SYLLABUS

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 1

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Thursday
5:00-7:50
ASL K101 T2
Room – D212

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Adjunct Faculty Office

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

ASL K101 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I
This course introduces the student to American Sign Language, the language used by the Deaf Community in the United States. This course covers fundamentals of the basic structure of ASL grammar, vocabulary, fingerspelling / numbers, and visual gestural communication, and the instruction of cultural aspects of Deafness.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of Sign language I, students will be competent, receptively and expressively, and be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to select, produce, and use appropriate sign vocabulary for clear and accurate communication.
- Apply the appropriate grammar and syntax by using facial expression and body language to communicate in sign language effectively.
- Develop an understanding of Deaf culture and of the differences between Deaf and hearing cultures.
- Gain insight into the experiences of being deaf while communicating in a hearing world.

MATERIALS

- MASTER ASL! LEVEL ONE by Jason E. Zinza (Required)
- MASTER ASL! FINGERSPELLING, NUMBERS, AND GLOSSING by Jason E. Zinza (Required)
- The instructor will provide supplemental material.
- Videos and supplementary material used in class.

PROCEDURE

1 Classroom instruction of language component
2 Modeling of target language
3 Practice using target language in and outside of class
4 Interaction with native users of target language
5 In-class discussions, activities and presentations
6 Off campus activities with written papers
7 Quizzes & Exams

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Students gain proficiency / mastery at different rates. Each student is capable of achieving proficiency / mastery in ASL and will be given every opportunity to do so.
All assessments are cumulative.

1 Participation – 20%

In order to learn sign Language, one MUST participate in using it. I recognize that there are extenuating circumstances; if there is an issue with being able to attend class, please contact me. Attendance will be recorded in order to give appropriate credit for participation. Excused absences will be given on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the instructor for emergency situations. Students are expected to attend all classes. I will communicate homework assignments in class and on Blackboard. If you are absent, please check Blackboard for work. Do not email directly to find out your assignments but rather only for specific questions related to the missed work.

2 Midterm and Final – 30%

Exams will be cumulative. Both the expressive and the receptive skills of students will be tested. Each exam will include a written section on theory. A missed mid-term exam cannot be made up unless there is documentation of hospitalization (of student or immediate family member) or death in the family. A missed final exam cannot be made up.

Midterm – 10%
Final – 20%

3 Quizzes – 30%

Quizzes will be used to assess your weekly progress and to show you where you need to focus your energy. There will be 6 quizzes. Each quiz will include receptive skills, questions on the correct usage of ASL, as well as Deaf Culture information provided in class and found in your textbook. Three of the quizzes will require an expressive component be completed. These expressive portions will be videotaped and handed in on via USB or DVD. Expressive quizzes will cover Units 1 – 3 individually.

4 TV Viewing Papers – 10%

Each student is required to watch two television shows. Each show watched must be at least ½ hour long. Watching shows that you are NOT familiar with is REQUIRED. **Neither volume nor closed captioning may be used for the entire show.** You may pick shows such as the news, documentaries, comedies, or dramas. SPORTING EVENTS, CARTOONS, "HOW TO" SHOWS, GAME SHOWS AND THE LIKE ARE **NOT ACCEPTABLE** VIEWING CHOICES. After watching each show, a paper is to be written describing your experience. Each paper is required to be at least 1-1/2 page typed, double-spaced,

using the following guidelines:

- Each paper is a representation of YOUR thoughts, YOUR feelings or beliefs, YOUR impressions, YOUR frustrations, YOUR successes and why.
- How has this experience / activity impacted you?
- How will you use this information?
- Does this information / activity change the way that you think? How and why?
- Papers will be graded on spelling and grammar.

Papers that do not satisfy the above requirements will be given back to the student to correct and will receive no credit until the criteria are satisfactorily completed.

5 Essay – Deaf Culture / Influential Deaf Person Paper: 10%

The Deaf community in the United States is generally defined as a cultural / linguistic minority group, with the use of American Sign Language at its core. There are many aspects to Deaf culture from the attendance of residential schools to the dynamics of group interaction. There are also many Deaf people that have influenced not only Deaf culture, but hearing culture as well. Students choose an aspect of either Deaf Culture or a Deaf individual and upon APPROVAL FROM INSTRUCTOR will research his / her chosen subject. This paper should be three to five pages long, depending on available material, with class presentations. There will be a minimum of three (3) sources. Wikipedia.org is not allowed as a source. You will follow standard MLA guidelines for sourcing. Please see the Instructor at any time for help with this assignment.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPECTATIONS AND INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE:

Class begins promptly at 5:00 p.m. and procedures will not be delayed to accommodate latecomers. Students are expected to attend all classes. If you choose not to attend it will affect your grade. Consistent practice of using American Sign Language is of utmost importance if students are to master the language. Therefore, students will be expected to spend time outside of class practicing the language of native signers so that they can practice what they learn in class. Any public library will have or be able to obtain videos and books on ASL through inter-library loan.

