UCONN

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

ASLN 1102: Elementary American Sign Language II

Syllabus

Spring 2023

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: ASLN 1101 Elementary American Sign Language I or consent of the instructor.

Course Description:

Building on ASL I, this course covers in depth the structure of ASL Grammar, fingerspelling, numbers, and visual/gestural communication. Students also develop expressive and receptive skills in storytelling and dialogue. This class will enhance the student's comprehension of the storytelling structure and cohesion. Emphasis will be on character development, role shifting and story cohesion. We stress an emphasis on receptive and expressive skills through student-teacher interaction. The course includes direct teaching and interactive learning, which allows students to thrive and succeed in a full-immersed signing learning environment. You are expected to participate in all required activities and interact by signing and/or using gestures. There is also a no voice policy in class as you will be expected to use ASL as much as you can.

ACTFL Learning Outcomes:

The language and culture learning outcomes are closely tied to the objectives for learning a second language and fostering cultural competency. The student outcomes for culture and second language learning are derived from the [Standards for Learning American Sign Language](#) and the [ACTFL's 5 Cs](#), or goals. These are: 1) Communication, 2) Cultures, 3) Connections, 4) Comparisons, and 5) Communities. You will demonstrate knowledge of or an ability to:

- engage in a variety of communicative tasks using American Sign Language (ASL) and participate in informal and formal conversations on a variety of topics.
- examine your own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and norms by reflecting on your experiences participating in Deaf culture related events with a better understanding of the American Deaf culture.

- acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use ASL in academic or career-related situations.
- use ASL to reflect on the nature of language and culture through comparisons with your own primary language and cultural identity.
- use ASL within and beyond the classroom to interact and collaborate with the Deaf community.

Course Goals: The goals of the course are to improve students':
- Ability to recognize and demonstrate proper grammar structures in ASL.
- Receptive and expressive skills
- Knowledge and use of number incorporation
- Understanding and expanding use of classifier skills.
- Skills incorporating non-manual markers and body shifts

Course Objectives: At the end of the course the student will be able to:
- Express themselves with proper ASL Grammar and format
- Use classifiers in ASL for descriptors when signing
- Utilize the 5 parameters of ASL appropriately.
- Utilize time descriptors, NMM, and correct spatial placement when signing
- Understand another persons' ASL (receptive skills)

Materials:
- Smith, C., Lentz, E., & Mikos, K. (2014). *Signing naturally – Units 7-12 Student Set.* San Diego, CA: DawnSignPress. ISBN: 978-1-58121-221-1.
- GoReact Student Account (www.goreact.com). GoReact is a web-based platform for recording ASL video assignments for the purpose of providing feedback and assessment. Please wait for an invitation link from your instructor. When you click on the link, you'll be prompted to register and pay by credit card.

Additional Readings and Videos:

Cultural/language articles, handouts, videos, YouTube and ASL notes are included in Husky CT.

Graded Components:

Participation	10%
ASL Event Paper	10%
Quizzes x 2	10%
Midterm Project	20%
Final Exam Project	20%
GoReact Assignments	30%

Participation: Participation is important and will be reflected in the final grade. In an interactive class, students depend on each other for practicing in and outside of the classroom. I always tell my students this – the best way to learn ASL is to use it so you will be expected to be active in class. On a side note: while the college does not require an attendance policy, you do need to attend class to earn participation points.

ASL Event Paper: You will attend two Deaf events or "sign language" events either in person or virtually. Write a 1–2-page paper that shares your observations, experience, and relations.

Quizzes: There will be two short written/receptive quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will be administered at the end of the week (Fridays).

Midterm Project: You will present "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" in ASL on GoReact. Further expectations will be discussed in class.

Final Exam Project: You will choose a Children's storybook and translate the entire book into ASL on GoReact. Further expectations will be discussed in class.

GoReact Assignments: You will do recordings on specific topics to be announced in class and HuskyCT. You will post your recordings on GoReact and you will receive detailed feedback for language building skills purposes.

<u>Grading Scale:</u>

Letter Grade	Percentage	Point Values
A	93 – 100%	93.0 – 100
A-	90 – 92%	90.0 – 92.9
B+	87 – 89%	87.0 – 89.9
B	83 – 86%	83.0 – 86.9
B-	80 – 82%	80.0 – 82.9
C+	77 – 79%	77.0 – 79.9
C	73 – 76%	73.0 – 76.9
C-	70 – 72%	70.0 – 72.9
D+	67 – 69%	67.0 – 69.9
D	63 – 66%	63.0 – 66.9
D-	60 – 62%	60.0 – 62.9
F	0 – 59%	0 – 59.9

Schedule: The course schedule is subject to change and is also posted in HuskyCT.

