

HIGH SCHOOL



2026-2027 CLASS INFORMATION

Course Title: American Sign Language I

Cost: \$455

Description:

ASL I is a full-year introductory course where high school students learn the foundations of American Sign language and the rich culture of the Deaf community. Through an immersive and eclectic learning style, students develop expressive and receptive signing skills, learn ASL grammar, practice conversation, and explore storytelling and classifiers in a visually engaging environment. Class emphasizes participation, partner work, and hands-on communication. Because ASL is a visual language, consistent attendance is important for success. Students will complete short weekly assignments, receptive quizzes, and quarterly projects culminating in a final signed presentation. Grading is based on effort, clarity of signing, comprehension, participation, and improvement throughout the year. By the end of the course, students will be able to hold basic conversations in ASL, describe people and places, tell simple stories, and demonstrate an understanding of Deaf cultural norms. No prior ASL experience is required.

Just like any language, ASL requires practice so students should expect to practice their skills and signing with someone (or in front of a mirror) around 15-20 minutes 2-3 times per week.

Prerequisites: none

Grade Level: 9th-12th grades

Schedule: Thursdays, 11:30-12:55pm, 32 weeks beginning August 13, 2026

Class Size: 8 minimum student for class to form/15 students maximum

Required Textbooks: *None*

Supplies: Journal for notetaking

Instructor: Mrs. Sarai McDowell