Due Oct. 4: You will complete the sections of homework listed below. You only have to complete these sections to take your homework quiz. Once you have completed these homework sections, log on to D2L and take the quiz for Unit 3 & 4 Homework. You will need to USE YOUR COMPLETED HOMEWORK in order to do well on this quiz.

For Unit 3, please complete the following sections from your Signing Naturally textbook and discs: 3:7, 3:8, 3:10, 3:12.
For Unit 4, please complete the following sections from your Signing Naturally textbook and discs: 4:1, 4:3, 4:7, 4:14.

GoReact Signed Assignments
Each of the following assignments must be signed and submitted. You MUST upload this to GoReact by the due dates listed. Make sure you have reviewed and abide by the recording requirements. If you do not follow these guidelines, you will lose a lot of points towards these assignments. To obtain a subscription to GoReact please go to: www.goreact.com

Describe Me! (100) Due Sept. 10: You will describe one of 4 pictures that are provided in D2L. You will describe the picture, and record it to GoReact. More instructions to follow.

I Lost It (100) Due Sept. 27: You will tell a story about a time in the past that you lost something. You will tell what you lost, at least 3 places you searched, how long you looked, who you summoned to help, and where you found it. This will be less than 2 minutes in length. Additional materials will be provided to walk you through the process.

Autobiography (200) Due Oct. 6: You will be given a page to answer questions about yourself. These questions will be used for guiding you in creating an Autobiography. You will sign about the story of your life, what happened in the past, what is happening now, and what you want to have happen in the future. This is all about providing variety with your signing, and making it meaningful to you. This will be 2.5-3 minutes in length. Additional lecture materials will be provided to walk you through the process.

Daily Grades:

Materials Check (100) Due Aug. 30: You cannot be successful in this class and fulfill the needed assignments without your Signing Naturally Textbook, or your GoReact account. You must obtain both of these by Aug. 30. GoReact will alert me when you join, but you will upload a picture of yourself holding your textbook to the Dropbox in D2L. This must be done by 11:59 PM on the due date mentioned above.

Syllabus Quiz (100) Due Aug. 27: You will complete the quiz in D2L pertaining to our syllabus. This should be an easy quiz, but it highlights very important information that I want to make sure you are fully aware of for this course, so you can be successful. Due by 11:59 PM on the due date listed.

Manual Alphabet Quiz (100) Due Aug. 27: You will complete the quiz in D2L pertaining to the Manual Alphabet Quiz. All material you need to complete this, is on D2L, under the Module for Manual Alphabet. Complete the Quiz at the end of the Module. Due by 11:59 PM on the due date listed.

GLOSS Quiz (100) Due Sept. 8: You will complete the quiz in D2L pertaining to GLOSS. There will be a short lecture posted on this topic, and there is also a review sheet in D2L for you to use as reference. Due by 11:59 PM on the due date listed.

Fingerspelling and Vocabulary Quiz Unit 1 & 2 (100) Due Sept. 10: You will complete one quiz that will have vocabulary from both Unit 1 and Unit 2, as well as have fingerspelling questions. These quizzes are multiple choice, and will help prepare you for your exams, and hold you accountable for learning the vocabulary. This is located in D2L and must be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date.

Fingerspelling and Vocabulary Quiz Unit 3 & 4 (100) Due Oct 1: You will complete one quiz that will have vocabulary from both Unit 3 and Unit 4, as well as have fingerspelling questions. These quizzes are
multiple choice, and will help prepare you for your exams, and hold you accountable for learning the vocabulary. This is located in D2L and must be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date.

IV. EVALUATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS:
GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Grades:</th>
<th>Exam Grades:</th>
<th>Performance Grades:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz- 100</td>
<td>Midterm Exam (Units 1&amp;2)- 100</td>
<td>Describe Me-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials Check- 100</td>
<td>Final Exam (Units 1-4)- 200</td>
<td>I Lost It- 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alphabet Quiz- 100</td>
<td></td>
<td>Autobiography- 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOSS Quiz- 100</td>
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<td>Homework Quiz Unit 3 &amp; 4-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 1 &amp; 2 Quiz- 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 3 &amp; 4 Quiz- 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Average x 1</td>
<td>Exam Average x 2</td>
<td>Performance Average x 1</td>
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<td>D+E+A/4=Final Avg</td>
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**Late Submission of Assignments Policy:** I understand that sometimes we get a bit behind, however, when learning a language, it is very hard to catch up, especially in an 8-week course. Since each unit we cover builds on each other, late assignments are strongly discouraged. However, late assignments will be accepted up to 1 week after the assignment was due for a grade starting at 70 (70 being the highest you can score) instead of 100. This applies to all assignments, EXCEPT: Midterm, Autobiography, and Final Exam. These MUST be completed on time. A score of zero will be given for any missing assignments (past the due date), and will be updated if a late submission was made.

