

University of Pennsylvania
American Sign Language Summer Academy Class Syllabus
Summer 2021

Instructor: Dr. Jami Fisher, Director of American Sign Language, Department of Linguistics

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Required text: *Signing Naturally, Units 1-6* (TBA whether it will be the online subscription or the workbook with DVD); book access will be provided to you/book will not be required prior to class

Expectations for instruction and learning:

The ASL Summer Academy is comprised of both American Sign Language and ASL/Deaf culture and community instruction and learning. Both synchronous and asynchronous learning will be used in this course. A reminder that no spoken English is used during the ASL instructional times.

Canvas will be used.

Schedule:

Mondays-Thursdays 11AM-12PM; 1-2PM EST: Synchronous ASL Instruction via Zoom—no spoken English used

Fridays: 1-2:30 EST Deaf culture topics discussions (synchronous, in English, with Dr. Fisher); panel lecture with community members on the last day of class (synchronous, ASL/English interpreted, with Deaf community members)

Daily asynchronous work: workbook video materials; asynchronous video instruction; interactive threaded discussion responses on cultural topics

Schedule of topics for ASL Instruction:

(A more specific schedule will be detailed in the Course Management System, Canvas)

<u>Week:</u>	<u>American Sign Language Instruction Units from <i>Signing Naturally</i></u>
Week 1:	Introductions, Lessons 1.1 – 1.6 Topics: Getting to Know You; Cardinal Numbers 1-15; Fingerspelling; Same or Different Lessons 1.7 – 1.12 Topics: Asking Who; Specifying Where; Giving Commands; Following Instructions; Getting Attention Lessons 2.1 – 2.6 Topics: Giving Information About Yourself; Describing Others; Cardinal Numbers 16-19; Spatial Awareness, Locations; Narrating Language Backgrounds; Fingerspelling; Talking about Leisure Activities

<p>Week 2:</p>	<p>Lessons 2.7 – 2.12 Topics: Cardinal Numbers 20-29; Describing 3 Types of Shapes; Identifying People; Fingerspelling; Negotiating a Signing Environment; Asking What the Sign Is</p> <p>Lessons 3.1 – 3.7 Topics: Telling Where One Lives; Giving Commands, Locations; Fingerspelling; Discussing One’s Residence; Giving Basic Directions; Identifying Which Square</p> <p>Lessons 3.8 – 3.14 Topics: Cardinal Numbers 30-66; Talking about Roommates and Pets; Giving Basic Directions/Expressing Needs; Fingerspelling; Telling How Long; Traveling to School or Work;</p>
<p>Week 3:</p>	<p>Lessons 3.15 – 3.16; Timber Story Topics: Asking What is the Sign; Reviewing Cardinal Numbers 30-66; Timber Story/Storytelling</p> <p>Lessons 4.1 – 4.5 Topics: Talking about Immediate Family; Negation; Rocking Numbers 67-98; Have, Like, Need, Want; Talking about Siblings</p> <p>Lessons 4.6 – 4.15 Topics: Fingerspelling; Telling How Old; Talking About Extended Family; Telling How Family Members are Related; Negation; Discussing Family Variations; Reviewing Cardinal Numbers 1-100; Getting the Meaning Across; Commenting on Family Members; Maintaining a Clear Sightline</p> <p>Final Presentation: Own role-shifted story presented in class Thursday, July 22.</p>

Asynchronous work to be completed during the week (due dates to be posted on Canvas):

Assigned and self-selected pair practice conversations; videos, short readings, and discussions on the following topics in preparation for Friday discussion:

Week 1 Topic: History, definitions of culture and identity, representations of Deaf people in media and popular culture

- Historical background and experiences of American Deaf communities
- Definitions of Deaf culture; deaf experiences, CODAs
- Intersectional Deaf lives
- Representations of Deaf in media/popular culture—films, TV, Nyle DiMarco, Deaf U

Week 2 Topic: Deaf people and oppression; positive representations of Deaf

Audism > How to be an Ally

Deaf Gain/Deaf Effect; Deaf-owned businesses; models of Deaf-hearing collaborations

Week 3 Topic: Sociolinguistic variation in ASL

Black ASL: History, findings, Ritchie Bryant lecture— “Think Me Nuthin’?”

Philadelphia Signs Project: Penn Science Café; Lexical variety/history of Philadelphia Deaf community/lexical differences