

Syllabus Part II

Edison State Community College
American Sign Language 121S
3 Credit Hours

Section/Term: ASL 221S-801FS

Class Meeting Time: Online

Location: Online

Required Items: *Signing Naturally Level 2*, Student Workbook and Videotext by Smith, Lentz, and Mikos. Dawn Sign Press, 2008.
Suggested Reading available digitally or in print, not required for course
A Journey into the Deaf-World. Harlan Lane, Robert Hoffmeister and Ben Bahan.

Faculty: Charity Byer
Bachelors: Educational Leadership, Wright State, 2006
Associates: American Sign Language, Sinclair Community College, 2003

Email: cbyer@edisonohio.edu

Contact: If you have questions or concerns, please contact me via email with the course name and number in the subject line (ASL 221 ____) through your Edison State email. You are welcome to set up an appointment to meet virtually via Teams or Zoom.

Course Description:

American Sign Language 221 is a continuing course, second year ASL. Students will learn how to express abstract concepts in ASL using appropriate grammatical structure, signing space, vocabulary, fingerspelling, and non-manual markers. This course also features continued development of conversational regulators and aspects of Deaf culture. The history and culture of the Deaf will be examined along with the history of American Sign Language. The structure of the human ear and the types of hearing loss will be discussed. This course is not designed to train the student to function as an interpreter for the Deaf. Prerequisites ASL 121 and 122.

Course Outcomes:

1. Develop the appropriate usage of syntactical and grammatical rules regarding ASL
2. Acquire ASL vocabulary
3. Use appropriately complex grammatical functions: classifiers, temporal aspect, number systems, inflected verbs, and role shifting.
4. Knowledge of Deafness and hearing loss
5. Study historical Influences of the Deaf
6. Learn about national and local organizations
7. Research famous historical Deaf people

Class Policies:

Submissions and Late Work:

This is an online class, and you should have access to a device that allows you to reliably access the internet, Edison website, and Blackboard along with any other websites necessary.

Assignments not turned in on the designated date will receive a reduction of 1 point per day. Assignments more than one week past the due date will not be accepted, resulting in a zero grade. Waiting until the last minute to start and complete assignments does not allow time for technical difficulties, instruction clarification, or other issues. No assignments will be accepted after the last day of the semester.

- All course work follows the Edison semester calendar and syllabus schedule.
- Unreliable technology and problems with access to course materials will not be accepted as an excuse for late work.
- Extension requests must be made in advance, not the due date of an assignment.
- Other commitments and extra-curricular activities will not be accepted as a valid excuse for late or missing assignments.
- Discussion board assignments cannot be submitted late.
- Assignments cannot be submitted by e-mail without prior approval.
- All communication must happen through Edison Blackboard and e-mail.
- No extra credit is available for this course. All points are calculated according to the Grade Scale, and final grades are a reflection of points earned and participation.

Student Video Submissions:

During this online course, students will submit video recordings of themselves demonstrating the use of ASL expressive skills. Guidelines for video submissions must be followed to receive full credit. Failing to complete Video submissions will result in an automatic letter grade reduction. **Exceptions for video submissions are only allowed under extenuating circumstances. Requests must be made through Edison messages or e-mail by the student before the assignment due date with documentation for reason.**

Written Communication Standards and Procedures:

Proper written communication is a vital professional skill. All written coursework must include standard English practices of grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, sentence and paragraph structure, clarity of expression, and thoughtful organization. The assignment grade will reflect the student's use of standard English practices and proper citations according to the assignment.

Communication:

Emails must be sent using your Edison email for privacy, safety, and security reasons. If an email is sent using an alternative account, you will receive a polite reminder to utilize your Edison email. This policy will be strictly enforced. Please allow 48 hours for a response to emails and Blackboard messages (excluding holidays/breaks).

Netiquette:

We will be communicating a lot online. You will need to be respectful of the instructor and classmates by using appropriate language and consideration in all communication forms. Your classmates' ideas and beliefs may differ from your own, be polite, and respectful. When in doubt, you can agree to disagree. Remember, the way you communicate can reflect the level of respect you have for the people and respect you wish to receive. Practice good communication etiquette when typing questions or responses to the instructor and classmates, such as avoiding using all caps when typing, an accusatory tone, or shorthand typing.

