Department of Language, Cultures and Communication
SGNL- 1302.003 Intermediate American Sign Language,
Spring 2024

Instructor: Kayla Hughes, MEd, BEI Level I
Office: Virtual Livestream (Zoom)
Office Phone: no office (adjunct)

Course Time/Location: F 5-7:30 p.m.
Office Hours: Virtual By Appointment only
Credits: 3

Email: Kayla.Hughes@sfasu.edu or hugheskayla@d2l.sfasu.edu
Email response turn-around time is typically within 24-48 hours. Please consider replying to your email within the same timeframe. Email is not monitored after 5:00 p.m. on Fridays and throughout weekends. Email is not monitored over university holidays.

I. Course Description:
Manual communication for the deaf using American Sign Language. Emphasis is placed on fluency. This course shifts emphasis from receptive skills (in SGNL 1301) to expressive skills, as well as ongoing exploration in Deaf culture. Prerequisite: B or better in SPH 1301. The class will be conducted in ASL, no voice.

Time Requirement:
SGNL 1302 “Intermediate American Sign Language” (3 credits) typically meets face to face twice a week for 150 minutes for 8 week courses, and also meets for a 2 hour final examination. Students have significant 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. These activities average a minimum of 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours. Please keep in mind with COVID face to face will be conducted in a virtual format.

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

Student Learning Outcomes:
Students will demonstrate the following skills through tests (receptive and expressive), lab assignments, cultural quizzes, classroom activities, completion of assignments from their workbooks, and interaction with other ASL users:

- able to engage in conversations and correspondence in American Sign Language to provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- able to comprehend and interpret live and recorded American Sign Language on a variety of topics.
- able to present information, concepts, and ideas in American Sign Language to an audience of viewers on a variety of topics.
- able to demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of American Sign Language and their own languages.
- able to demonstrate understanding of the nature of culture through comparisons of American Deaf culture and their own

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.”

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, and use of Technology:

You are expected to participate in class activities, perform on group exercises, 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 to develop these skills.

- Students are required to sign all communication that happens in the classroom.
- Students may not use their voices while in the classroom during “voice off” activities and exams.
- Those students exhibiting bad manners will be asked to leave the classroom for the duration of the class.

IV. General Education Core Curriculum

This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: 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 1302 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 Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility) Please note that this only applies to the approved assignment. All other assignments should be submitted according to regular class operations.

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

The chart below indicates the core objectives addressed by this course, the assignment(s) that will be used to assess the objectives in this course and uploaded into the D2L Teamwork Dropbox this semester, and the date the assignment(s) should be uploaded to D2L Teamwork Dropbox. Not every assignment will be submitted for core assessment every semester. Your instructor will notify you which assignment(s) must be submitted for assessment in the D2L Teamwork Dropbox.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Course Assignment Title</th>
<th>Date Due in D2L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>To include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively and with others to support a shared purpose or goal.</td>
<td>Team Review</td>
<td>Spring 2021 for upload</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information: Found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/policies](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.

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6**
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 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).

**Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1**
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- 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 one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

**Penalties for Academic Dishonesty**
Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

**Student Appeals**
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

**Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5**
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, 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, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. 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 iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

**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! In the Perkins College of Education, 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.**

VI. Class Policies

**Participation:**
Successful class interactions depend on prepared and present communicators! You are expected to attend each class and to participate in all class discussions and activities. This includes actively listening, asking, answering questions, and expressing your opinion. **Diversions due to personal notes, visiting, or working on day planners, are not considered appropriate and will be addressed when observed.** Cell phones are to be turned off during class. Texting during class (reading, composing, or sending messages) is NOT accepted and will be addressed as observed.

**Turning in Assignments:**
Assignments must be turned in according to the requirements for each assignment. Leaving an assignment with the secretary, with lab assistants, etc. unless specifically told to do so, will not be accepted. You are responsible for turning in your assignments according to each assignment’s requirements. It is no one else’s responsibility to make sure that I receive your assignment.

**Late Work:**
Any assignment turned in after the due date will lose an equivalent of a letter grade for each week (week is calculated from the due date) after it is due. The first penalty will be assessed immediately after the assignment is due. For example, if the assignment is due at the beginning of class, any assignment turned in after papers have been collected can score no higher than a B. **All other assignments are not eligible for late submission and will be given a zero if not completed or turned in on time. This policy does not apply to exams, quizzes, or chapter review presentations as those will not be accepted late and can only be made up if the conditions for make-up work are met as outlined in the attendance policy.**

**Technical Difficulties:**
Technical difficulties will not relieve you of your responsibility for turning in assignments or completing quizzes on time. Attempt all assignments and quizzes early so you may seek help as needed. I suggest allowing a minimum of 24 hours.

