Bellevue College

#1407 Fall Quarter 2017
ASL 121: Introduction to American Sign Language

Instructor: T Bierschneider
Email: t.bierschneider@bellevuecollege.edu
Classroom: N 206
Class Days and Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 2:30pm-4:40pm
Office Hours: after class or by appointment

▪ Required Material

Signing Naturally, Student Workbook including DVDS, Units 1-6,

▪ Optional Material

Course Packet for ASL 102 - 103, 1001 Signs, Rick Mangan

▪ Course Content: ASL 121: Units 1 - 4

▪ Course Objectives and Outcomes (Click for link)

▪ How Outcomes Will be Met

Attendance: Attendance is very important in ASL classes, as face to face time is vitally important in developing communication skills and fluency. ASL is a visual language, therefore your attendance is required in this course. Attendance is counted as part of your grade. 3 absences are acceptable. However after 3rd absence in class, students will not be able to catch up with class. Then their course grade will be affected severely. If you are not able to attend for urgent reasons please inform your instructor before class. If you miss a class for any reasons, it is your
responsibility to contact a classmate and find out what was missed. Make-up for missed tests and quizzes is not possible.

**Class Participation:** You are expected to participate actively such as sharing cultural knowledge, ASL communication rules and doing a group work as well as signing correctly. This class participation is part of community by supporting each other to use ASL during class and reminding other students not to use voices or whisper. Our class room becomes ASL Zone when you enter. To use ASL during class, it is your benefit to learn a visual language and understand a concept of Deaf Culture better as well as gain respect for another culture.

**Homework:** Workbook assignments will be informed in class when they are due. You will find the calendar on the Canvas class site when your homework is due. Every Monday your instructor will follow up through with your homework in class. First week is fine if you are not able to complete your homework due to Signing Naturally book that you haven’t obtained yet. If you don’t complete your homework on time your 100 points will be deducted each time.

**Receptive Tests and Pop Quizzes:** We will have a test after each unit. There will be a total of 4 Tests for Units 1-4. Tests cover all grammatical structures and new signs you have learned in class and from Signing Naturally. As well you have picked up comprehension exercises and cultural knowledge in class and through homework. Two Pop Quizzes will be given during this quarter.

**Expressive Video Projects:** You will be expected to do two Video Projects in October and November. You will choose a classmate as your partner to evaluate each other’s first pre-project in class. After a peer evaluation, you will submit your first video by doing it on YouTube or using via Media on your canvas site. Your instructor will do the final evaluation. Measurement of your Expressive Skills is based on meeting 4 requirements are:
facial expressions, recording yourself appropriately (color contrast, lighting, framing & eye contact), signing accurately (Production of ASL & ASL grammar) and memorize the question list & order. The requirements and guideline are posted on Canvas.

**ASL Community Hours:** You are required to have a minimum of totaling 5 hours of ASL contact this quarter. This opportunity provides you first-hand experience with Deaf culture, and make new friends. These contacts are designed to build your confidence in your ability. You will type a reflection paper for each event analyzing your contact experience. It is due at the end of the quarter. You will find the requirements and guideline for this assignment on Canvas.

- **Grading**

  *Grades will be based on the following:*

  1. **Attendance, Class Participation, Homework 30%**
  2. **Receptive Written Tests and Pop Quizzes 30%**
  3. **Expressive Video Projects 30%**
  4. **ASL Community Hours 10%**

  *Grades are regularly posted on your Canvas class site as soon as the instructor has them.*

  **Grade Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 95%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94 – 90%</td>
<td>A –</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89 – 87%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86 – 84%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 – 80%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 – 77%</td>
<td>C +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 – 74%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

  Grade Scale:

  - A: 4.0
  - A –: 3.9 - 3.5
  - B+: 3.4 – 3.2
  - B: 3.1 – 2.9
  - B -: 2.8 – 2.5
  - C+: 2.4 – 2.2
  - C: 2.1 - 1.9
73 – 70% = C – (1.8 - 1.5)  
69 – 67% = D+ (1.4 - 1.2)  
66 – 65% = D (1.1 – 1.0)  
64 – 0% = fail (0.0)

**Classroom Learning Atmosphere and Instructor’s Expectation**

You are expected to: attend class every day, do your homework on time, participate in class and spend 1-2 hours a day outside of class practicing ASL and fingerspelling.

In case of absences, let me know before class. In case of absences by the instructor, please check the Canvas site as well as your BC E-mail account for instruction as to what you should work on during that time.

Our classroom is part of Deaf Culture and Deaf Community. We all support each other by using ASL during class and reminding each other not to use voices or whisper. Our classroom is ASL Zone when you enter. To use ASL during class, it is your benefit to learn a visual language and understand a concept of Deaf Culture better as well as gain respect for another culture.

- **Voices off** - Since ASL is a visual language, you will need to develop communication skills such as using face expressions, body movements and spatial referencing. Therefore, the primary mode of communication in the classroom will be ASL. As you are probably discovering, it is very difficult to prevent your English skills from influencing signing. If there are some difficult concepts to communicate, you can write notes for clarification of homework and/ or text directions.

