Common Course Outline
ASLS 101
American Sign Language I
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ASLS 101- American Sign Language I is designed to develop basic syntactical knowledge of American Sign Language (ASL) and basic vocabulary. Students will be exposed to the culture of the Deaf community and its relationship to other diverse groups. This course is designed for students who have little or no previous knowledge of ASL. The class is conducted using ASL to develop receptive skills and technology is used to enhance and critique student progress. Students are required to attend and observe several Deaf community events.

3 Credits

Prerequisites: (ESOL 052 and ESOL 054) or ACLT 052 or ACLT 053

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. demonstrate competence in receptive and expressive visual readiness for acquiring basic sign language skills;
2. analyze diverse communication contexts to determine the most appropriate grammatical features of American Sign Language to employ;
3. demonstrate basic receptive and expressive communicative competency in ASL;
4. demonstrate effective use of the no-voice rule as part of the total immersion experience;
5. analyze the implications of the differences between etiquette norms within the Deaf community and the hearing population;
6. find, evaluate, use, and cite appropriate academic resources for course assignments;
7. use personal skills to self-evaluate and self-correct in producing appropriate ASL features while respecting and adapting to other students' learning styles;
8. differentiate between correct and incorrect signs and facial grammar of ASL;
9. explain how Deaf cultural rules of social interaction vary from dominant cultural rules;
10. explain the connection between modern day ASL and its French origins from a historical viewpoint;
11. explain the power struggles the Deaf community has in integrating into the hearing world; and
12. demonstrate effective use of current technology to produce video recorded projects with accompanying summaries.

Major Topics
I. Basic ASL competencies:

    A. Introductions
    B. Exchanging personal information
    C. Descriptions of surroundings
    D. Giving directions
    E. Conversations about everyday activities
       i. Neighborhoods/where people live
       ii. Family
       iii. Making plans
       iv. Calendar vocabulary
       v. Time
II. Non-manual signals
III. Classifiers
IV. Size and shape specifiers
V. Beginning mastery of polite, informal register in ASL
VI. Visual-gestural communication and visual memory
VII. ASL questions, commands and declarative statements
VIII. Deaf culture and appropriate rules of social interaction in the Deaf community
IX. History of the Clerc/Gallaudet story (French origins)
X. Deaf community integration into and communication with hearing populations

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Grading/exams

- Attendance and active participation in every class is expected
- A minimum of three Deaf community involvement/observation reflections written using class forms
- Three videotape viewing reports written using class forms
- Weekly workbook activities
- Common Graded Assignment, totaling no less than 10% of the course grade and assessing at least five of the seven General Education Outcomes
- A minimum of two quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam (50% receptive, 50% expressive evaluations)

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information
This course is an approved General Education course in the Arts and Humanities category.
Please refer to the current CCBC Catalog for General Education course criteria and outcomes.

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