V. Tentative Course Outline/Calendar:
M 08/23: Watch Lecture #1 (welcome, instructions, alphabet, Unit 1)
W 08/25: Unit 1 Vocabulary Practice, Practice Phrases and Manual Alphabet
F 08/27: **Quizzes Due for Syllabus Quiz and Manual Alphabet Quiz to D2L**
M 08/30: Watch Lecture #2 Unit 2 Vocabulary and Phrases/ **Materials Check Due to D2L**
W 09/01: Unit 2 Vocabulary Practice, and Practice Phrases
F 09/03: Watch GLOSS Lecture and Instruction Video for Describe Me
M 09/06: Watch Lecture #3 Unit 1 & 2 Vocabulary/Performance Assignment Practice: Describe Me
W 09/08: **GLOSS Quiz Due to D2L**
F 09/10: **Unit 1 & 2 Vocabulary Quiz Due to D2L/Describe Me Due to GoReact**
M 09/13: Watch Lecture #4 Midterm Review
W 09/15: **Homework Quiz for Units 1 & 2 Due to D2L**
R 09/16: **Midterm Exam Opens at 8:00 AM (available in D2L)**
F 09/17: **Midterm Exam Closes at 11:59 PM**
M 09/20: Watch Lecture #5 Unit 3 Vocabulary and Phrases
W 09/22: Practice Unit 3 Vocabulary & See the I Lost It Video Instructions
F 09/24: Practice Unit 3 Vocabulary and I Lost It Video
M 09/27: Watch Lecture #6 Unit 4 Vocabulary and Phrases **I Lost It Due to GoReact by 11:59 PM**
W 09/29: Practice Unit 4 Vocabulary
F 10/01: Practice Unit 4 Vocabulary/ **Unit 3 & 4 Vocabulary Quiz Due to D2L**
M 10/04: Watch Lecture #7 Final Exam Review/ **Unit 3 & 4 Homework Quiz Due to D2L**
W 10/06: Practice Unit 3 & 4 Vocabulary/ **Autobiography Due to GoReact by 11:59 PM**
R 10/07: **Final Exam Opens at 8:00 AM**
F 10/08: **Final Exam Closes by 11:59 PM**
VI. Readings:
Subscriptions: www.goreact.com (This is what you will use to submit your Performance Assignments)

Assigned Readings and ASL Requirements:
Students use Signing Naturally to complete their sign practice, and learn how to GLOSS ASL. D2L contains many resources from lectures, to additional sign language videos, and examples.

Class Participation: You are expected to attend each class and to participate in all class practice activities. (Even virtually!) When we are in a Zoom class session, your camera should be on, and your microphone muted for each class. You will be allowed to unmute during Q&A, but only when you are asking a question. Diversions will NOT be allowed! You need to make good use of your time, and focus during our Zoom classes. **Cell phones need to be put away (unless it is your camera for Zoom)** You are NOT allowed to record (unless you have prior authorization and documentation) or take pictures during class. Your phone needs to be out of sight when class starts until it is over.

VII. Course Evaluations:
Near the conclusion of each semester, students electronically evaluate courses taken within the College of Education. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including:
1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation;
2. Instruction evaluation purposes;
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay and retention. As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation.

AS you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical!”
The course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information: Found at https://www.sfasu.edu/policies

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7
Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Documentation will also need to be provided.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities
must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Mental Health and Wellness

SFA values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFA Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices Rusk Building, 3rd Floor 936.468.2401

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services, Room 202 936.468.1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Academic Integrity (4.1)
Please copy and paste the following information regarding Academic Integrity into your syllabus. In addition, you may include your own guidelines for academic integrity as appropriate.

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf
**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**IX. Other Relevant Course Information:**

**Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4**

Disruptive Behavior--Interference or disruption of students, faculty, administration, staff, the educational mission, or routine operations of the university is prohibited. Such activity includes, but is not limited to, behavior in a classroom or instructional program that interferes with the instructor or presenter’s ability to conduct the class or program, or the ability of others to profit from the class or program. To remain in the vicinity of activity that is disrupting normal university functions when requested to leave by a university official is prohibited. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program at SFA.