

College of Education and Human Development Division of Special Education and disAbility Research

Spring 2021
EDSE 116 DL4: American Sign Language (ASL) II
CRN: 19795 4 – Credits

Instructor: Fatimah Aziz	Meeting Dates: 1/25/21 – 5/10/21
Phone: 240-907-1664	Meeting Day(s): Monday/Wednesday
E-Mail: faziz4@gmu.edu	Meeting Time(s): 1:30 pm – 3:20 pm
Office Hours: by appointment	Meeting Location: N/A; Online
Office Location: N/A	Other Phone: N/A

Note: This syllabus may change according to class needs. Teacher Candidates/Students will be advised of any changes immediately through George Mason e-mail and/or through Blackboard.

Prerequisite(s):

EDSE 115 or equivalent course with a minimum grade of "C" or EDSE 115 "XS"

Co-requisite(s):

None

Course Description

Focuses on expanding basic skills in American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. Emphasizes development of expressive and receptive skills. Increases knowledge of ASL vocabulary and the syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of the language.

Advising Contact Information

Please make sure that you are being advised on a regular basis as to your status and progress in your program. Students in Special Education and Assistive Technology programs can contact the Special Education Advising Office at 703-993-3670 or speced@gmu.edu for assistance. All other students should refer to their assigned program advisor or the Mason Care Network (703-993-2470).

Course Delivery Method

Online

Learning activities include the following:

- 1. Class lecture and discussion
- 2. Application activities
- 3. Small group activities and assignments
- 4. Video and other media supports
- 5. Research and presentation activities
- 6. Electronic supplements and activities via Blackboard

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using synchronous format via the Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on January 24th

Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

Technical Requirements

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

 High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: <u>Browser support</u> (https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting <u>Started/Browser Support#supported-browsers</u>)

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see: <u>Tested devices</u> <u>and operating systems</u> (https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems)

- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download:
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader (https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - o <u>Windows Media Player</u> (https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player)
 - Apple Quick Time Player (www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

Expectations

• Course Week:

Our course week will begin on the day that our synchronous meetings take place as indicated on the Schedule of Classes.

• Log-in Frequency:

Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least 4 times per week. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings.

• Participation:

Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.

• Technical Competence:

Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

• Technical Issues:

Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

Workload:

Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.

• Instructor Support:

Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

• Netiquette:

The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words*. Remember that you are not competing with classmates but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

• Accommodations:

Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

Learner Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Develop sufficient ASL conversational skills and vocabulary to effectively communicate with members of the Deaf community in the United States (DH1S2, C1.1, C1.2).
- 2. Ask what person did/will do on a certain day, modify verb to agree with subject and object, narrate story using agreement verb in role shift (C1.1, C1.2).
- 3. Discuss each person's household duties, tell what errands must be done in the next few days, list errands on weak hand (C1.1, C1.2).
- 4. Identify person in room, add another description to confirm (C1.1, C1.2).
- 5. Produce correct from and movement for clothing-related words, follow sequence to describe item, ask what it is made of (C1.1, C1.2).
- 6. Translate English sentences with spatial verbs and making sure the verbs show agreement with the locations that have been established for places (C1.1, C1.2).
- 7. Explain situation, then make request, decline, give reason (C1.1, C1.2).
- 8. Modify verb to agree with subject and object (C1.1, C1.2).
- 9. Explain problem using conjunction before telling what happened, ask for advice (C1.1, C1.2).
- 10. Develop basic cultural competency of culture alive in the Deaf community today (DH1S2, C2.1, C3.1).

Professional Standards

Goals, objectives, and assignments in this class address CAEP Standard 1b/ Pedagogical Content Knowledge and 1c/ Skills Professional and Pedagogical Knowledge and Skills, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Council on Education of the Deaf Knowledge and Skill Standards, and the Virginia Department of Education teacher licensure competencies. Goals, objectives, and assignments in this class address the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Knowledge and the American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) competencies. Code for CEC Standards: DH = Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Code for ASLTA Standards: C1 = Communication, C2 = Culture, C3 = Connections, C4 = Comparisons, C5 = Communities.

