



American Sign Language III
Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

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Course Purpose:

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 a 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.

Course Objectives

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.

Required Text:

- [ASLDeafined](https://www.asldeafined.com/buy-now/) - \$12.00
<https://www.asldeafined.com/buy-now/> PROMO CODE: DTX
- GoReact Student Account - \$19.99

Suggested Materials:

- GoReact App for smart phone
- ASLDeafined App for smart phone
- Glide App for smart phone

Course Requirements:

Students are responsible for all information in the assigned textbook, lectures, handouts, and videos shown in class. Participation is expected during class discussions and activities. During silent activities, students are required to sign.

There are five unit tests during the semester which account for 60% of the overall grade. At the end of the semester there is a final expressive exam which is worth 15%.

The above requirements will be calculated as follows:

Exams	60%
Weekly Prompt Homework	20%
Final Expressive Exam	15%
Class Participation	5%

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59%	F

Examinations:

Unit tests are receptive and taken during class. Tests must be taken at the assigned time. No makeup tests are given. **Exceptions will only be given for extreme emergencies** (teacher's discretion) and documentation is required. Students who miss examinations will be given a zero (unless documentation is presented and accepted by instructor). Exam dates are listed on the course calendar but are subject to change at any time. **Students suspected of cheating will be given a zero.**

Weekly Prompts:

Students are expected to complete weekly homework assignments on GoReact. Weekly prompts are posted by the instructor as outlined on the course calendar. There is a total of ten weekly prompt assignments scheduled this semester. Students are required to complete and submit nine prompts for credit. As with recording and uploading videos, students are required to watch peer videos and leave feedback. Peer feedback must be left on no less than three peers' videos per assignment and must not be shorter than 25 words. Full participation credit will not be given to students who upload a weekly prompt but fail to leave feedback comments on other students' videos. **No credit will be given to students who leave feedback but do not participate in the prompt.** Feedback must be constructive, thorough, and demonstrate understanding. Transcribing video content is not considered feedback. **Videos that do not meet time requirements will not be graded.**

GoReact Guidelines

Videos must be clear and natural signing space must be visible. Hands and body should never be cut out of the frame. Videos must be well-lit and recorded in a single take. Projects that do not fit these quality guidelines may not be graded.

Weekly Prompt Feedback Reflections:

Twice during the semester, students submit a cumulative document containing all feedback comments left for them on each of their weekly prompt videos, paying special attention to any feedback left by their T.A. Students will then write a paragraph (roughly 200-300 words) reflecting on this feedback as it pertains to their expressive skills, concluding where they've improved and what areas they need to continue working on. Students should summarize their own skill development and provide specific examples detailing how this feedback has impacted their ASL fluency.

Late Policy:

Expressive projects and weekly prompt assignments are accepted up to 48 hours after their due date for a full letter grade deduction. No late assignments accepted after 48 hours has passed. Videos can sometimes take a bit of time to properly upload. Pardon will not be given to student who do not get their assignment in on-time because of slow connection speed. Assignments should be started well before midnight on the due date to accommodate any issues that may arise.

Final Expressive Exam:

At the end of the semester students meet one-on-one with the instructor for their final expressive interview. Students will prepare a narrative to present to the instructor. Exams last about 5-7 minutes and are scheduled during the last unit of the semester. This exam is worth 15% of the overall grade and is designed to assess students' cumulative expressive skills.

Silent Hour

Students have the option to attend a bi-weekly silent hour lab. Silent hour is designed to provide a relaxed environment where ASL is used in natural conversation. Outside-class practice in the target language promotes students' expressive skill development. Students sign up for silent hour by choosing a time at the beginning of the semester. This becomes their bi-weekly designated slot for the remainder of the course. Students who sign up for silent hour but do not attend may receive a 0 on their final exam. Silent hour is intended for conversational practice only. Books and outside materials are prohibited. A teacher or teacher's assistant will be present at all silent hour labs to assist and correct students. Students must bring an electronic or hard copy of their field experience form every session to be signed by the teacher or teacher's assistant in charge. Hours will not be counted if students fail to get their paper signed. Forms must be signed the day of said session, by the the teacher or tutor present at said session. Students must attend five one-hour sessions at a total of five hours to receive credit at the end of the semester. Arriving late or leaving early is not permitted. One makeup session is permitted without documentation. Additional makeups with documentation are permitted per teacher's discretion. A strict no-talking or mouthing policy is enforced at all silent hour sessions. **Students who fail to adhere to this rule will not be given hours for credit and may be asked to leave.**

Absence Policy:

Attendance is required. Students should plan to attend every class. Given the type of material, there is no practical method for passing this course without consistent attendance. Students are responsible for getting any material missed during an absence. Students must be on-time for class and sign the attendance sheet. Arriving late or leaving early may deduct from class participation grade. UNT Policy 18.5.2.1 states that the Student Health & Wellness Center (SHWC) does not give medical excuses from class. The document is only a verification of a clinical visit. One un-excused absence is permitted without grade deduction. **Students who miss six classes cannot pass the course and will be issued an F at the end of the semester, regardless of work completed.**

Electronics policy:

Apart from designated activities, no electronic devices such as cell phones, computers, or tablets are permitted during class. Students are asked to make sure phones are off and put away once class begins. Unprompted use of electronics may result in loss of participation points with or without notice to student. Cell phone use during graded assignments or examinations may result in a zero.

Class policy:

This is an advanced sign language course – voicing is limited. There is strictly no talking during silent activities. Talking and making noise at this time is distracting and may result in loss of attendance points for the day. There is no way to recover these points once lost. **Students who continue to disrupt silent activities may be asked to leave.**

Disability Accommodation:

The Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities (cf. American with Disabilities ACT and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act). We encourage all students with disabilities to register with ODA. If you need any accommodation for a disability, present a written request to the instructor on or before the 12th class day. If you experience any problems in getting reasonable accommodations, contact the department chair or ODA. No accommodations can be made without ODA office documentation.