Academic Integrity and AI Use:

Edison Community College expects students to submit original work for each assignment. The Student Handbook <https://www.edisonohio.edu/digipub/StudentHandbook/index.html> Pages 28-29 clearly defines academic dishonesty and how Edison handles cases of academic dishonesty. Any final draft exhibiting the use of AI without permission or crediting the source, will be counted as plagiarism. Any assignment that is plagiarized (whether intentional or unintentional) or lacks appropriate citations will automatically receive a failing grade. Whereas, assignments that simply fail to cite in proper MLA format will have points deducted accordingly.

Testing Your Faith Act Policy:

Edison State Community College is committed to providing an environment respectful of students' beliefs. Students are permitted to be absent for up to 3 days each semester based on their faith, religion, or spiritual belief system with no academic penalty. Students must complete the Testing Your Faith Act Accommodations Form, <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/registration-records>, located in "Forms " and provide a copy

Updated 07/21/2026

Course Evaluation:

Grading Scale	Points
Welcome Section	35
Assignments	160
Discussions	40
Deaf Awareness Month	60
Student Videos	60
Video Journals	35
Deaf Research Project	30
Signing Naturally Vocabulary Videos	30
Final Essay	30
Final Expressive Video	20
<i>Total</i>	<i>500 points</i>

Grading Standards:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C= 70%-79%

D= 60%-69%

F= 50% and below

Tentative Course Outline

Fall 2025 Dates	Material To Be Covered	Assignments
Welcome Aug 24 – Aug 30 35 points	Introduction to course Signing Naturally Unit 13	Introduce Yourself Student Videos Policy Best Practices for ASL with Syllabus Discussion Post Policy Setting Up Office365 Video Submission Time Management Homework
Section 1 Aug 31-Sept. 14	5 parameters of a sign Locative Classifiers Signing Naturally Unit 13	5 Parameters of a Sign (5 pts) Unit 13 Vocabulary Video (15 pts) Impact of Hearing Loss Discussion (10 pts) Video Journal (5 pts)
Deaf Awareness Month 60 points	NDC NAD Scavenger Hunt	Three activities related to the annual Awareness Month's theme
Section 2 Sept. 15-Sept. 28	Signing Naturally Unit 13 Sound and the Human Ear- <i>slides</i> Types and Causes of Deafness- <i>slides</i> How the Ear Works - <i>YouTube</i> Sensorineural and Conductive Hearing Losses- <i>YouTube</i>	Student Video 1 Unit 13 (15 pts) Sound and Hearing (10 pts) Types and Causes of Deafness (10 pts) Hearing Assistive Devices (10 pts) Deaf Children ASL Poem Response (5 pts) Ben Jarashow Section #1 (10 pts) Deaf Culture Shifting Discussion (10 pts)
Section 3 Sept. 29- Oct. 12	Signing Naturally Unit 14 Temporal Aspect Lesson Time Signs Spatial Agreement	Unit 14 Vocabulary Video (15 pts) Research Project Due Oct. 12 (25 pts) Video 1 Journal (10 pts)
Section 4 Oct. 13-Oct. 26	Deaf Throughout History- <i>slides</i>	Student Video 2 Unit 14 (15 pts) Deaf Throughout History Questions (5 pts) Ben Jarashow Section #2 (10 pts) Family Tree (5 pts) Deaf History Exhibits (20 pts)

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Section 5 Oct. 27-Nov. 9	Signing Naturally Unit 15 ASL Grammar for Time Poetry in ASL	Video 2 Journal (10 pts) Student Video 3 Unit 15 (15 pts) ASL Poetry Essay (15 pts) ASL Grammar and Timeline (5 pts)
Section 6 Nov. 10 - Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Nov. 26- Nov. 28	Deaf Gain Classroom Interpreting	Deaf Gain with Ben Bahan (10 pts) Ben Jarashow Section #3 (10 pts) Classroom Interpreting (10 pts) Interpreting for Deaf Students Discussion (10 pts) Multiple Meaning English Words (10 pts)
Section 7 Nov. 25 - Dec. 8	Eugenics to Genetics Multiple Meaning Words	Video 3 Journal (10 pts) Ben Jarashow Section #4 (10 pts) Eugenics to Genetics Discussion (10 pts) Student Video 4- Story (15 pts)
Section 8 Dec. 9- Dec. 13	Semester ends Dec 12	Finals Due December 9 to allow time for grading Final Expressive Video (25 pts) Final Essay (30 pts)