

Mrs. Bledsoe
American Sign Language I Syllabus
2020-21

Conference Period: 4th period

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Course Description:

American Sign Language I (ASL 1) focuses on the integration of expressive and receptive skills with emphasis on fingerspelling, numbers, glossing, signs, phrases and sentences at the beginning level. ASL is NOT English. Deaf people have their own culture and their language has its own syntax and rules. This course will provide students with information on general usage of signs and grammatical structure for simple and complex sentences as well as introduce them to the culture of the Deaf.

You Should Know: There is no national AP test for ASL. While levels 3 and 4 are considered Pre-AP, they are not designed to prepare you for an AP exam.

Grading Policy: I do not give grades...you earn them. The High School Grading Guidelines will be followed. The best way to keep track of your grades is by signing up through *Skyward*. Grades are weighted as follows:

Major Grades (Exams/Projects)	50%
Minor Grades (Daily Assignments/Quizzes)	30%
Daily Grades (Class Participation)	20%

The Conduct Grades will reflect your classroom citizenship.

All assignments are due on the specified date. Late work will be managed according to SFHS guidelines. See "Classroom Procedures" for more detailed information.

Remind: I do use the Remind App for class communication. Students and parents can sign up to receive text messages as they are sent out. To do so, download the Remind app then send a text to 81010 with the message @sign1rocks

Supplies: Folder or Composition Book if you want
Laptop (for both in-person and virtual learning)
Internet Access at home

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ASL classes at Santa Fe High School will be conducted in the target language as much as possible. Second language acquisition research indicates that students learn a new language most effectively when immersed in that language. Furthermore, using ASL shows respect for the American Deaf Culture. Some students might (understandably) feel slightly uncomfortable during the beginning stages of this process, but they will adjust as they gain confidence in themselves and in their ability to communicate visually. I will use visual cues, gestures, and contextual language to ensure that students are successful. If parents have concerns about this methodology, I will be available to answer any questions.

Expectations:

1. Be ready at the bell.
2. Cell phone use will not be permitted during instruction.
3. Pay attention.
4. Sign as much as possible.
5. Show respect.

Consequences:

Students who cannot follow classroom expectations will receive the following consequences:

1. Warning
2. Teacher-Student Conference
3. Teacher Detention and Parent Contact
4. Teacher-Parent-Student Conference
5. Office Referral

(Severe discipline issues will receive an immediate office referral.)

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General Classroom Procedures:

Mission: To provide a positive, enthusiastic classroom in which to develop respect for each other and for the Deaf Community.

Vision: Clear, confident communication!

Respect:

1. Please learn the names of your classmates!
2. Respect is shown by following class rules and procedures, coming to class prepared, and having a positive attitude for your work and the work of others.
3. Please refrain from eating, drinking (except bottled water), or chewing gum in class.
4. Issues with respect are reflected in your conduct grade and may result in parent contact or an office referral.

Cell Phones/Digital Devices (other than laptops)

1. Unless given specific directions, cell phones and other personal digital devices will not be used in the classroom.
2. All electronics need to be turned off (so that they do not disrupt class).
3. The SFHS Cell Phone Policy will be enforced once we return to face-to-face instruction.

Talking in Class

1. When the “Voice Off” icon is showing, you are not allowed to talk. You may communicate with others through signs, mimes, gestures or writing. In virtual learning, your mic should be muted unless directed otherwise.
2. During class, your eyes should be on the person who is signing (the speaker).
3. By following the voicing policy, you will be showing respect for the Deaf Culture as well as our classroom culture.
4. Failure to follow the voicing policy will affect your daily grade as well as your conduct grade.

Daily Assignments

1. Daily work will be designed to increase students’ proficiency with American Sign Language.

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2. Students will be expected to sign with classmates, in small groups, and individually with the teacher.
3. Homework assignments that need to be turned in are rare. Students should be practicing their vocabulary daily.

