



DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES,  
LITERATURES & CULTURES  
College of Liberal Arts  
& Social Sciences

2023 Summer | University of North Texas  
American Sign Language III  
SGNL 2040.001

Instructor: Mrs. Erika Trammell-Conerly (She/Her)

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[Book time with Trammell-Conerly, Erika](#)

| COURSE    | SECTION | DAY      | TIME       | LOCATION |
|-----------|---------|----------|------------|----------|
| SGNL 2040 | 001     | MoTuWeTh | 10-11:50am | 316      |

**Class Location:** World Languages Building Room 316

**American Sign Language III Course Description:**

American Sign Language III is an advanced course in American Sign Language utilizing a meaningful communicative approach to teaching language. Common communicative events and interactions are employed to gain knowledge of the advanced vocabulary and grammar of ASL. The course includes development of social linguistic behaviors appropriate within the Deaf Community, as well as cultural issues with that same community. American Sign Language III. 3 hours. Expansion of vocabulary to approximately 1800-plus signs. Provide and receive natural conversational information in ASL in a variety of contextual settings. Exposure to deaf community events and interaction with deaf adults. Prerequisite(s): SPHS 1050 or equivalent.

**Text(s) & Other Materials/Supplies:**

1. Student Text:
  - a. [2040: Signing Naturally Level 2 Units 7-12 student workbook by Lentz, Mikos, and Smith.](#)
  - b. Additional Learning Resource:

1010 & 2040 Master ASL – Level One (with DVD) (9781881133209) by  
Zinza, Jason E. 2006 ISBN-10: 1-881133-20-6 ISBN-13:  
978-1-881133-20-9

**2. UNT Canvas:**

To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System and any recording device for express assignments. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at:  
<https://online.unt.edu/learn>

**3. Students Subscription:**

- a. OPTIONAL: <https://www.asldeafined.com/>
- b. REQUIRED: <https://get.goreact.com/>

**4. Helpful web resources:**

- a. [www.lifeprint.com](http://www.lifeprint.com),
- b. [www.aslpro.com](http://www.aslpro.com),
- c. [www.aslbrowser.com](http://www.aslbrowser.com)

Expected Learning Outcomes Assessments:

Students will:

- Gain advanced understanding of ASL grammatical structure and be able to replicate it.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of American Deaf culture.
- Communicate with members of the Deaf community through knowledge and understanding of the language.
- Compare and contrast ASL and English syntax.

This semester we will focus on 3 Units (Unit 7,8,and 9)

This course will cover the following language skills:

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Unit 7 | Identifying present people<br>Describing personal items<br>Describing lost items |
| Unit 8 | Making requests<br>Agreeing with conditions<br>Asking for advice                 |

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Unit 9 | Discussing neighborhoods<br>Describing your own neighborhood<br>Describing a restaurant<br>Suggesting a place to eat |
|--------|--|

### How to Succeed in this Course:

**No Talking Policy:** We insist on maintaining a signing environment in the classroom for two reasons:

1. It is imperative that you develop the habit of signing when Deaf people are present because it is considered rude and insulting to talk in front of a Deaf person. Information should be accessible for everyone present.
2. This is an immersion class; only the target language is used. Using ASL only will help develop both comprehension skills and expressive skills quickly and effectively. Talking disrupts this process and delays language development. If a fellow student asks for help, feel free to use signs you have learned, gestures or if needed by writing back and forth.

**ADA accommodation statement:** The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](#). You may also contact ODA at (940) 565-4323.

### Attendance:

Regular attendance is required. Repeated unexcused absences and tardiness will affect your grade significantly. Three tardies is the equivalent of one absence. Leaving class before the end of the period will be considered an absence. You are allowed a maximum of three (3) absences, whether excused or unexcused, without penalty.

After three absences, your final grade will suffer in percent (1 percent will be deducted from the final grade for each unexcused absence). **After the fifth absence, you will receive a failing grade for the entire class.**

Excused absences are only:

- A.) illness with doctor's documentation
- B.) official university sponsored activities
- C.) the observance of certain religious holidays or trips

(see University Class Attendance Regulations in the UNT Policy Manual <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/15-2-5> for further details).

### **Class participation:**

In addition to being physically present, you are also expected to be intellectually present in class and to remain engaged with the discussion topic at hand. Participation also includes the focused reading or watching of the materials under discussion, taking notes, and generally contributing towards a conducive learning environment for yourself and your classmates.

### **Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment:**

I value the many perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. All discussions should be respectful and civil. Although disagreements and debates are encouraged, personal attacks are unacceptable. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please stop by my office and let me know. We are all learning together.

