

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT: Early Childhood and Elementary Education

COURSE NUMBER: EDU 201

CREDIT HOURS: 3

- I. **TITLE:** American Sign Language Level I
- II. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** American Sign Language (ASL) Level I is designed for the student who wants to acquire ASL skills to communicate with persons who are deaf. The course will focus on basic communication functions such as introducing oneself, exchanging personal information, making requests, talking about family and occupations, giving directions, attributing qualities to others and talking about routines. The course will also introduce students to the deaf culture. The course will be taught without the use of voice. Prerequisite: None
- III. **PURPOSE:** This course will focus on helping students acquire basic communication functions using American Sign Language to communicate with persons who are deaf.
- IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:** As a result of participation in this course, the student will:
 - A. Demonstrate the ability to converse one-on-one with a person who is deaf to exchange basic information.
 - B. Demonstrate cultural awareness of the deaf community.
 - C. Develop an understanding of cross-cultural adjustment skills including proper etiquette, cultural taboos, deaf culture norms and how to mediate between deaf and hearing cultures.
 - D. Demonstrate use of contrastive space, non-manual markers and classifiers in American Sign Language.

The College of Education Theme of Educator as a Reflective Decision-Maker is addressed in this course by requiring students to reflect on deaf culture.

The EPSB Theme of Diversity is explored in the course through various chapters in the text and other assignments related to awareness of deaf culture and basic ASL communication skills.
- V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
 - A. Basic communication functions of American Sign Language
 - B. Deaf culture awareness
 - C. Cross-cultural adjustment skills
 - D. Cultural etiquette
 - E. Demonstration of American Sign Language skills for basic communication with person who is deaf
- VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:** Demonstrations, sign production drills and practice, research, interaction with persons who are deaf, and role play.
- VII. **FIELD, CLINICAL AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES:** None
- VIII. **RESOURCES:** Waterfield Library, web resources

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

Student Attendance	20 Pts.
Homework	20 Pts.
Class participation and interaction	30 Pts.
Research Paper on Deaf Culture	50 Pts.
ASL skill evaluations	25 Pts.
Tests	50 Pts.
Total	195

The following grading scale will be used for this course:

A= 90-100% of total points

B=80-89% of total points

C=70-79% of total points

D=60-69% of total points

E=Below 59% of total points

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY: This course adheres to the attendance policy stated in the current MSU *Undergraduate Bulletin*. Attendance is expected in this class. The instructor reserves the right to adjust the grade or refuse to accept late assignments.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: This course adheres to the academic honesty policy stated in the current MSU *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

X. TEXT AND REFERENCES:

Smith, C., Lentz, E. M. & Mikos, K.(2008). *Signing Naturally Units 1-6*. San Diego, CA: Dawn Sign Press.

Assigned Internet articles on Deaf Culture and ASL

XII. PREREQUISITES: None

XIII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STATEMENT: Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Director of Equal Opportunity, 103 Wells Hall. 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD)