

College of Micronesia – FSM  
P.O. Box 159  
Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Course Outline Cover Page

**American Sign Language I**

Course Title

**FL 109**

Department & Number

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the principles of conversational American Sign Language (ASL), which includes: manual and non-manual features, basic vocabulary, common idioms, and functional grammar with emphasis on the ability to converse in simple ASL. It will help the student to develop an understanding and appreciation of Deaf culture through language usages. The student will be able to: Demonstrate basic knowledge in the area of language.

Course Prepared by: **Tim Bigelow**

Campus: **Yap**

	Hours per Week		No. of Weeks	=	Total Hours	=	Semester Credits
Lecture	<u>3</u>	x	<u>16</u>	=	<u>48</u>	=	<u>3</u>
Laboratory	<u>          </u>	x	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>
Workshop	<u>          </u>	x	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>
						Total Semester Credits	<u>3</u>

Purpose of Course:

Degree Requirement	<u>          </u>
Degree Elective	<u>    <b>X</b>    </u>
Certificate	<u>          </u>
Remedial	<u>          </u>
Other	<u>    <b>X</b>    </u>
(workshop)	<u>    <b>ED/WS 200</b>    </u>

Prerequisite Course(s):

None

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Signature, Chairperson, Curriculum Committee

Date Approved by Committee

Signature, President, COM-FSM

Date Approved by President

# FL 109: American Sign Language I

## Course Outline

### I. LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### A. Program Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to:

Demonstrate ability for independent thought and expression in at least one of the following five areas: the arts, ethical thought and moral values, historical analysis, **language**, or literature.

#### B. Course Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn to communicate using American Sign Language (ASL). Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Produce 200-300 ASL concepts. ASL signs concepts, not words.
2. Receive ASL.
3. Describe how ASL is an integral part of Deaf culture and the Deaf community.

#### C. Specific Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

- 1.1 Accurately produce the letters of the manual alphabet.
- 1.2 Produce ASL sufficient to engage in simple conversation.
- 1.3 Describe people, things in their home environment, daily living and family in ASL.
- 1.4 Produce signed words and phrases.
- 2.1 Recognize manual and non-manual aspects of ASL.
- 2.2 Read manually spelled words for which there is no sign.
- 2.3 Read signed words and phrases.
- 2.4 Receive ASL sufficient to engage in simple conversation.
- 2.5 Recognize and appropriately respond to descriptions of people, their environment, daily life and their family.
- 3.1 Write a reaction paper demonstrating awareness of issues related to ASL and deafness.

### II. COURSE CONTENTS

This course will be arranged thematically covering six broad topics of ASL to be produced and received by the students:

- A. Introductions
- B. Personal information
- C. Current surroundings
- D. Home environment
- E. Family
- F. Daily living and activities

Additionally, historical and culturally contextual information about sign language/sign systems in general and ASL specifically will be provided, with emphasis on the place of ASL in Deaf culture and the Deaf community. Other applications of ASL will be introduced.

### **III. TEXTBOOKS**

Smith, Cheri, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos. Signing Naturally: Student Videotext Level 1. (Dawn Sign Press, 6130 Nancy Ridge Dr., San Diego, CA 92121, ph: 858-625-0600, fax: 858-625-2336, e-mail: info@dawnsign.com).

#### **Supplemental Materials:**

The instructor will provide supplemental handouts on course content.

### **IV. REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Cokely, Dennis, Charlotte Baker-Shenk, and Elaine Costello. American Sign Language, Teacher's Edition, 1980. Dawn Sign Press, 9080 Activity Rd. Suite A, San Diego, CA 92126.

Padden, Carol, and Tom Humphries. Deaf in America: Voices from a Culture.

Random House Webster's Pocket American Sign Language Dictionary.

\*Note: Reference materials listed are all available through the publisher/distributor noted for the textbook.

Suggested movies:

- The Miracle Worker (1962)
- Children of a Lesser God (1986)
- Mr. Holland's Opus (1996)

### **V. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

None.

## **VI. INSTRUCTIONAL COST**

There are no special costs associated with this course.

## **VII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

Through lecture, demonstrations, and hands on activities, students will learn to communicate using American Sign Language. The instructor will introduce proper use of facial features in conjunction with the appropriate hand shape, location, and movement following which the students will be given opportunities to practice until mastery is achieved. Students will be required to apply what they have learned to present a story and discuss events to the class. Movies depicting the Deaf community will be shown and written reactions will be required.

## **VIII. SUGGESTED METHOD OF EVALUATION**

Students will be assessed (yielding standard A, B, C, D, F letter grades) based upon how well their productive/receptive ASL and other academic work satisfies the student learning outcomes for the course. Graded assignments may take the form of homework, spelling quizzes, presentations, reflection papers, and midterm/final exams. Additionally, due to the nature of the subject matter, class participation will be a major component of the course grade.

## **IX. CREDIT-BY-EXAMINATION**

There is no credit-by-examination for FL xxx: American Sign Language I.

## **IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY**

The COM-FSM Attendance Policy applies to this course.

## **X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

The COM-FSM Academic Honesty Policy applies to this course.