**Instructor:** Dr. Jami Fisher, Director of American Sign Language, Department of Linguistics  
**Email:** jami@sas.upenn.edu

**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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>American Sign Language Instruction Units from <em>Signing Naturally</em></th>
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| 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 |
| Week 2: | 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 |
|---|---|
| Lessons 3.1 – 3.7  
Topics: Telling Where One Lives; Giving Commands, Locations; Fingerspelling; Discussing One’s Residence; Giving Basic Directions; Identifying Which Square |
| 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 |
| Week 3: | Lessons 3.15 – 3.16; Timber Story  
Topics: Asking What is the Sign; Reviewing Cardinal Numbers 30-66; Timber Story/Storytelling |
| Lessons 4.1 – 4.5  
Topics: Talking about Immediate Family; Negation; Rocking Numbers 67-98; Have, Like, Need, Want; Talking about Siblings |
| 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 |
|  | Final Presentation: Own role-shifted story presented in class  
Thursday, July 22. |

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
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