



**eDynamic** Learning

CAREER & ELECTIVE COURSES



ARTS

## American Sign Language 1

Learn to Sign

# Course Syllabus



# American Sign Language 1b: Learning to Sign

## Course Description

The predominant sign language of Deaf communities in the United States, American Sign Language is a complex and robust language. American Sign Language 1b: Learn to Sign will introduce you to more of this language and its grammatical structures. You will expand your vocabulary by exploring interesting topics like Deaf education and Deaf arts and culture.

## Required Materials

- Computer with:
  - Internet access
  - Word processing program
  - Slideshow creation program
- Cell phone, tablet, or computer camera with sound and video recording abilities
- A person, large stuffed animal, or chair
- 2 people (family, friend, classmate) to use in videos and lead a discussion with
- A photo (or even a drawing) of your family
- A hat—silly, crazy, or ordinary is fine
- Blank Paper
- Drawing tools (pencils, markers, etc.)

*Note:* Sign order should not be the focus of this course. While students should make an effort to put things into ASL sign order when appropriate, grading should not be based on this.

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## Unit 1: Who's Who?

### Unit Summary

Imagine trying to function and communicate in a hearing world all day, every day. This is the reality for many Deaf individuals in the workplace. While accommodations and adaptations have made things easier, working in the hearing world has its challenges. Together, we'll learn signs for various professions and terms frequently used on the job. We'll also dive further into signing numbers—did you know that some numbers in ASL rock? Understanding this concept will make your numbers crystal clear in Sign Language. Plus, we'll get a glimpse into Black Deaf history, which helped form a unique subculture and dialect of ASL.

### Learning Objectives

- Clearly sign “rocking” numbers like 78
- Explain the function of the “person ending”
- Converse in ASL about work and jobs
- Relate Black Deaf history to wider cultural events and trends
- Identify centers of Deaf culture in the United States

### Assignments

Unit 1 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 1 Activity 1	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Activity 2	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Activity 3	Homework	15 points
Unit 1 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 1 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



## Unit 2: Well, It's About Time

### Unit Summary

Do you ever wonder how Deaf students learn? How might it be different from how a hearing student is educated? Together, we'll take some time to learn about the options for Deaf education today. Of course, when school is over, it's time to celebrate! Knowing how to sign about time and days will help to make sure you don't miss out on the fun. We'll also learn how to indicate the past, present, and future in ASL—it is so efficient that you may wonder why we don't have something this simple in English!

### Learning Objectives

- Name the three laws that have dramatically changed Deaf education
- Count to 1,000 in ASL
- Schedule your holiday celebrations in ASL
- Recognize the importance of Deaf social events for Deaf people
- Practice respectful etiquette when you attend a Deaf event

### Assignments

Unit 2 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 2 Activity 1	Homework	15 points
Unit 2 Activity 2	Homework	15 points
Unit 2 Activity 3	Homework	15 points
Unit 2 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 2 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



## Midterm Exam

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### Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from the first two units in this course (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

### Assignments

Midterm Exam	Exam	50 points
Midterm Discussion Assignment	Discussion	5 points



## Unit 3: Taking the Stage By Storm!

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### Unit Summary

What season is it? It's theater season! Did you know there has been a thriving and creative Deaf theater scene since the era of the Deaf clubs (and even before)? There are Deaf dancers and even Deaf singers (yes!) who have appeared on network television. And beyond the performing arts, there is a whole movement in Deaf visual arts that expresses political and personal perspectives of Deaf artists. So, what are we waiting for? Let's jump in and cover the creative arts as well as signs about seasons and weather.

### Learning Objectives

- Trace the evolution of Deaf performances from Deaf clubs to network television
- Sign ordinal numbers
- Describe the weather—whether sunny, windy, or snowing!
- Distinguish your hat from your shoes in ASL
- Name the two types of De'VIA art

### Assignments

Unit 3 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 3 Activity 1	Homework	15 points
Unit 3 Activity 2	Homework	15 points
Unit 3 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 3 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



## Unit 4: Expanding Your Vocabulary

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### Unit Summary

Cut out the background noise! Technology can help Deaf and Hard of Hearing people more efficiently function in the wider world—let’s explore a few of the types. Then we will expand your vocabulary with sports, animals, and foods. With all this ASL vocabulary, maybe you’ll want to choose a career where you can use your ASL skills—whether you want to be a sign language interpreter or just use your skills to help communication in another profession, there are so many options to put your ASL into action!

### Learning Objectives

- Understand how technology can assist the Deaf to communicate
- Communicate important numbers clearly in ASL
- Sign the most popular sports and animals
- Request food and drink in ASL
- Chart a path to becoming a professional sign language interpreter

### Assignments

Unit 4 Text Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Online Lab Questions	Homework	10 points
Unit 4 Activity 1	Homework	15 points
Unit 4 Activity 2	Homework	15 points
Unit 4 Discussion Assignment 1	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Discussion Assignment 2	Discussion	5 points
Unit 4 Quiz	Quiz	15 points



## Final Exam

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### Learning Objectives

- Review information acquired and mastered from this course up to this point.
- Take a course exam based on material from units three and four in this course – the last two units. (Note: You will be able to open this exam only one time.)

### Assignments

Final Exam	Exam	50 points
Class Reflection Discussion Assignment	Discussion	10 points