**Course Calendar**

A detailed course calendar with due dates is posted on your canvas class site.
• **Academic Calendar**

The Bellevue College Academic Calendar is separated into two calendars. They provide information about holidays, closures and important enrollment dates such as the finals schedule.

- **Enrollment Calendar** On this calendar you will find admissions and registration dates and important dates for withdrawing and receiving tuition refunds.

- **College Calendar** This calendar gives you the year at a glance and includes college holidays, scheduled closures, quarter end and start dates, and final exam dates.

• **Tutoring**

All students should be aware of the many tutorial services provided by the Academic Success Center. If you need free tutorial help, please visit them in D204. You are able to see a tutor for free for a total of 2 hours a week.

Students who have a C grade on their first test will be required to make an appointment with the tutor.

• **Help with Canvas**

The following places are helpful for Students.

• **Inclement Weather**

Please make sure to check the BC website as well for any weather related information, updates or closures

• **Affirmation of Inclusion**

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.
We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

**Religious Holidays**

Students who expect to miss classes, examinations, or any other assignments because of their religious observance should be provided with a reasonable alternative opportunity to complete such academic responsibilities. It is the obligation of students to provide faculty with reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which they will be absent, preferably at the beginning of the term. Students who are absent on days of examinations or class assignments should be offered an opportunity to make up the work without penalty (if they have previously arranged to be absent), unless it can be demonstrated that a makeup opportunity would constitute an unreasonable burden on a member of the faculty. Should disagreement arise over what constitutes an unreasonable burden or any element of this policy, parties involved should consult the department chair, or Dean.

**College Anti-Discrimination Statement**

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnicity; color; creed; national origin; sex; marital status; sexual orientation; age; religion; genetic information; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; gender identity or veteran status in educational programs and activities which it operates.

**Confidentiality and Mandatory Reporting**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to
the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share with the Title IX Coordinator any and all information regarding sexual assault and other forms of sexual misconduct (e.g. dating violence, domestic violence, stalking) that may have occurred on campus or that impacts someone on campus. Students may speak to someone confidentially by contacting the BC Counseling Center at (425) 564-2212. The Title IX Office can be contacted at 425-564-2441 and more information can be found at www.bellevuecollege.edu/titleix/

For further information and contacts, please consult College Anti-Discrimination Statements

- **Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity**

Any act of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism (using the ideas or words of another as one’s own without crediting the source), and fabrication and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to, talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Success for investigation. Specific student rights, responsibilities, and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct at: [Student Code](#)

**Important Links**

- **Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: [Create Email](#)
BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the Technology Help Desk.

- **Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with disabilities. A disability includes any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Common disabilities include physical, neurological (e.g. Autism, ADD), and mental health (e.g. depression, anxiety). If you are a student who has a disability or if you think you may need accommodations in order to have equal access to programs, activities, and services, please contact the DRC.

If you require assistance in an emergency, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan for while in class and contact the DRC to develop a safety plan for while you are elsewhere on campus.

If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is an additional access program available to you. Contact Autism Spectrum Navigators (ASN). Email and phone number is on the web page. ASN is located in the Library Media Center in D125.

The DRC office is located in building B Room 132. You can contact the DRC by stopping by B132, calling our desk at 425-564-2498, emailing drc@bellevuecollege.edu, and Deaf students can reach us by Skype (account name DRCatBC). For more information about the services we offer, including our Initial Access Application, visit our website at www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc.

- **Accessibility**

The online elements of this course are designed to be welcoming to, accessible to, and usable by everyone, including students who
are English-language learners, have a variety of learning styles, have disabilities, or are new to online learning. Be sure to let me know immediately if you encounter a required element or resource in the course that is not accessible to you. Also, let me know of changes I can make to the course so that it is more welcoming to, accessible to, or usable by students who take this course in the future.

▪ Public Safety and Emergencies

Public Safety is located in the D building (D171) and can be reached at 425-564-2400 (easy to remember because it’s the only office on campus open 24 hours a day—2400). Among other things, Public Safety serves as our Parking Permits, Lost and Found, and Emergency Notification center. Please ensure you are signed up to receive alerts through our campus alerting system by registering at RAVE Alert Registration.

If you work late and are uneasy about going to your car, Public Safety will escort you to your vehicle. To coordinate this, please phone ahead and let Public Safety know when and where you will need an escort.

Please familiarize yourself with the emergency postings by the door of every classroom and know where to go in the event of an evacuation. Your instructor will be asked if anyone might still be in the building, so check in before you do anything else. Emergency responders will search for anyone unaccounted for.

If a major emergency occurs, please follow these three rules:
1) Take directions from those in charge of the response - We all need to be working together.
2) Do not get in your car and leave campus (unless directed to) - Doing so will clog streets and prevent emergency vehicles from entering the scene. Instead, follow directions from those in charge.
3) In an emergency, call 911 first, then Public Safety.
Please do not hesitate to call Public Safety if you have safety questions or concerns at any time. You may also visit the Public Safety web page for answers to your questions.

- Safety

If you feel threatened or see something that may indicate trouble, please report it right away at Report Concerns. We all need to help keep our campus safe for everyone.