



## American Sign Language II Class Syllabus

**Instructor:** Ken Noble

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### **Course description:**

Prerequisite: *ASL I or demonstrated equivalent skill set.*

ASL II is a course designed to build your vocabulary and grammar of American Sign Language as it is used within the deaf culture. It picks up where ASL I ends. Topics include: intermediate vocabulary, grammar, Deaf history, Deaf culture and intermediary conversational skills.

Special note: This course will require approximately 3-4 hours outside of class per week (homework). A research paper consisting of at least 750 words will also be required. Additionally, a video project will be created in which the student will utilize ASL skills learned in class. The research paper and video project will represent approximately 25% of the course grade.

Student not only need to memorize vocabulary, but also learn how to ask questions, make sentences, carry on a conversation, and provide information. Students may be asked to view certain movies, music videos, and other media as part of the class participation. Part of the coursework may require attending a deaf gathering or conversing with deaf individuals and/or groups.

### **Materials:**

The course makes extensive use (but is certainly not limited to) of online lessons 21-40 at the website: <http://www.lifeprint.com>. A book assigned during the latter part of the school year, which available for checkout at the library, will be required along with chapter review questions. No other course materials are presently required. If desired a student can purchase a CD containing all lessons and practice quizzes, which is especially helpful for "off-line" studying. An available notebook is required for recording class notes and assignments.

### **Class Process:**

After a quick review of ASL I, the class will go through the lessons sequentially starting with lesson 21. Work in class will consist of a variety of exercises, including, but not limited to the lessons found on the [www.lifeprint.com](http://www.lifeprint.com) website. To see these lessons, go to the website [www.lifeprint.com](http://www.lifeprint.com) and find the "Lessons" link and click on it. Then open up one of the lessons. Read through the lessons and click on the links to the vocabulary. For each vocabulary link you should read the whole page and do the sign until you have it memorized. Then sign all of the practice sentences and read any of the other material in the lesson.

Active participation by the student is important. Students will be expected to be interactive with the teacher and with other students as part of the development of language skills. This aspect of class, along with the occasional homework assignment will account for 25% of the class grades.

### **Field Trip(s):**

Class members will be encouraged (but not required) to participate in a short field trip out into the community where they will be challenged to rely only on their sign language skills in communicating with one another and the community at large.

### **Classroom Time/Restrictions:**

The classes will run from 11:00 to 12:45 on Wednesdays. Snacks and drinks (water) may be offered to students to enjoy during part of this time. Please be advised that some may have allergies to certain food products. Snacks containing peanuts or derivatives of peanuts should be avoided. Students will be expected to

help maintain a clean and healthy environment. They will be asked to help clean up and to arrange/rearrange classroom equipment.

Please do not use cell phones, iPods, etc. during class. Certain electronic devices such as laptops and tablet computers are allowed only if they are used specifically for classroom learning.

**Grading:**

In general, questions regarding test scores, grade challenges, etc. are welcome. Your discretion in these matters is expected, however. No part of your grade will be based on anything other than your coursework, participation and attendance. Your ideas, comments, suggestions regarding the class are encouraged.

Assignments	Points	
Research Paper	10%	<b>Grade Scale:</b> 100-94%=A 93-90 = A- 89-87=B+ 86-83 =B 82-80=B- 79-77=C+ 76-73=C 72-70=C- 69-67=D+ 66-63=D 62-60=D- 59 or less=F
15 Quizzes	25%	
Midterm & Final	25%	
Video Project	15%	
Homework & Class Participation	25%	
Total:	100%	

**Absences/Late Work:**

It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor for information pertaining to missed assignments/quizzes, etc. Scores for unexcused late assignments will be downgraded 20%. Plagiarized research papers, cheating during tests, etc. may result in a failing grade.

**Student Conduct:**

For many students, this may well be one of the most fun and amazing classes they’ve ever taken... but there are a few things students should know before they are tempted to begin goofing off during class. Students are to be on time, to be respectful of others during class, to pay attention to the instructor, and to participate. It is expected that all students honor themselves and the others in class in everything they do.

I have received and understand to the expectations outlined above:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date