Class Assignments/Make-up work

1. YOU are responsible to check with the teacher for make-up assignments/class notes after an absence after school (not during class). Work missed may be made up.
2. The number of class days allowed for make-up work to be completed (including exams) will equal the number of class days missed. **Any work that is due on the date of the absence will be due the day you return or it will be assessed a late penalty.**
3. Make-up work/exams will not be accepted after the close of the nine-week grading period.
4. Signed assignments will be recorded by the student and submitted via Canvas. .

Class Time

1. Is to be used for class work. This will not be time for talking or being disruptive. You are graded on productive use of your time.
2. Participation is an important part of a hands-on course and you are responsible for participating in any and all activities and assignments.
3. Reasons for losing participation points include (but are not limited to):
 - a. **Disruptive behavior in the classroom**
 - b. **Refusal to participate in classroom activities (or refusal to try)**

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Late Work

1. All classwork needs to be turned in before the student leaves the class or by the specified due date.
2. No late work will be accepted more than 3 class days past the original due date.
3. All minor/daily grades associated with a particular test must be turned in by the date of that test.
4. Late work will not be accepted after the close of the nine-week grading period.
5. All work that is turned in late will be assessed a penalty of **25 points**.

Exams

1. Exams will be given periodically throughout the grading period. There will be a minimum of three exams/projects per nine-week grading period.
2. Exams may be written or signed.
3. They will cover the vocabulary, grammar and culture covered since the last exam.
4. If you miss an exam, you will be required to take that exam after school during tutorials.
5. Make-up exams will not be given during the class period.

Projects

1. Projects will be assigned to a group or individual and will all require an oral/signed presentation to the class.
2. You will be graded on a specific rubric system for each project.

Quizzes

1. All quizzes given in class will be signed by the teacher either live or via Canvas to evaluate students' understanding of the target language.
2. If you are absent the day the quiz is given, you will be required to attend tutorials in order to make up the quiz.
3. Quizzes will NOT be made up during class time.

Retesting/Test Corrections

1. You are permitted to re-take an exam you have failed. This does NOT apply to semester exams.
2. You may be required to attend a tutorial session prior to re-taking the exam.
3. You will have TEN days from the date of the original exam to re-take the exam.
4. You may choose to do test corrections rather than completing the re-test.
5. Test corrections are worth 10 points on your exam grade with a maximum grade of 70.
6. You will not be permitted to re-take or correct an exam after the close of the nine-week grading period.

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Academic Dishonesty

1. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and possible disciplinary penalties.
2. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observations, or information from students [see policy EIA (Local)].
3. Behaviors defined as cheating may include:
 - a. Giving or receiving information, looking on someone else's work, or allowing someone else to see one's work.
 - b. Unauthorized receipt or distribution of exam, test, or quiz contents, materials, or answer key.
 - c. Use of unauthorized resources, such as notes or electronic devices.
 - d. Taking an exam, producing a project, paper, or assignment for another student, or asking someone to take an exam or produce a project, paper, or assignment for an individual.
 - e. Copying work assigned to be done independently or letting others copy one's work.
 - f. Any misrepresentation of another's work as one's own, including the copying of sentences, phrases, images, entire essays, passages from an undocumented source, musical scores, and other similar works (plagiarism).

Tutorials

1. Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45 until 3:15.
2. Other times by appointment only.

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Please read, sign and date below to show that you have received this information. This information will be available on my website. The form may be completed online at <https://goo.gl/forms/II72QwB91q01tqTJ2> instead of submitting this form.

Please return/submit by Friday, August 30.

Both my child and I have received the information for ASL I. I understand that the student will be videotaped for classroom purposes and evaluation by the instructor and/or students in the class.

<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Parent Name - printed	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Parent Signature	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Date
<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Student Name - printed	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Student Signature	<hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> Date

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

At some point I might need to contact you to discuss your son/daughter's progress and/or work in class. Please provide me with as many methods to contact you as possible so we can work together to make this a great year for your child! Please keep me informed of any changes. We need to work together in giving your child the best education possible.

Parent (s) name (s): _____

Preferred phone number(s) _____

EMAIL Address(es) if different from Skyward: _____