COLLEGE WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Students may withdraw, in writing at the Registrar's Office for any reason until the end of the 10th week of classes. NOTE: You will need your instructor's signature if you decide to withdraw at the end of the 10th week.

PLAGIARISM

In order to support the process of promoting academic integrity at Three Rivers, any student who plagiarizes work from an outside source or from another student in the class will receive a failing grade for the assignment. I will also follow the process, which is outlined in the Student handbook for anyone who is suspected of Academic dishonesty**.**

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

If you have a hidden or visible disability and require classroom or test taking modification, please see me as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please be sure to notify Student Development and Services, which coordinates services to students with disabilities. Students with learning disabilities or attention deficit disorder should contact Chris Scarborough at 860.892.5751 or by email at cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu. Students with a physical, medical or psychiatric disability contact Kathleen Gray at 860.885.2328 or by email at kgray@trcc.commnet.edu or Matt Liscum at 860.383.5240 or by email at mliscum@trcc.commnet.edu.

SUBMISSION POLICY

All assignments or presentations to be submitted on the date they are due, by the end of the scheduled class including any videotaped materials. I will not accept late assignments or late papers. Students are given one week to make up missed quizzes at the discretion of the instructor. **It is each student's responsibility to schedule an appointment for this make up quiz.** Any quiz that is not made up will receive a grade of 0.

- Missed In-class Activities cannot be made up due to the nature of the activities.
- There is no make up for any Cultural Events provided in class.
- Mid-term exams cannot be made up unless documentation of hospitalization (of student or immediate family member) or death in the family. Final exams cannot be made up.
- This course does not offer extra credit.

CLASS POLICIES

- Cell phones, pagers and laptops should be on silent or off, with the exception of an emergency situation.
- This course fosters a community of learning; therefore, the instructor and all students will be treated respectfully inside the class and in all online interactions.
- Late or missing assignments/tests will not be accepted due to technological issues. It is highly recommended papers be saved on a flash drive or in the cloud as well as the hard drive.
- Submission of all videos (midterm and final) are due by the end of class on the date due whether or not you are in class. Videos need to be turned in via a DVD, a flash drive or private posting on YouTube. I will provide more specific instructions in class. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to ensure that the submitted materials are on the DVD/flash drive or that the link is correct (YouTube).
- In the event a decision is made to cancel or delay classes or close school completely, the official announcement will be available on the TRCC website. Please DO NOT contact the instructor directly with weather related closure questions.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:

- To arrive to class on time
- To be available by appointment for discussion on concerns or clarifications of material
- To be prepared
- To hold class for the entire class period
- To return corrected work, as often as possible, the next class period after it is collected.
- To give you my best effort in sharing what I know about American Sign Language and the Deaf
- To work with each individual to assist her / his to successfully complete this course.

Digication Statements

As a student you will maintain an online learning portfolio using a college-designed template in Digication. Through this electronic tool you will have the opportunity to monitor your own growth in college-wide learning. It may even help you determine a major that is best suited to you. You will be able to keep and maintain your learning portfolio after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. If your work is selected and reviewed for assessment purposes, it will remain anonymous and private. Digication provides a "place" where you will connect your learning from the classroom, college, and life in general. Sometimes when you review all of the work you have done and think about it, you end up learning something different and perhaps unexpected. Please review your course outlines to determine what assignments to upload into the TRCC Digication template and please post your own choices, as well. Have fun in learning!

VALUABLE RESOURCES:

www.aslpro.com
www.lifeprint.com
http://lklivingston.tripod.com/essay/index.html
http://www.writeawriting.com/essay/essay-writing-tips-for-dummies/

IF AT ANY TIME YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT IS EXPECTED, HOW YOU ARE PROGRESSING, YOUR GRADES, OR ANYHTING ELSE, PLEASE SEE ME RIGHT AWAY.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER CALL TRCC AT 860-886-0177
DO NOT CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR FOR WEATHER RELATED INFORMATION

DATE	CHPT	ATT END	QUIZZES	PERF QUIZZES	EXAM	Presentation	TV Logs	ESSAY
23-Jan	INTRO							
30-Jan	ABC, #'s							
6-Feb		XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
13-Feb	UNIT 1							
20-Feb	UNIT 1							
27-Feb	UNIT 2		#1				TV LOGS	
6-Mar	UNIT 2			PQ#1				
13-Mar	Review		#2					
20-Mar		XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX
27-Mar	Movie TDE				MIDTERM			
3-Apr	UNIT 3			PQ#2				
10-Apr	UNIT 3							**ESSAY DRAFT**
17-Apr	Review		#3					
24-Apr	Hands Up			PQ#3				
1-May	Deaf Awareness					PRTATN		**ESSAY**
8-May	Presentation/ Review					PRTATN		
15-May					FINAL			
TOTALS		20%	30%		30%		10%	10%