Every student in this class should have the right to learn and engage within an environment of respect and courtesy from others. We will discuss our classroom's habits of engagement and I also encourage you to review UNT's student code of conduct so that we can all start with the same baseline civility understanding [Code of Student Conduct](#)

### **Assessing Your Work:**

Grades are based on mastery of the content. As a rule, I do not grade on a "curve" because that is a comparison of your outcomes to others. I do, however, encourage you to find opportunities to learn with and through others. Maximize your learning with

our student tutors. Focus on areas where you are struggling in this course by attending scheduled study group sessions with the TAs before each exam.

### Course Assessments/ Exams:

Assessment are a 3 Step Process:

Expressive Skills Assessment + Comprehension / Receptive Skills  
Assessment + Cultural Connection= Unit Assessment (Total of 3 Unit  
Assessment )

A. Expressive Skills Assessment: To encourage the development of productive language skills, this course includes having to develop videos that will allow you to demonstrate appropriate mastery of specific skills through different topics. These videos will be evaluated through instructor based evaluations as well as peer evaluations. For more information on when specific video projects are due refer to the course schedule below.

B. Comprehension / Receptive Skills Assessment: in this course will primarily test your comprehension of material covered in class during specific units, they may or may not consist of all of the following: 1. Comprehension: These are based mostly on a student's ability to understand ASL used in a specific context. Questions might also be based on the understanding of information from the Signing Naturally course materials posted online or videos made by ASL faculty members or linguistic information discussed in class.

C. Culture Connection Assessment: there may be questions or essays that are based on in-class discussions related to Deaf Culture.

Make-ups Assessments will not be allowed. If you miss an assessment , you will earn zero points for that assignment. Very rarely are exceptions maybe happen on a case by case situation again this is at the Instructor discretion. More detailed information on each unit's assessments will be provided in class, but it is entirely done within class time and turned in on Canvas or Goreact.

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| (9) Exams Total:<br>Unit 7 Exam:<br>Part 1: Receptive Skills Assessment<br>Part 2: Expressive Skills Assessment |        |     |
|   | Unit 7 | 30% |
|   | Unit 8 | 30% |

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Part 3: Cultural Connections Assessment<br><br>Unit 8 Exam:<br>Part 1: Receptive Skills Assessment<br>Part 2: Expressive Skills Assessment<br>Part 3: Cultural Connections Assessment<br><br>Unit 9 Exam:<br>Part 1: Receptive Skills Assessment<br>Part 2: Expressive Skills Assessment<br>Part 3: Cultural Connections Assessment | Unit 9 | 30% |
|   |        |     |
| Attendance/participation  | 10%    |     |

A = 90-100%  
B = 80-89.99%  
C = 70-79.99%  
D = 60-69.99%  
F = 59.99% or less

### Course Policies

Appropriate behavior is expected of all students taking this course. Silent all electronic devices such as cell phones and laptops. Generally, average college students are expected to spend three (3) hours per week for each one (1) hour of class time working on the course to be able to successfully learn the content. If you are an “average” college-level learner, you should spend about nine (9) hours per week if you expect to successfully complete this course. Adjust hours to accommodate your learning level. Help maintain a positive learning environment by arriving on time, turning off cellular phones and beepers before arriving in class, and avoiding distracting behaviors. Any student whose behavior disturbs our learning environment may be asked to leave.

In addition to standards for success in courses, there are UNT policies and procedures that you may list or link to in your syllabus. You can access these policies in Navigate ([Navigate.unt.edu](http://Navigate.unt.edu)), in Canvas under the Help menu, in EIS, and on the [Student Support Services & Policies](#) page.

**Exams:** There will be several exams during the semester. Instructors have a policy of NO MAKE-UP EXAMS unless there is an extreme emergency and SUBSTANTIAL documentation is provided at the following class that is attended. No late

documentation will be accepted. Documentation must be provided by a qualified practitioner and will be verified. Students must abide by the UNT Academic Integrity Policy. Students committing academic dishonesty will receive a grade of Zero (0) and will be referred to the Dean of Students office (see Student Code of Conduct).

**Comprehension Check/ Quiz:**

Comprehension Check and Quizzes are used as a teaching tool to evaluate and ensure that students understand the instructional unit in a course. Instructors are then given an opportunity to modify their future instruction based on students' responses. Comprehension checks can come in the form of an exit slip, think-pair-share exercises, and problem solving exercises, and the Signing Naturally workbook.

**Late Work:** A grade of zero (0) will be assigned to any homework assignment that is not completed and brought to class on the date and time that it is due. NO EXCEPTIONS. Many times assignments are given in class with instructional class time to complete the assignment. Do not send homework to the instructor or the instructional team via email unless directly instructed to do so.

**Academic Honesty:** Academic integrity is taking responsibility for one's own work, being individually accountable, and demonstrating intellectual honesty and ethical behavior. Ethical behavior and independent thought are essential for the highest level of academic achievement. It is the aim of the faculty of the University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students presenting any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. "Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act. Students who plagiarize will receive a grade of zero for the assignment and the case will be submitted to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Course Calendar:**

A Detailed Course Calendar can be found in canvas.