



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Course Acronym:	ASL
Course Number:	111
Descriptive Title:	American Sign Language I
Division:	Humanities
Department:	Sign Language/Interpreter Training
Course Disciplines:	Sign Language/Interpreter Training
Catalog Description :	This beginning course, taught within the context of deaf culture, introduces students to signing and comprehending elementary American Sign Language (ASL). Through a visual-gestural approach and multimedia activities, students develop basic vocabulary and grammar that deal with everyday topics. <i>Note: This course is comparable to two years of high school sign language.</i>
Pre-requisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	4
Hours Laboratory (per week):	0
Outside Study Hours:	8
Total Course Hours:	72
Course Units:	4
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	Prior to 7/1992
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	Fall 2006
General Education: ECC	Area 3 - Humanities
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	Area C2 - Arts and Humanities - Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English

Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	Area 6 - Language Other than English (UC only)
Term:	
Other:	
CalGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	
Student Learning Outcomes:	SLO #1 Comprehension Students will demonstrate ability to comprehend ASL vocabulary related to oneself and family. SLO #2 Expression Students will demonstrate ability to express basic ASL vocabulary related to oneself and family. SLO #3 Cultural Components Students will describe and analyze basic cultural components of the Deaf world.
Course Objectives:	1. 1. Spontaneously generate introductory American Sign Language sentences and short interactive dialogues about oneself, family, everyday topics, character descriptions, everyday routines, and real world surroundings. 2. Deduce meaning and respond appropriately to simple and direct commands, questions and conversations of familiar topics. 3. Demonstrate comprehension of short stories and basic ASL narratives. 4. Recognize and produce basic non-manual markers, mouth morphemes, and grammatical features embedded in sentences both through receptive and expressive interactions. 5. Demonstrate and comprehend beginning level fingerspelling and numbers as signed in common situations. 6. Prepare and report on contemporary topics, trends, or issues of current concern in the deaf community and how they impact the culture. 7. Identify prominent deaf individuals and important historical events within the American deaf community. 8. Compare basic ASL and English sentence types to demonstrate basic knowledge of the structural difference between the languages. 9. Demonstrate knowledge of rules of social interaction with deaf individuals.
Major Topics:	I. Introduction of American Sign Language Skills (10 hours, lecture) A. Visual readiness skills B. Visual discrimination practice C. Introduction of fingerspelling and the manual alphabet D. Facial expression and facial grammar E. Yes/No questions F. Wh questions: who, when, where, why, what, how and how many G. Body Language and gestures H. Confirming or correcting information

	II. ASL Linguistics (12 hours, lecture) A. Basic Morphology such as mouth morphemes, non-manual markers, and spatial reference B. Phonology (ASL parameters) C. Basic ASL syntax such as topicalization, negation, affirmation, questions D. Comparison of basic ASL and English sentence structure III. Grammar (17 hours, lecture) A. Non-manual markers B. Pronouns, noun/verb pairs C. Classifiers and classifier predicates D. Sentence types E. Conversational openers F. Tense: Time indicators G. Verb forms H. Directional, temporal, and distributional aspects of some signs IV. Sign Vocabulary development (20 hours, lecture) A. Family and friends B. Signs to describe oneself and others C. Signs related to food, home, school, and the environment D. Feelings and emotions E. Negative responses F. Basic numbers G. Basic fingerspelling V. Cultural topics (13 hours, lecture) A. Sign Language and its origins B. Values of the Deaf community C. Rules of etiquette D. Negotiating a signed environment E. Deaf Profiles (famous people)
Total Lecture Hours:	72
Total Laboratory Hours:	0
Total Hours:	72
A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only):	

A.2. Primary Method of Evaluation (Part 2 - all courses; choose one):	3) Skills demonstration
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	After preparing a sign language story which includes specific requirements for grammar and vocabulary, construct and sign/demonstrate the story to the teacher. Stories will be signed and exchanged among classmates for review and analyses.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	In groups, examine and discuss two early cultural philosophical beliefs about deafness and debate the differences.
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	Differentiate nouns from verbs, yes/no questions from "wh" question formats, and then provide a representative signed sample of their use by demonstrating each to a classmate.
Other Evaluation Methods:	Class Performance, Completion, Embedded Questions, Essay Exams, Laboratory Reports, Matching Items, Other Exams, Performance Exams, Quizzes, Reading Reports, Term or Other Papers, Written Homework
Instructional Methods:	Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Lecture, Multimedia presentations
If other:	
Work Outside of Class:	Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content (such as theatre event, museum, concert, debate, meeting), Required reading, Skill practice, Study, Written work (such as essay/composition/report/analysis/research)
If Other:	
Up-To- Date Representa tive Texts:	Lentz. <u>Signing Naturally: Level 1 Student workbook and DVD</u> . Dawn Sign Press, 2008. Qualifier Text: This text is the most current edition and discipline standard.
Alternative Texts:	
Required Supplemen tary Readings:	<i>Deaf Culture Our Way</i> , 4th edition. Samuel K. Holcomb (ed). Dawn Sign Press, 2011. Discipline standard.
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite:	
Category:	
Requisite course(s): List both pre- requisites and co- requisites in this box.	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corre- sponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and	

Matching Skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable	
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	
Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Maria Sheehan
Date:	09/01/1975
Original Board Approval Date:	
Last Reviewed and/or Revised by:	Timothy Gough
Date:	02/24/2025
Last Board Approval Date:	06/26/2025
Effective Term:	FALL 2026