LS101

Deaf Culture and Community I

3 Credits

Instructor: Amorena Bartlett; Patricia Friedlaender

Original Developer: Alice Wainwright-Stewart

Current Developer: Jody Morrison; Patricia Friedlaender

Reviewer: Joanne McDonald

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Approval: 02/12/2019
Alternate Delivery: No

The Implementation Date for this Outline is 07/01/2020
Deaf Culture and Community I

Calendar Description

This course introduces the learner to basic elements of Deaf Culture and Deaf community. Both historical oppression and current issues of the Deaf community are explored.

Rationale

This is a required course for the American Sign Language and Deaf Culture Studies Certificate Program. Students are expected to acquire a basic understanding of the Deaf Community, Deaf Culture, and how different cultures intertwine.

Prerequisites

ASL 300 or equivalent

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

1. articulate the historical, social, and cultural aspects of Deaf people and their communities.
2. state similarities between Deaf and hearing values.
3. describe how American Sign Language embodies and reveals Deaf Culture.
4. describe and identify the following features of Deaf Culture: group norms, values, rules of social interaction, arts and traditions.
5. demonstrate an appreciation of the contributions of Deaf arts.
6. explain the difference between sign systems and American Sign Language.
7. explain the importance of producing name signs.
8. explain the meaning of identity of Deaf people.
9. contrast the differences between a "signer" and "interpreter".
Resource Materials

Required Text(s):


Reference Text(s):

Handouts, other readings/visual texts relevant to the course are provided by the instructor.

Conduct of Course

This 45 hour course provides students with opportunities to engage in meaningful and exploratory conversations. Each unit introduced in this course will build upon previous lessons. All instruction is conducted in ASL and will involve a combination of hands-on learning, interactive activities, group discussions, weekly reviews, lectures, and viewing of films/movies.

In addition to scheduled classroom time, students can plan to spend a minimum of 3-5 hours per week preparing for class and completing homework and course assignments. Students are expected to be active learners in and out of the classroom, including contributing original thoughts and questions to class dialogue, preparing appropriately for each topic, and completing all assignments in a timely and professional manner. Students are also encouraged to continue practicing and developing their language fluency outside of the classroom by attending events hosted by the Deaf Community.

Tutors are available at no charge to students with documented learning disabilities; otherwise, ASL tutoring services are available at the student’s expense. There are a number of student success resources, including one-on-one coaching and support available online at no charge. For more information about these resources, please contact Lakeland’s Accessibility Advisor.

Links to any additional course readings, and course related correspondence, will be provided during class or via email. It is expected that students will take notes during class and check their email regularly to stay abreast of changes and additions to course requirements and schedules.

This course is conducted in ASL. It is therefore expected that students will behave culturally appropriate, and be respectful of all instructors, staff, and visitors who are Deaf, by signing only and refraining from using spoken English during class and breaks, and while on campus.

In addition, it is expected that all students adhere to the guidelines set forth in the Student Handbook, and the Lakeland College Student Policies and Procedures https://www.lakelandcollege.ca/campus-life/rules-regulations-forms/policies-procedures/.
Evaluation Procedures

Student progress in this course is evaluated via two reports, two interviews and an in-class presentation, and a progress check. The weighting for each is listed below:

Participation 5%
Reports (2) 30%
Presentation 20%
Interviews (2) 20%
Progress Check 25%
Total 100%

Any changes to assignments or due dates are communicated in class and/or via email. Unless otherwise notified by your course instructor, all assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date noted on the course schedule. The course schedule, assignment details, and grading rubrics will be provided in a separate document.

Late Assignments

Late assignments are not accepted; alternate presentation dates are not granted; Assignments/presentations are expected to demonstrate a high level of content mastery and skill.

Should you require accommodations for documented disabilities, meet with Lakeland's Accessibility Advisor. Recommended accommodations must be received at least two (2) weeks prior to scheduled assignments, presentations, and the progress check.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

A minimum grade of C (60%)(2.0) is required to pass this course. In addition, students must acquire an overall G.P.A. of 2.00 to meet graduation requirements.

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Attendance

Attendance is considered vital to the learning process and as significant to the students’ evaluations as are examinations and assignments, therefore, absenteeism is recorded. Absence for any reason does not relieve a student of the responsibility of timely completion of course work and assignments.
For any absence, the student is required to notify the course instructor as far in advance as possible. Should the situation involve an emergency, a medical note or other supporting documentation must be submitted to the instructor or the program facilitator within 24 hours of the absence.

Absence from a presentation or the progress check, without a medical certificate/documentation, is awarded a zero.

In the event of an absence, it is recommended that students follow up with a peer first, and then consult the course instructor for any additional clarification or questions regarding material covered.

Students arriving after class commences will be considered absent. More than two (2) absences may result in probation. Further absences may result in suspension from the program.

**Instructors have the authority to require attendance in classes.**

**Community Events**

To enhance learning and cultural exposure, and to continue development in both expressive and receptive ASL skills, it is strongly recommended that students expose themselves to the variety of signing styles in the community by attending Deaf Community and interpreted events as often as possible.

**Course Units/Topics**

- Culture Defined
- Who are the Deaf People?
- Deafhood
- Early Definitions of Deaf Culture
- Deaf Culture Redefined
- ASL: The Language of the American Deaf Community
- Deaf Lit
- Deaf Art
- Understanding and Comparing Hearing and Deaf Cultures
- Identity