



ASL122 – ASL II  
Course Syllabus Fall Quarter 2013

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National Board Certified Instructor  
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*Office Hours:* By appointment (R230L)

### **Class Hours and Location**

*Days:* **Tuesdays and Thursdays**  
*Time:* **5:30-7:40 pm**

Welcome to American Sign Language. I am optimistic that you will enjoy and gain exposure to a new language and culture while you are learning. I am thrilled you chose my language; American Sign Language is a visual language, fully capable to expressing any thought on the part of spoken language.

Incorporate what you learn each day; the more you use it, the more fluent you will become. If you can find the time, become involved with the ASL club and activities that take place on campus and around the region.

### **Course Objectives**

This course aims at the acquisition of the four basic skills (Receptive, Expressive signing, Culture and Communication) of American Sign Language. By the end of the course, students are expected to have a good grasp of the material presented (with at least a C or better to transfer) in Lessons 5-8 of *Signing Naturally, Vol. 1 and 2*, which includes the following:

- 1) Greetings, Introductions & Culture
- 2) Exchanging personal information
- 3) Discussing living situations
- 4) Sharing information about ourselves and family.
- 5) Building on receptive and expressive ability of fingerspelling skills

### **Texts Materials Required:**

- 1) *Signing Naturally (Dawn Sign Press), Volume 1* (Lessons 5-6) & Volume 2
- 2) *1001 Signs To know*

**It is important that you check your MyBC Course Sites and BC email account regularly** for announcements from me as I learn how to work the software. If class is canceled due to weather, BC will inform you through MyBC Sites and/or email and tell you the assignment(s) for that day. There may be other important information and schedule changes sent to you.

### **Course Requirements and Classroom Learning Atmosphere**

#### **Performance (Attendance & Participation)**

Class attendance is mandatory, and will count toward your daily performance grade. Tardiness or leaving early will result consequences. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining missed information and material. Active participation is expected at all times, including taking notes, asking

questions (very much encouraged!), and watching/reinforcing what I teach on a consistent basis. If you miss class, please email me, and be sure to check your MyBC Class Sites for handouts, lecture notes, and announcements.

Bring your **interactive notebook & Signing Naturally workbook** to class everyday. Asking questions is highly encouraged. Don't be afraid to make mistakes or worry that your question may be a "dumb" one.

This is a silent environment. No talking. **Ever.** By doing such, you will become immersed in the language you've chosen at a much quicker pace. Also, if you have any suggestions on how to improve the class, I'm all "eyes." It's been a few years since I've taught at the college level and I welcome your opportunity to make sure the class is professionally rigorous enough, yet flexible for individual student learning styles.

**Please turn off and put away cell phones. No texting, ipods, etc. allowed while in class. Laptops are certainly encouraged if this is your main mechanism to how you record what you learn in lieu of your interactive notebooks.**

**Homework:** The "Dates to be aware" lists the homework assignments and when they are due..

**Before you turn in your homework, be sure to CHECK YOUR WORK and make all necessary corrections, using a different color writing utensil/pen.** Answer keys are provided in the back of your books. **Do not erase your original answer**, as they will be valuable study aids for exams. (Don't just copy the answers down—think about your answers and ask me if you don't understand your mistake. Your answer may not be wrong!) You will receive FULL CREDIT as long as you thoroughly check your work (i.e., I will not deduct points for your mistakes, no matter how numerous they may be).

- 1) There may be additional homework assigned throughout the quarter. These will be announced in class. DVD exercises may need to be completed using a home dvd player or in the Language Lab (A244). We will set aside time in class to work with exercises posted in the Signing Naturally curriculum on an as needed basis.
- 2) Please be aware there is no sound in the Signing Naturally workbook/dvd.
- 3) I am a strong proponent for two different types of assessments (traditionally referred to as exams). There are receptive exams (your ability to understand what it is that I am signing to you...quizzes, tests, etc) and then there are standards based instructional receptive exams. With standards based exams, you can work towards demonstrating mastery of a given topic/assignment as many times up until the last three class sessions. For example, in being able to demonstrate a signing project in a timed format, if you don't demonstrate mastery on that day, you are allowed to replicate it until it is demonstrated with 100% master. Out of growth, comes success.

