



eDynamicLearning

— CAREER & ELECTIVE COURSES —



ARTS

American Sign Language 2a

Communicating

Course Syllabus



American Sign Language 2a: Communicating

Course Description

Building upon the prior prerequisite course, emphasis in this course is placed upon comprehension and signing. Learners will also continue to establish their communication skills and foster their understanding of deaf culture. In addition to learning classifiers, glossing, and mouth morphemes, students will explore vocabulary for descriptions, directions, shopping, making purchases, and dealing with emergencies.

Course Code: EDL106

Required Materials

- A camera (cell phone, table, or computer camera is fine)
- Photo of family or friends

Note: It is strongly recommended that schools create a venue in which ASL 2a students can interact with each other and practice their newly acquired skills.

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Lesson 1: Describe It!

Lesson Summary

“See Spot run.” “See Spot run fast into the house to get his bone.” When building sentences in a language, you need many tools to make a beautiful structure. Just like Spot’s house is built with not just a hammer and nails, but also using things such as wood, paint, glass, and concrete, you’ll need a few extra tools and materials to build compelling sentences in American Sign Language. Here, we will start to gather those extra materials to make detailed sentences in sign language—you’ll be surprised at the cool ways you can add descriptions to other signs in ASL!

Learning Objectives

- Use classifiers for people and objects in conversation
- Identify people by describing them accurately
- Point appropriately while chatting in ASL
- Sign familiar places in your neighborhood



Lesson 2: Getting Around Town

Lesson Summary

Learning signs in ASL lays the foundation for your visual communication, but now you need to bring your signing into the next dimension with extra tools—you can think of it as 3D ASL! We will add dimension to our signing with mouthing morphemes, locatives, and comparing and contrasting. In addition, we will practice using classifiers. These tools will allow you to expand your repertoire to give directions—around the house, around the school, or even around the whole town. Plus, learn a bit about how babies learn sign language and how this might give you clues to how you are learning ASL!

Learning Objectives

- Explain how learning ASL as a baby benefits Deaf children later on
- Use basic locatives to describe spatial relationships
- Give directions in ASL
- Use mouth morphemes to indicate sizes
- Compare and contrast pairs of objects, concepts, or creatures



Lesson 3: Emergency Situations

Lesson Summary

Life is full of unexpected events, some of them, unfortunately, are medical emergencies. Giving and understanding directions is obviously key to responding in an emergency, but it is also a necessary part of navigating everyday life. For example, if you visit a Deaf campus or event, you'll also likely need these signs to find your way around. In addition to tackling some of these crucial signs, we will also learn about how ASL interacts with spoken language (imagine the potential challenges this creates in times of actual emergencies!) and how living languages evolve all the time.

Learning Objectives

- Explain the properties of a living language
- Harmonize your sentences with agreement verbs
- Give and understand directions – even in an emergency
- Follow ASL gloss to help you learn more vocabulary and sign order



Midterm Exam

Learning Objectives

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



Lesson 4: Fun Activities

Lesson Summary

Calling all introverts and extroverts! Do you like to hang around the house? Or are you happier running around town for fun? Here, we will get to learn the signs for our favorite activities and then practice some of the grammar and body language we have been learning about to give more meaning to our signing. From locatives to agreement verbs to eyebrow raises, there are so many factors that play a role in ASL. Plus, we'll take a peek into the lives of hearing people who are born to Deaf parents, a famous Deaf musician, and the cultural differences that make communicating in ASL so different from English.

Learning Objectives

- Explain some of the cultural confusion experienced by CODAs
- Describe your preferences in detail, from WOW to BORING
- Compare and contrast with ease
- Raise and lower your eyebrows at the right times in ASL
- Understand the characteristics of high context and low context cultures



Lesson 5: Everyday Activities

Lesson Summary

Everyday living doesn't have to be boring anymore. You can use your daily activities to practice your sign language! Walk the dog, buy some groceries, brush your teeth. All while "talking" to yourself in ASL. People might think you are a bit crazy, but that's okay—tell them you are learning ASL, teach them a sign or two, and they will be intrigued. Along with tackling various activity related signs, we'll also delve into the different types and styles of signing that you can find in the Lessoned States, and all the advances in technology that have allowed Deaf people to express themselves and communicate more easily over distances.

Learning Objectives

- Distinguish between regional variations of ASL and unrelated sign languages used in the Lessoned States
- Describe your daily routine in ASL
- Shop for bargains and discuss them in ASL
- Use the sign FINISH as a time sign or as a conjunction
- Trace the history of communications and broadcast technology for use by the Deaf



Final Exam

Learning Objectives

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