



Course Description

ASL1140C | American Sign Language 1 | 4.00 credits

This course provides introductory information on the linguistics of American Sign Language and approximately 500 sign concepts. The course includes lecture, discussion and lab practice.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the visual orientation of deaf persons, as it relates to culture and communication by:

1. Observing and recognizing the visual communication preferences and cultural norms within the deaf community to develop a comprehensive understanding of visual orientation
2. Engaging in meaningful interactions with deaf individuals to gain firsthand experience and insights into the visual orientation and communication practices within the deaf culture
3. Acknowledging the impact of visual orientation on the cultural identity and communication dynamics of deaf individuals, fostering empathy and cultural competence
4. Researching the historical and contemporary significance of visual orientation in deaf culture and its influence on communication modalities and social interactions
5. Reflecting on the role of visual orientation in shaping the experiences and perspectives of deaf individuals, promoting a deeper understanding of cultural diversity and inclusivity
6. Engaging in discussions with members of the deaf community and experts in deaf studies to explore the multifaceted nature of visual orientation within deaf culture
7. Comparing and contrasting visual orientation practices across different deaf communities and cultural contexts to recognize the diversity and richness of visual communication
8. Integrating knowledge of visual orientation into communication strategies and interactions, demonstrating respect for and adaptability to diverse cultural perspectives within the deaf community
9. Advocating for recognizing and appreciating visual orientation as a fundamental aspect of deaf culture, promoting awareness and sensitivity in cross-cultural communication

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate the ability to use and understand the manual alphabet, including numbers, at a basic level by:

1. Practicing the manual alphabet and numbers regularly to develop fluency and accuracy in expressive and receptive fingerspelling
2. Recognizing and differentiating between the various handshapes and movements associated with the manual alphabet and numbers to enhance comprehension and production
3. Reinforcing the learning of the manual alphabet and numbers through consistent use in everyday communication and language practice
4. Incorporating the manual alphabet and numbers into daily communication and interactions to reinforce understanding and application
5. Differentiating between similar handshapes and movements in the manual alphabet and numbers to ensure accurate representation and interpretation
6. Regularly reviewing and self-assessing the proficiency in using and understanding the manual alphabet and numbers to track progress and identify areas for improvement
7. Engaging in receptive and expressive fingerspelling activities and exercises to improve proficiency in recognizing and producing the manual alphabet and numbers

8. Implementing mnemonic techniques and visual aids to enhance memory retention and recall of the manual alphabet and numbers
9. Utilizing resources such as fingerspelling practice tools and peer feedback to strengthen the basic level competency in using and understanding the manual alphabet and numbers

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate a vocabulary of approximately 500 signs by:

1. Mastering the production and comprehension of a diverse range of 500 signs through consistent practice and reinforcement
2. Regularly reviewing and expanding the repertoire of signs to ensure a comprehensive and up-to-date vocabulary
3. Applying the 500-sign vocabulary in practical communication settings to enhance fluency and retention
4. Contextualizing the 500-sign vocabulary within various thematic categories and everyday scenarios to promote contextually relevant usage
5. Differentiating between subtle variations and nuances in the meaning and usage of the 500 signs to convey precise and accurate expressions
6. Employing mnemonic techniques and real-world applications to enhance retention and recall of the 500-sign vocabulary
7. Engaging in receptive and expressive sign language interactions to reinforce and expand the 500-sign vocabulary
8. Collaborating with peers and mentors to exchange feedback and insights, fostering continuous improvement and refinement of the 500-sign vocabulary
9. Showcasing the 500-sign vocabulary through expressive storytelling, discussions, and presentations to demonstrate proficiency and versatility in sign language communication

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Use computer and emerging technologies effectively