### **Assignments, Exams and Quizzes:**

ASL Quizzes are very short in duration, on Thursdays and generally are limited to fingerspelled words, numbers and individual ASL concepts. You are allowed to drop your worst quiz or if you are absent, that one can be dropped.

ASL Exams are more in-depth and cover translating ASL concepts to English based sentences.

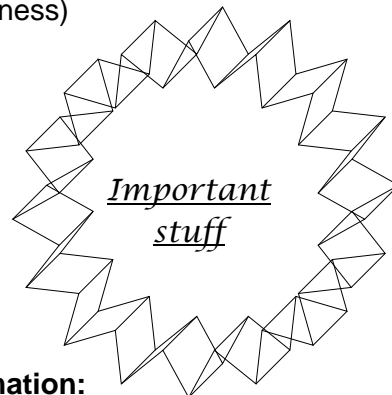
In addition, there will be one ASL objective, culture exam, (multiple choice in format) towards the end of quarter. I try to introduce students to elements of Deafness as a culture and not simply limit to instruction of ASL. Please make sure you bring a scan tron and a pencil on that day.

As a general rule, there are **no make-ups** for exams that require me to sign. If you encounter unavoidable circumstances (illness, family emergency), **email me at your earliest convenience and**

**lets see what we can come to consensus. Keep in mind you are allowed to drop a quiz.** If you have any concerns, don't hesitate to discuss them with me – the earlier, the better.

There is a calendar of assignments and dates for expressive exams and receptive exams assignments. Break down of learning evidence I want from you:

- 2 Receptive Exams 4 out of 5 (worst quiz can be dropped or absent)
- 2 Expressive Exam (I need to see twice, evidence of your ASL)
- 1 Multiple Choice Exam (Items pertaining to culture of ASL/Deafness)  
(Scantron required)
- 4 Assignments Units 5,6,7,8
- 6 Quizzes Weekly



### **Grading**

The grade breakdown is as follows:

**A:** 94-100%    **B+:** 87-89%    **C+:** 77-79%    **D+:** 67-69%

**A-:** 90-93%    **B:** 83-86%    **C:** 73-76%    **D:** 60-66%

**B-:** 80-82%    **C-:** 70-72%    **F:** 59% & below

**The Final Quarter Grade will be calculated based on the following information:**

1. (30%) Classwork/homework
2. (30%) 6 Quizzes
3. (15%) 2 Signed Expressive presentations (Standards Based Grade-Expressive)
4. (15%) 2 Receptive Exams (Similar to quizzes, just more in-depth)
5. (10%) End of quarter Multiple Choice Exam/Scantron

### **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. <http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp> With this in mind, if there are religious observances that require you to miss a class, please let me know what I can do to accommodate this request.

### **Academic Conduct**

**Cheating is a serious offense, whether on homework or exams.** Inappropriate/disruptive classroom behaviors are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Refer to the Arts and Humanities Division Policy at: [www.bellevuecollege.edu](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu) and pull up the ArtsHum/studentinfo.asp.

### **Disability Resource Center (DRC)**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible. If you are a student with a documented autism spectrum disorder, there is a program of support available to you. If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter. The DRC office is temporarily located in the Library Media Center, or you can call our

reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)

If you require accommodations based on a documented disability, have medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case of emergency evacuation, please inform your instructor at the beginning of the quarter so I can help you reach your full potential with respect to your disability.

**Public Safety** The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. Public Safety is located in K100.

**About Ron Podmore:** Mr. Podmore attended the Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., (Worlds only university for the Deaf) but received his B.A. from Western Washington University (Bellingham) and his M.Ed degree from Lewis & Clark College (Portland, Oregon). He is the published author of two books; the first is an authorized biography on Academy award winning Deaf actress Marlee Matlin and the second is about Usher Syndrome in the Deaf community.

**BE GOOD  
DO WELL & LEARN ASL**