Required Texts

Smith, C., Lentz, E., Mikos, K. (2014). *Signing naturally: Unit 7-12 student set*. San Diego, CA: Dawn Sign Press

Note: Students are expected to order the books online (Amazon, DawnSign.com, etc) for Spring semester. The GMU bookstore will not order many books to reduce the spread of the virus on campus.

Recommended Texts

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000

Required Resources

Sign up and register GoReact. https://goreact.com/

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

Assignments and/or Examinations

Students will complete Assignments and Video Assignments. The class schedule below shows the due dates of each unit. Students will check **Blackboard** for more details about the assignments.

Vocabulary and Lessons: Students will watch and learn the new vocabulary and watch lessons assigned on a weekly basis. Both the vocabulary and lessons will help students prepare for the quizzes and tests.

Assignments: Students will complete assignments via Kaltura. Students will be able to be able to skip back and forth through the video and change your answers before you submit the assignment. Students must click SUBMIT on Kaltura for credit.

Video Assignments: Students will create video assignments on GoReact. The student's ASL production will be evaluated using rubrics. Signs should be clear and formed correctly, signed in a fluent manner and accompanied by appropriate facial grammar and spatial references, eye gazes, topicalization, appropriate pauses for both individual signs and ASL sentences.

Note: Feedback via markers will be provided for weekly video assignments. Instructor feedback will be provided for the unit tests. Rubrics are posted in GoReact.

Note: Plagiarism is defined as using another individual's ideas or words without attribution or credit. It also includes using one's own prior work that has been submitted for credit or published in another venue as a new submission without citation. Using the ideas of others without proper attribution or citation is unethical and a violation of the Honor Code. Subcategories of plagiarism include:

Self-plagiarism: Intentionally or unintentionally using portions of one's old work for new assignments without attribution

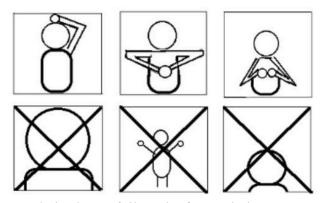
Students are responsible for ensuring the work they are submitting is their own work. This includes checking to make sure that any information that was not their own creation is properly attributed to the original source, as well as working within the guidelines provided by the professor of the class regarding submitted work.

If a student submits a plagiarized video, copying another student's video or a video online, the university policy will be followed: https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/. Will result in a zero on the assignment.

Note: The textbook was developed in California. There will be a few signs that are used by Deaf Californians but are signed differently in the DC Metro area. Similar to the English language, there are differences due to dialects and accents. In ASL, the differences are due to regional signs or sign variations. If an ASL sign is used differently in DC, the sign will be shown it on the Vocabulary and Lessons videos.

Editing ASL videos: Students are required to edit their ASL videos.

- 1. Ensure the computer or tablet is on a firm surface (a desk or table). Do NOT have the computer on student's lap, a bed, or any other surface where the device (or you) are likely to move.
- 2. Make sure the video is centered and visible where the instructor can see the top of the student's head and the bottom of the student's chest area as shown below.



3. If students use their phone, follow the format below:



- 4. Make sure that the background is clean (one-colored wall) and free of "visual noise" (books, DVD's, TV running, kitchen items, dog appearing, etc.).
- 5. The color of the student's shirt should contrast their skin tone. Avoid red, yellow, and orange shades. If students have tattoos on their arms, they should wear long-sleeved shirts. Tank tops and string shirts are not allowed.
 - **Assignments Shirts must meet the above requirements.
 - **Tests Solid-colored shirts free of logos are required in addition to the above requirements.
- 6. Remove hats and excessive jewelry. Wedding rings and small earrings are ok.
- 7. If students are sitting, do not swivel.
- 8. Late video assignments.