**Practice outside of class:**
All students are expected to practice outside of class for at least 1 hour per week for each credit hour earned. A three-credit hour course requires three hours of practice each week.

**Response to Student Emails:**
Every effort is made to respond to student communication within a timely manner. Email response turn-around time is typically within 24-48 hours. Please consider replying to your email within the same timeframe. Email is not monitored after 5:00 p.m. on Fridays and throughout weekends. Email is not monitored over university holidays.

**Zoom/Virtual Etiquette: The above rules still apply in any virtual format related to this class.**
- Be ready for class at least 5 minutes before start time.
- Fully dressed (If you are unsure what this means, please email for clarification)
- Sitting up (not laying down on any surface)
- Video must be on and sound off unless specified by the instructor.
- No eating while on Zoom
- No talking to other people in the room while in class.
- Present yourself in a respectable manner as you would in any face to face class.

**Advancing to ASL III requires the following:**
A grade of “B” or better in ASL II. The course is heavily weighted on the final receptive test and expressive assessments or assignments. You may only register for ASL III AFTER grades are submitted. The prerequisite WILL be enforced: If you manage to enroll in a course without meeting prerequisites, your instructor will check, and you will be removed from the course.

Grades may not be released through e-mail. The Family Privacy Act considers e-mail too public. To prevent others from seeing your grades unless you so desire, I may only discuss grades in person or over the phone.

**VII. Readings – Required Texts/ Software/ Equipment**

**Required items:**

a. GoReact account: You will need this to complete your expressive assignments. I will share my course number with you in D2L news feed. You will need to purchase a subscription. You can purchase it at Barnes and Nobles or Online at [www.goreact.com](http://www.goreact.com).

b. Working laptop or tablet that can connect to SFA internet for exams that will be given in D2Land GoReact. *(please note that Chrome books have a great deal of difficulty with GoReact)*

c. Clean solid color background (wrinkle free); Green Screens can be purchased on amazon, but you can use a wrinkle free sheet

d. Solid color shirt
Required Textbooks (online subscriptions only):
b. Lentz, E., Mikos, K., & Smith, C. (2014). Signing Naturally: Student Workbook Units 7-12. ONLINE INTERACTIVE STUDENT MATERIAL SUBSCRIPTION ONLY

VIII. Description of Assignments

**Exams:** (4 @ 150 Points Each – 2 Receptive and 2 Expressive)

- Six major exams (including final exam)
- Receptive Section Format:
  - Vocabulary embedded sentences
  - Each exam will contain old and new material, fingerspelling, and vocabulary from ASL I (each test comprehensive)
  - All tests will be signed and **students are expected to write the intent and meaning using good English grammar.**
  - Grades are based on accuracy of vocabulary recognition and connection of concepts expressed in English.
- Expressive Section Format:
  - You will be given the information that must be included in your video when it is your turn to record
  - Will focus on material from the most recent units, but may contain other vocabulary and grammar
  - Will give a picture of your spontaneous language production
  - Grades are given based on inclusion of information required, accuracy of grammar used, fluency of signing, inclusion of and accuracy of facial expressions, semantically accurate sign choices, accuracy of signs, use of classifiers, complete thoughts, and use of space.
- Missing an exam
  - If you do not show up to an exam, a grade of 0 will be recorded, except for a documented emergency. Please see me WELL in advance (at least one week) for a known conflict, such as university sponsored sports activities, etc.
  - Should you miss an exam for an unexcused absence (skipping class, alarm “not going off”, being late for an exam, etc.) your grade will BE A ZERO for the missed exam. NO EXCEPTIONS AT ALL. Plan ahead and be smart.
  - Should you miss an exam for an EXCUSED absence (death in the immediate family, illness requiring doctor visit and /or hospitalization, etc.), see me the day you return to reschedule.
- Exams will cover the following:
  - **Exam 1:** Units 1-7; Manual Alphabet/Fingerspelling; Signed Sentences; Vocabulary; Computer Based
- **Exam 2/Final Exam:** Units 1-8; Manual Alphabet/Fingerspelling; Signed Sentences; Vocabulary; Computer Based

**Units 1-4 Review Quiz:** (1 @ 100 points)
- At the beginning of the semester you will have a quiz to assess your knowledge of ASL 1 and to ensure all students understand the expectation of knowledge for ASL 2.
  - Fingerspelling
  - Vocabulary
  - Numbers
  - Sentences
- Each quiz will be approximately 50 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete the assignment. Extra time will only be allowed for those students who have documented extra time through Disability Services. Your quiz will submit when the 30 minutes is up. Make sure to save as you work.

**Dispositions/Participation/Attendance/Signing Naturally Homework:** (200 total pts)
- Signing Naturally Homework quizzes are worth 2 points each (104 points)
- There is no make-up allowed for any activity under this category.
- The remainder of the points are determined based on dispositions, participation, and attendance in the course.

