

**University of Miami
School of Education
Department of Teaching & Learning**

Course:

Department and Number: TAL 107

Title: American Sign Language I

Credits: 3

Delivery Model: Online with Live Video Follow-Up Sessions

Faculty: Kirsten Schwarz Olmedo, MS-CCC, SLP

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Office Hours: By appointment

Required Textbook:

Master ASL By: Jason Zinza

Train Go Sorry: Inside A Deaf World By: Leah Hager Cohen

Supplementary Textbook (Also available online):

ASL Dictionary-Random House Webster's

Course Description:

This course is designed to allow participants to learn about Deaf Culture and be able to sign with sufficient fluency to discuss work, social, and family topics using two to four sentence responses.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will develop sign vocabulary, facial expressions, and non-verbal aspects of ASL.
2. Students will identify and demonstrate proficiency in classifiers.
3. Students will identify and demonstrate grammatical structures of ASL.
4. Students will compare pathological and cultural perspectives on deafness.
5. Students will discriminate and respond to the meanings of signs based on conceptual accuracy, facial expressions, verb inflections, commands, ASL idioms, descriptive adjectives, and conjunctions.
6. Students will develop an understanding of the historical and technological changes affecting Deaf Culture.

Attendance Policy:

Class attendance and participation in all online and live video sessions is strongly recommended. Students who miss class meetings will be required to obtain the information presented in class (including handouts) on their own. The instructor for this course will not feel obligated to provide this information to students who miss class. However, once you have reviewed the information you obtained from another student the instructor will be happy to answer questions about the information outside of regular class time. Additional requirements before class begins including reading material and watching a movie are required as well as attendance at the live video follow-up session on January 26.

No Voicing Times:

As designated by the instructor, part of each class will be silent. These designated class times will be taught without voicing to enable students to truly learn American Sign Language and provide an experience similar to that in the real world setting. During these times, students are not to use their voice. Students can use any other means to communicate or ask questions (i.e., writing something down, facial expressions, gestures); however, oral speech will not be tolerated.

TITLE IX- DISCRIMINATION AND/OR HARASSMENT (SEXUAL OR OTHER)

The University of Miami is committed to fostering an environment in which its students, faculty and staff are free from sexual misconduct (which includes sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking) and other illegal discriminatory practices. These behaviors impede learning, living, and working conditions and, therefore, are not tolerated. The University has developed policies and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of the University community in compliance with applicable laws, including the following:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”) is a federal law that protects students, employees, applicants for admission and employment, from all forms of sex discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. Individuals at educational institutions are protected by Title IX.

https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html

The University's Sexual Misconduct Policy applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The current University policy and procedures regarding prohibited sex- or gender-based discrimination under Title IX may be accessed using the links below. To the extent that a document conflicts with the information on this website, the information on this website shall control.

Policy: https://compliance.miami.edu/policies/sexual_misconduct/

Procedures: <https://itsonus.miami.edu/policies-and-reports/student-sexual-misconductprocedures/index.html>

Reporting: <https://itsonus.miami.edu/get-help/reporting-options/index.html>

If you have been a victim of sexual assault, please phone the Sexual Assault Resource Team (SART) at 305-798-6666 – Anonymous Hotline 24/7

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S HONOR CODE

The University of Miami's Honor Code governs all work in this course and implies that what is presented to the instructor, as the students' own work is in fact in their own words. This Code is established for the undergraduate student body to protect the academic integrity of the University of Miami, to encourage consistent ethical behavior among undergraduate students, and to foster a climate of fair competition. While a student's commitment to honesty and personal integrity is assumed and expected, this Code is intended to provide an added measure of assurance that, in fulfilling the University's requirements, a student's work will never involve falsification, plagiarism, or other deception regarding the true nature of the materials presented.

Plagiarism

It is imperative that students are careful not to “borrow” phrases or sentences from source material. This is plagiarism and will result in a zero for that assignment. Plagiarism is the extraction of material from a source without acknowledgement of the source. Please consult with the Writing Center if you would like further clarification or instruction.

Cheating/Dishonesty

The pillars of academic integrity will be upheld in this class and all cases of suspected cheating and plagiarism will be reported to the honor council. Unauthorized collusion on any assignment, giving or receiving of information for quizzes, tests, papers, or other assignments will be considered a violation of the honor code and reported to the honor council. Students are encouraged to report any suspected violations of the honor code to the professor.

