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American Sign Language I

Welcome to American Sign Language I! You are now off on a wonderful new adventure of learning for this coming year. This class will provide you with an opportunity to build and strengthen your skills in American Sign Language and provide more cultural awareness of the American Deaf Community.

Course Objectives

1. Fingerspelling of the alphabet
2. Counting numbers 1-1,000
3. Having the ability to introduce oneself
4. Understand basic sentence types
5. Ability to engage in exchanging personal information
6. Discussion of space
7. Explanation of family tree
8. Have conversations about everyday activities

Units of Study

- Getting to Know You
- Exchanging Personal Information
- Discussing Living Situations
- Talking about Family
- Discussing Schedules and Activities
- Story Telling

Materials

- Chromebook
- Spiral Notebook
- Binder
- Agenda
- Pens/ Pencils
- Whiteboard Markers
- Chromebook charger

Classroom Expectations:

- Students should arrive to class on time with all materials.
- Students should not share their login information or passwords with others.
- Students should put all electronic devices away unless instructed by the instructor for classroom instruction.
- Upon arriving in class, students should place their cellphone in the phone charging station to their assigned number.
- Once class begins you should not be voicing (you may sign to each other). All communication will be conducted in ASL (unless otherwise stated).
- Student area should be clear of backpacks or personal items in order to have adequate sign space.
- Maintain a clean classroom and pick up after yourselves.
- Students should dress appropriately for instruction sessions. There should be no use of hats, headphones, and sunglasses during class sessions.
- Food and drinks are not to be consumed during a class session.
- Students who use inappropriate language, share inappropriate images, or in any way behave inappropriately will be subject to appropriate discipline.
- Students should always maintain a positive attitude toward themselves, others, assignments, and activities.
- If you have an emergency or need special accommodations due to a health condition, family situation or special circumstance notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Deaf Culture Project: Each semester you must complete one Deaf Culture Project. For this assignment you will attend a virtual event or in person deaf event. There will be various deaf events hosted by the ASL club and different deaf events posted on our google classroom/ on class whiteboard. After you attend you will write a response paper about the experience. If you are unable to attend an event you must make arrangements with your instructor 30 days prior to the due date. The prompt will be posted on google classroom with further description on this project. The Deaf Culture Project is worth a total of 10% of your final grade; not completing this project could result in lowering your final grade by a full letter! The project is designed to provide you with more exposure of Deaf Culture and expand your understanding of the Deaf Community and American Sign Language.

Academic Honesty: If a student is cheating they will receive an automatic zero. Cheating is subject but not limited to asking for answers, copying from someone's class work/ homework, or online platform. Please

refer to your student handbook to find out what academic dishonesty means. Additionally having a cell phone out during an assessment will result in an automatic zero even if you are not on your phone!

Grading Policy: Grades will be a combination of participation, presentations, classwork, quizzes, projects and a variety of tests. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to turn in all necessary assignments in a timely manner. Grades earned in this class are A, B, C, D, and F. To pass this class, you must earn a 70% or higher. ASL I is a world language course that advances students to take ASL II, therefore the grading standards are set high yet achievable.

Grade Break Down:

- Comprehension Assessments = 25%
- Articulation Assessments = 35%
- Deaf Culture Project = 10%
- Homework & Projects = 15%
- Classwork = 15%

Grade Scale

- A= 100-90
- B= 89-80
- C= 79-70
- D= 69- 60
- F= 59- 0

Electronic Devices: I understand the need for constant communication with friends and family who are not as fortunate to be in our wonderful ASL class. However, during class any cell phones, smartphones, music devices, and smartwatches will not be allowed.

Redoing Assignments & Late Work: Late work for quizzes and projects will only be accepted up to two weeks after the due date. Redo presentations and comprehension assessments must be conducted during office hours. Any late homework that is received will be given a 50% deduction in grade. Students can redo any homework or assessment for a higher grade within two weeks. Students must wait 48 hours before attempting to retake an assignment. If a student is submitting late work they will be required to complete the “Late Work Sheet” on the classroom wall. The forms will be entered on a weekly basis. Written finals are not subject to retakes. **No makeup work (retakes or missing assignments) will be accepted for the last three weeks of each semester.**

Missing work: In the situation, a student is absent from class and was unable to complete classwork there will be two outcomes. If the student has an excused absence verified with the attendance office, they will receive an NA for the assignment. This means the assignment will not affect their overall grade negatively or positively. If the student has an unexcused absence they will receive a 0 on the assignment. Students will be held responsible for making up missing assessments within two weeks of the assignment due date. They will need to make arrangements with the instructor directly to schedule a time.

Remind: During our course, I will be sending reminders to you through the Remind App. Make sure you and your parents have signed into our classroom in order to receive important dates and information.

Pocket Points/ Charging Station: For this school year, we are utilizing the charging station to earn pocket points. At the beginning of each class, you can scan the QR code and fill out the Google form to earn pocket points. After filling out the QR code you need to leave your phone in your assigned phone cubby number. There are extension cords that can be utilized to charge your phone during the class session. You are not required to use the charging station however by doing so you can earn points towards various rewards. This policy is to support you and your classmates to stay off your phone during class time. Each day you put your phone in the charging station you will earn a point. The points can be used towards rewards including homework passes, extra credit, and dropping the lowest quiz score.

“As long as we have deaf people on earth, we will have signs,” - George Veditz

American Sign Language I

Name: _____

Period: _____

Parent/Guardian:

Your student is currently enrolled in American Sign Language I class, ASL is a visual language used by the American Deaf Community. In this class your student will be learning ASL vocabulary, grammar and structure, idioms and much more. They will also be learning about the American Deaf Culture and how it influences ASL, to do this successfully each semester a **Deaf Culture Project** is required. This requires your student to attend a deaf event. If the student is unable to attend an event they must make arrangements with the instructor a month before the assignment is due.

Comments or Concerns:

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Parent/Guardian's Signature

Parent/Guardian's Contact (Phone Number or Email)

I have read the course syllabus and agree to comply with all classroom guidelines.

Comments or Concerns:

Student Signature