Note: Any video assignments that does not meet the <u>any</u> of the above criteria will result in a **deduction** for the assignment as shown on the rubric. Submit your videos following the above criteria to avoid a deduction.

Deaf Literature Reflection Paper

Students will write two reflection papers on Deaf literature which can include books, poetry, articles, stories, essays, videos, plays, and De'VIA that reflect a Deaf culture and experience. Students need to choose two works of Deaf literature to write their reactions to their reading or observation of Deaf literature materials of their choosing.

De'VIA is an abbreviation for Deaf View/Image Art which is an art movement formed by Deaf artists to express their Deaf experience. You can find plenty of De'VIA art on the internet. If you choose to write a reflection paper on De'VIA, email me first for approval so that I can make sure it meets the criteria for De'VIA.

A reflection paper is not a "book" report where you summarize what you read. It's about understanding and knowledge that you got from your reading and if it influenced your feelings, thoughts and beliefs on the topic. Your reflection papers should be 300-700 words long, size 12 font, and double-spaced. The website link and citations must be included in the paper. Plagiarism **is not allowed.** Your reflection papers should consist of:

A. Introduction

- 1. The name of the author/artist and the date of the work
- 2. What is the theme of the work?
- 3. What issue did the author/artist bring up?
- 4. What's the author/artist's key point?
- 5. What is the Deaf experience or culture portrayed in the work?
- 6. What's the author/artist's opinion on the topic
- 7. What were your expectations based on the title before reading?

B. Body Paragraph (one)

- 1. What are your feelings and reactions during your reading?
- 2. What grabs your attention?
- 3. How does this compare to what you have experienced or seen? Or how does it differ from your experience(s)?
- 4. What understanding or knowledge did you gain from your reading?
- 5. Provide details and your reactions and feelings.
- 6. What is your observation or interpretation of the work?

C. Conclusion-

- 1. After the reading, have you changed your way of thinking on the topic? Does it conflict with your previous beliefs and assumptions?
- 2. Have your conclusions you had before reading changed?

3. Will what you have read change your actions in the future?

If a student submits a plagiarized paper, the university policy will be followed: https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/. Will result in a **zero** on the assignment.

Post: Blackboard

Zoom meetings:

The class will meet every two weeks from the start of class to the end of class time. A tab for the Zoom meetings is posted on Blackboard. The meetings will review and consist of group activities based on the previous assignments. It is important students keep up with assignments to be able to participate in-group activities.

Policies:

- 1. Students are expected to appear and participate from the beginning to the end of each Zoom session. Students cannot be on their phone, doing other activities during class time, leaving a blank screen or leaving the computer.
- 2. Student's preferred name is to be displayed on Zoom. No nicknames (ex. Bad Cat) are permitted.
- 3. Ensure the computer or tablet is on a firm surface (a desk or table). Do NOT have the computer on student's lap, a bed, or any other surface where the device (student) is likely to move.
- 4. Using mobile phones for a Zoom session is not permitted as students will not be able to see everyone at once on the phone.
- 5. The webcam is to be turned on unless instructed otherwise.
- 6. Students are to dress appropriately for class. The attire should contrast student's skin tone.
- 7. Remove all distractions which includes mobile phones, electronics, pets, people, and other activities.
- 8. Seek a plain wall or use a collapsible background screen. Virtual backgrounds are not permitted. The background should contrast your attire and skin tone.
- 9. Be aware of lighting. Students do not want to appear bright or dark making it difficult for the instructor and classmates to see you.
- 10. The voice option will be on mute for all meetings (except the first day of classes).

Note: Students who do not follow the policies stated above will count as tardy and deducted according to the attendance policy.

Vocabulary Quizzes: Students will have a quiz every week, check the class schedule for the quiz dates. The quizzes will be administered via Blackboard (Kaltura Video Quiz). There will be a time limit for quizzes.

