SGNL 1020.001 American Sign Language I Summer 2025

Instructor Information Name: JoAnn Nunnelly, M.Ed.

Office location: LANG 401B

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Office hours: by appointment, preferably before/after class

Tutors: see announcement

Course Information

Class meeting times: MTWR 10:00am – 11:50am Location: LANG 201

Course Description: American Sign Language I is an elementary course in ASL utilizing a meaningful communication approach to teaching language. Common communicative events and interactions are employed to gain knowledge of a basic vocabulary and grammar of ASL. The course includes development of socio-linguistic behaviors appropriate within the cultural diversity functioning in the Deaf community.

Course Objectives:

* Students will learn to use a variety of simple phrases and sentences in one-to-one and small   
  group conversations
* Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and   
  perspectives of American Deaf culture
* Students will compare and contrast ASL with English.
* Students will use ASL in non-classroom conversational experiences with the Deaf community.

Course outline: View the Course Calendar on Canvas for specific dates.

Required Materials Signing Naturally by Smith, Lentz & Mikos Student set Units 1-6

Optional Materials ASLDeafined.org purchase directly from website

ADA 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. 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.

Course Evaluation

Four exams 50%

Participation/5Qs/sentences 50%

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

The instructor will ***NOT*** round up grade when calculating the final weighted average.

Course Policies

Attendance Students are expected to attend ALL class meetings and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor PRIOR to being absent, so that you and the professor can discuss the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals.

Classroom Appropriate behavior is expected of all students taking this course. Arrive to class **promptly** and do not leave until the scheduled ending time of the class. Turn ***OFF*** all electronic devices such as cell phones and laptops.

College Courses As a general rule, average college students are expected to spend three (3) hours per week for each one (1) hour of class time working on the course in order 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 for more or less hours to accommodate your learning level.

Exams There will be four (4) exams during the semester. Instructor has 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).

Assignments Fifty per-cent of your grade will be calculated using your attendance, participation, homework assignments including 5Qs & sentences. Students will receive regular feedback on their performance from instructor & the instructional team. Since this is a college course, ***NO EXTRA CREDIT*** opportunities will be available.

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. Do not send homework to the instructor or the instructional team via email.

Labs/Tutoring Please see course announcements for information about tutors and scheduled hours for which they are available. This information is also available on the WLLC homepage.