Week	Dates	Lessons/Topics: Read before class and come prepared to participate.	Assignment/Exams
Week 1	1/18 – 1/20	Introductions, Syllabus, Review of ASL 1	
Week 2	1/23 – 1/27	Review of ASL 1, Classifiers, Locatives	**GoReact Assignment #1 due January 27**
Week 3	1/30 – 2/3	Topic: Food	**GoReact Assignment #2 due February 3**
Week 4	2/6 – 2/10	Topic: Numbers, Money Signs	**GoReact Assignment #3 due February 10**
Week 5	2/13 – 2/17	Topic: Daily Routines, Spatial Organization, Review	**GoReact Assignment #4 due February 17**
Week 6	2/20 – 2/24	Topic: Conceptually Accurate Signs	**GoReact Assignment #5 due February 24**
Week 7	2/27 – 3/3	"Sound and Fury" Film, Class Discussion	**Quiz #1 on February 27**
Week 8	3/6 – 3/10	Topic: ASL Classifiers, Storytelling Techniques	**Midterm Project due March 10**
Week 9	3/20 – 3/24	Topic: US States, Countries, Family History	**GoReact Assignment #6 due March 24**
Week 10	3/27 – 3/31	Topic: WH-Questions, Yes/No Statements, TTC/Topicalization, Negations	**GoReact Assignment #7 due March 31**
Week 11	4/3 – 4/7	Topic: Rhetorical Statements, Conjunctions, Conditional Sentences	**GoReact Assignment #8 due April 7**
Week 12	4/10 – 4/14	"Through Deaf Eyes"	**Quiz #2 on April 10**
Week 13	4/17 – 4/21	ASL Activities	
Week 14	4/24 – 4/28	Review	**ASL Event Paper due April 28**

Week 15	5/1 – 5/5		Final Exam Project due May 5

Course Expectations:

Course Format: This course consists of engaging in class discussions, activities and viewing online lectures as well as academically related videos in ASL.

Student Responsibilities: You are expected to actively participate by attending class and completing assigned activities, participate in class discussions, serve in groups, complete assignments on time, respect diverse perspectives and opinions, and support your opinions and answers with reasons, explanations and documentation from a variety of sources.

Expectation for Communication: Since ASL is a visual language, use of spoken English or of speaking and signing simultaneously ("sim-com") is not allowed during the course session including breaks.

Peer Network: Each student is responsible for getting access to and understanding what is expected of each assignment. Please form a strong network with your peers. If you miss a class, refer to HuskyCT for assignments and ask other classmates to learn about what you missed.

Deadlines: Assignments will not be accepted past due dates. Specific allowance may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Inclement weather or any cancelled classes: If the university closes for any reason or if the class is cancelled unexpectedly, please always check your UCONN email first thing in the morning.

Tutoring:

Tutoring is available in Oak Rm 357 (ASL Resource Room). Schedule will be posted after the first week of classes. Please take advantage of the assistance that is there for you. Please remember that this is a 4-credit course, which means that students are expected to do at least 150.0+ hours of course-related work or activity during the semester. This includes lecture/discussion meetings as well as time spent practicing and completing assigned activities, studying for quiz/tests and examinations, participating in group activities, preparing video assignments and other course related tasks.

University Policies and General Information:

Missed Assignments or Exams: According to the Dean of Office, if you miss an examination or assignment due to illness, accident, death in the family or other unavoidable reasons, you may go to the Dean of Students Office to receive approval and arrange another time to take your exam or reschedule your assignment. You must present appropriate documentation to support this request.

Students with Disabilities: The University of Connecticut is committed to protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities. Qualified individuals who require reasonable accommodation are invited to make their needs and preferences known as soon as possible. Please make this known to the instructor and contact the Center for Students with Disabilities if you feel you may qualify for services and/or specialized accommodations. Please contact the Office of Disability Services and me if you would like to request accommodation (http://www.csd.uconn.edu/).

Resources for Students Experiencing Distress: The University of Connecticut is committed to supporting students in their mental health, their psychological and social well-being, and their connection to their academic experience and overall wellness. Students who feel they may benefit from speaking with a mental health professional can find support and resources through the Student Health and Wellness-Mental Health (SHaW-MH) office. Students can visit the Student Health and Wellness-Mental Health located in Storrs on the main campus in Arjona, 4th Floor, or contact the office at (860) 486-4705, or https://studenthealth.uconn.edu/ for services or questions**.**

Student Code of Conduct: Please refer to the student code of conduct: http://www.community.uconn.edu/student_code.html for policies related to your rights and responsibilities in class. You are responsible for upholding this code.

University Writing Center: All UConn students are encouraged to visit the University Writing Center for individualized tutorials. The Writing Center staff work with writers at every stage of the writing process, from exploring ideas to polishing final drafts. You should come with a copy of the assignment you are working on, a current draft (or notes if you are not yet at the draft stage), and ideas about what you want out of a session. Tutorials run 45 minutes and are free. You can quickly visit or make an appointment. For more information, please visit www.writingcenter.uconn.edu.

Academic Integrity: For University policies on academic honesty, please see UConn's *Responsibilities of Community Life: The Student Code* and the Office of Community Standards: http://www.community.uconn.edu.

Inclement Weather: This class will follow the Central Administration's decisions about closure of the campus due to weather. In the event of a canceled class, watch for an e-mail from me about how we will adapt course readings and assignments.

Course Evaluation: Students will be provided with an opportunity to evaluate instruction in this course using the University's standard procedures, which are administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE).

Software/Technical Requirements: The software/technical requirements for this course include:

- HuskyCT/Blackboard ([HuskyCT/ Blackboard Privacy Policy](#))
- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) ([Adobe Reader Accessibility Statement](#), [Adobe Reader Privacy Policy](#))
- Google Apps ([Google Apps Accessibility](#), [Google for Education Privacy Policy](#))
- Microsoft Office (free to UConn students through [UConn Software Catalog](#)) ([Microsoft Accessibility Statement](#), [Microsoft Privacy Statement](#))
- Dedicated access to high-speed internet with a minimum speed of 1.5 Mbps (4 Mbps or higher is recommended).
- WebCam