Note: The quiz will cover all the vocabulary from your weekly assignments. Students are expected to watch the **Vocabulary and Lessons** posted in GoReact on a weekly basis to prepare for the quiz.

Unit Tests:

ASL II tests objectives focuses on the receptive and expressive use of ASL. The videos of tests should be clear, accurate and thoughtful with in-depth answers to questions based on workbook materials and additional articles.

Receptive Tests: The receptive portion of the test (multiple choice) will be administered via Blackboard (Kaltura Video Quiz). There will be a time limit for tests.

Expressive Tests: Students will post the expressive portion (signing) on GoReact. Signs should be clear and formed correctly, signed in a fluent manner and accompanied by appropriate facial grammar and spatial references, eye gazes, topicalization, appropriate pauses for both individual signs and ASL sentences. Rubrics are posted in GoReact.

Students will check the **Class Schedule** and **Blackboard** for more details about the Unit Tests (Receptive and Expressive) due dates.

Final Exam:

The final exam is a comprehensive exam, which focuses on both the production and receptive use of ASL. The final exam will be one-on-one with students involving an interview-style type format.

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance/Participation

It is expected that students will attend each scheduled class on zoom on time.

Students will be allowed one (1) absence without penalty. Each absence afterwards will result in a 2% deduction from the total grade as shown below:

First Absence – no penalty

Second Absence or more – 2% deduction of the total grade

Two (2) late arrivals on zoom will be equivalent to one (1) absence, which will apply to the policy stated above.

Zoom meeting dates are shown on the Class Schedule.

Late Work

Any papers, videos, or assignments will not be accepted past due dates.

Note: Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent Grade
A+	97-100
A	94-96

A-	90-93
B+	87-89
В	84-86
B-	81-83
C+	79-80
С	76-78
C-	74-75
D	70-73
F	Below 70

Grade Distribution:

1.	1. Assignments/Deaf Papers	
2.	Video Assignments	15%
3.	Vocabulary Quizzes	15%
4.	Unit Tests (Receptive/Expressive)	30%
5.	Final Exam	20%

Note: Students' grades will be based on **percentage** for each area as shown above, not **total points**.

Note: If a student gets at 94% or above in class, the Final Exam will be waived.

*Note: The George Mason University Honor Code will be strictly enforced. See <u>Academic Integrity Site</u> (https://oai.gmu.edu/) and <u>Honor Code and System</u>

(https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/). Students are responsible for reading and understanding the Code. "To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work."

Work submitted must be your own new, original work for this course or with proper citations.

Professional Dispositions

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times. See <u>Policies and Procedures</u> (https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/polices-procedures/).

Class Schedule

*Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

Assignments: Fridays by 11:59pm (Eastern Standard Time).

Vocabulary Quizzes (VQ): Complete by Mondays before 1:30pm **Unit Tests:** will be administrated via GoReact during class hours.

Zoom Meetings: Full class every other week at 1:30pm

- ZOOM A- Mondays
- ZOOM B- Wednesdays

NOTE: All date dues for assignments, quizzes and tests are posted on Blackboard, not on the class schedule here.

	Day	Class Topic	Reading/Viewing Assignments	
Week	25-Jan	Course Introduction	Syllabus	
1		Zoom (Group A & B)		
	27-Jan	Review Assignments	Syllabus, ASL 1 Review, ASL Parameters	
Week	1-Feb	Syllabus and ASL	ASL Parameters Quiz & Syllabus Quiz	
2		Parameters quizzes		
	3-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 5.1 & 5.2	
Week	8-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments		
3		Zoom A		
	10 - Feb	Unit 5 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 5.3 & 5.4	
		Zoom B		
Week 4	15-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments		
	17-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 5.5 & 5.6	
Week	22-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments		
5		Zoom A		
	24-Feb	Unit 5 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 5.7 & 5.8	
		Zoom B		
Week 6	1-March	Unit 5 Test	Test	
	3-March	Unit 7 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 7.1, 7.2, 7.3	
Week 7	8-March	Unit 7 Assignments Zoom A		
	10-March	Unit 7 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 7.4, 7.5, 7.6	
		Zoom B		
Week 8	15-March	Unit 7 Assignments		
	17-March	Unit 7 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 7.7, 7.8, 7.9	
Week	22-March	Unit 7 Assignments		
9		Zoom A		
	24-March	Unit 7 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 7.10, 7.11, 7.12	
		Zoom B		
Week 10	29-March	Unit 7 Test	Test	
	31-March	Unit 8 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 8.1, 8.2, 8.3	