For more information on the Honor Code and/or to report a violation visit the web-site:

<https://dosostudentaffairs.miami.edu/honor-council/honor-code/index.html>

Support for Student Mental Health

The University of Miami Counseling Center provides support and resources to students who are experiencing stressful or difficult situations that may be interfering with academic progress. The Counseling Center offers free and confidential psychological and emotional wellness consultative services from licensed professionals. These services include assistance with sleep and eating disorders, grief counseling, stress management and mental well-being. Please visit the Counseling Center web-site: <http://counseling.studentaffairs.miami.edu/>

Coral Gables Counseling Center 305-284-5511 The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-2737-TALK Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Special Assistance: Students who have questions or concerns about special needs or accommodations may speak with the instructor or contact Accessibility Resources at (305) 284-2374. Students who are registered with Accessibility Resources must present instructor a current letter a minimum of two weeks prior to the desired use of the accommodations. Service Dogs are allowed on campus and in classrooms; however, Emotional Support Animals (ESA) are not allowed in the classroom settings.

Course Requirements:

Quizzes: There will be a total of 6 short quizzes at the beginning of class periods, as indicated on the syllabus and revised as necessary by the instructor. The quizzes are objective in nature and will be based on the class discussion, signs presented, and material covered in class. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Reflections: There will be a two-page reflection which summarizes 3 aspects of Deaf Culture covered in Chapters 1-3 of Train Go Sorry and expresses the student's feelings towards these ideas or beliefs. Students must include 3 specific examples from the book in the reflection.

Class Participation Activities: These activities will be presented during class and are submitted via links on Blackboard in either written or video format.

Deaf Culture Research Paper/Presentation: Students will complete a research paper on a topic of their choice, which has been posted on the Blackboard Discussion board as no two students will be
Revised September 2019

allowed to complete research on the same topic. The paper should be 3 pages in length, double-spaced, 12-point font, and have at least 3 references cited according to APA or MLA Style. Students will share a 5-7 slide PowerPoint summary, via Blackboard, of the research completed. Students will be graded on quality and accuracy of information presented in paper and presentation.

Interpretation of a Children's Book: Students will, individually, select a children's book, which has a minimum of 10 phrases and 10 pages and is posted on the discussion board as no students will be allowed to interpret the same book. Students will translate the text into ASL using contextual signs, facial expressions, and appropriate vocabulary. Students will bring the book with them on the designated day, turn in the typed words from the story with ASL Translation, and be prepared to interpret the book for the class. Students will be graded, by their peers and instructor, on ASL Translation and overall signing ability.

Requirement	Percentage
5 Quizzes (8% each)	40%
1 Reflection	5%
Research Paper/Presentation	10%
Class Participation/Activities	15%
Children's Book	20%
Final Exam	10%

Grading Scale:

A	94-100	A-	90-93
B+	87-89	B	84-86
B-	80-83	C+	77-79
C	74-76	C-	70-73
D	60-69	F	Below 59

ASL I Intersession 2019 Outline of Dates

***Prior to the 1st Day of Class Students must complete the following activities, links for material available on Blackboard:**

- Read Chapters 1-3 Train Go Sorry (PDF's Available on Blackboard)
- Watch The Miracle Worker: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HoqgJ_uhg_o

Outline of Important Dates Intersession 2019

- 1/2 Syllabus & Overview Intro to ASL
- 1/2 Quiz #1
- 1/2 Activity 1 ABCs (Submitted via Video)
- 1/3 Unit 1, Deaf Myths
- 1/3 Quiz #2
- 1/3 Activity 2 Submitted-Introduction and Greetings (Submitted via Video)
- 1/4 LIVE SESSION via Video: 11:00AM-12:00 EST**
- 1/5 **1st Reflection Due in Blackboard**
- 1/6 Unit 3, Lipreading, Deaf Culture
- 1/6 Quiz #3

Revised September 2019

- 1/6 Activity 3 Family Description (Submitted via Video)
- 1/7 Unit 4, Technology & Deafness
- 1/7 Quiz #4
- 1/7 Activity 4 Job Interview (Submitted via Video)
- 1/8 Unit 5,
- 1/8 Quiz #5
- 1/8 Activity 5 Weekly Plan (Submitted via Video)
- 1/9 Papers & PowerPoints uploaded to Blackboard by Midnight
- 1/9 Quiz #6 (Make Up Quiz)
- 1/9 **ASL Glossing for Children's Book due in Blackboard by Midnight**
- 1/10 Silent Practice
- 1/11 **LIVE SESSION via Video: 11:00-12:00 EST (Questions and Review)**
- 1/12 Final Exam-Available 1/11, must be submitted by midnight on 1/12
- 1/26 **LIVE Follow-Up Session via Video Session: Presentation of Children's Books
11:00AM-12:30 EST**

**Dates are subject to change, please follow updated schedule on Blackboard and as discussed in class.