**Expressive Fingerspelling:** (3 @ 50 points each)
- There will be a total 6 Expressive Fingerspellings located on GoReact. Only the 2nd, 4th, and 6th will be graded. The others will be solely for YOUR PRACTICE and optional. No grade attached for 3rd and 5th expressive fingerspellings. ***The 1st fingerspelling quiz will be collected as a grade under the participation category to ensure no future technical difficulties or clear up confusion with instruction/requirements.
- These assignments will be recorded in GoReact where an attached video will prompt you with the words needed for this assignment. Each set of words will be from a specific category ie: animals, states, colors, etc.
- MUST FOLLOW VIDEO RECORDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF A PERFECT SCORE. Each requirement not followed will result in a 10% deduction of your final assignment grade.
- Only ONE attempt is allowed for each graded assignment.

**Expressive Sentences:** (1 @ 100 points each)
- There will be 1 Expressive Sentences located on GoReact for Unit 8
- These assignments will be recorded in GoReact where an attached video will prompt you with the sentences needed for this assignment.
- MUST FOLLOW VIDEO RECORDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF A PERFECT SCORE. Each requirement not followed will result in a 10% deduction of your final assignment grade.
• Only ONE attempt is allowed for each graded assignment.

IX: Evaluations and Assessments:
Grades will be based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receptive Exams (2)</td>
<td>150 pts each</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expressive Exams (2)</td>
<td>150 pts each</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units 1-4 Review Quiz</td>
<td>100 pts each</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expressive Fingerspelling (3)</td>
<td>50 pts each</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expressive Sentences (1)</td>
<td>100 pts each</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispositions/Participation/Attendance/SN Homework</td>
<td>VARIES</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Possible for Semester</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1150 points</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Standard based on Percentages:

A: 90-100: Students earning the grade of an A on any assignment will have completed work that obviously demonstrates a more than average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of an A is reserved for that work which expertly displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand.

B: 80-89: Students earning the grade of a B on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates a more than average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a B is reserved for that work which adeptly displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand, recognize and dialogue about the complications of such ideas, and translate such dialogue into clear, academic prose that is free of stigmatized errors. However, the level of thought, while still above average, may fluctuate in terms of analytic abilities and expression.

C: 70-79: Students earning the grade of a C on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates an average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a C is reserved for that work which displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand (more so through summary and response rather than analysis), recognize and dialogue about the complications of such ideas (however, the complications recognized will focus more on surface level issues rather than the greater whole), and translate such dialogue into clear, academic prose that is free of stigmatized errors. As can be seen from this description, the level of thought will be acceptable and display that a student has read the assignment, but his/her analytic abilities and level of expression will not be nearly as complicated nor developed. Instead, C work will display a student’s hold to traditional methods of expression.

D: 60-69: Students earning the grade of a D on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates a below average understanding of course material and a lack of completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a D is reserved for that work which displays one’s
struggle or refusal to engage the ideas at hand, simply summarizes the work under study with no actual recognition of or dialogue about the complications of such ideas, and the translation of ideas into writing is completed in such a convoluted manner that the audience will have difficulty following the conversation.

F: 0–59: Students earning the grade of F on any assignment will either not have completed the assignment, will have completed the assignment but not followed the guidelines, or will have completed the assignment and demonstrated a complete misunderstanding of the course material. In this case, it will be obvious that the student has either not completed the required reading and/or given him/herself enough time to develop the work. The grade of a F is reserved for that work which does not engage the issues at hand, offers a base (not complete) summary of the work at hand with no critical engagement, and the translation of ideas into writing is either incomplete or the audience will be unable to follow the conversation. It is important to remember that a student can receive 0 out of 100 points. In the case that a student only partially completes an assignment or completes a work (in terms of page length, but not purpose) s/he may receive 0 points. If you make an F on a major assignment, you should make an appointment with me to discuss the matter.

X. Tentative Course Outline/Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>In Class</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>Live stream class: Introductions, Syllabus, Review Units 1-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Live stream class: Unit 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Live stream class: Unit 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Live stream class: Unit 7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19-25</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Opens after class on April 19th and closes at 11:59 p.m. on April 25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Due Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Live stream class: Unit 8</td>
<td>Fingerspelling 5 Quiz due 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Live stream class: Unit 8</td>
<td>Fingerspelling 6 Quiz due 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6-9</td>
<td>Exam 2/Final Exam</td>
<td>Unit 8 sentences due by 11:59 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Extra Credit**

More information to come

Neighborhood Story Due by 11:59 p.m. on May 6, 2024

*Due dates are tentative and subject to change*