Week 11	5-April	Unit 8 Assignments Zoom A		
	7- April	Unit 8 Assignments Zoom B	Lessons and VQ 8.4, 8.5, 8.6	
Week 12	12-April	Unit 8 Assignments		
	14-April	Unit 8 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 8.7, 8.8, 8.9	
Week 13	19-April	Unit 8 Assignments Zoom A		
	21-April	Unit 8 Assignments	Lessons and VQ 8.10, 8.11, 8.12	
		Zoom B	Deaf Literature Reflection Papers	
Week 14	26-April	Unit 8 Test	Test	
	28-April	Final Exam Zoom A	One-on-One	
Week 15	3-May	Final Exam Zoom B	One-on-One	

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: See Core Values (<a href="http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/).

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code. See <u>Honor Code and System (https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/).</u>
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See Responsible Use of Computing (http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor. See Disability Services (https://ds.gmu.edu/).

• Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to either Tk20 or VIA should be directed to https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/assessments/
- Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <u>Blackboard Instructional Technology Support for Students (https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/).</u>

Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:

- As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Responsible Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing the Title IX Coordinator (titleix@gmu.edu).
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <u>Student Support</u>
 <u>Resources on Campus</u> (<u>https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus</u>).
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website College of Education and Human Development (http://cehd.gmu.edu/).

Appendix Assessment Rubric(s)

	EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS	MEETS EXPECTATIONS	DOES NOT MEET EXPECTATIONS
Vocabulary:	Accurate, relevant use of	Generally accurate,	Vocabulary inaccurate
Usage of vocabulary	wide variety of	relevant use of vocabulary	and used covers less than
	vocabulary used from all	from more than half the	half the units studied
	units studied (2)	units studied (1)	
Formation: Handshape,	Skilled, accurate,	Generally accurate,	Less than 50% accurate,
Palm Orientation,	appropriate use of hand	appropriate use; errors	appropriate use; errors
Movement, Location	shape, orientation,	made do not compromise	compromise meaning;
	location and movement;	meaning	effort and practice not
	transitions smooth (2)	(1)	evident
Space Referents:	Use is consistently	Use is generally accurate	Use is either not present
Motion/Location of Verbs	accurate and appropriate;	and appropriate; errors do	or awkward; interferes
(includes eye gaze, body	use precisely expresses	not compromise the	with intended meaning;
	intended meaning (2)		

shifting and choice of		intended meaning; good	effort and practice not
signs)		effort (1)	evident
Grammar:	A variety of sentence	A variety of sentence	Use is awkward and
Yes/No Questions	types are used; solid	types are used; errors do	confusing; errors
"Wh—"Questions	knowledge of grammar is	not compromise meaning;	compromise meaning;
Location	evident (2)	use demonstrates effort	effort and practice not
Negation		and thought (1)	evident
Contrastive Structures			
(referents, time, intensity,			
etc.)			
Fluency/Accuracy	Use is consistently	Use is generally accurate	Use is either not present
Smoothness and Fluency	accurate and appropriate;	and appropriate; errors do	or awkward; sometimes
of Signs	use precisely expresses	not compromise the	interferes with intended
Conceptually Accurate	intended meaning (2)	intended meaning; good	meaning; effort and
Ideas/Messages		effort (1)	practice not evident
Total Points Possible	Points earned in	Points earned in	No points earned
= 10	parenthesis	parenthesis	