



# 2023-2024 COURSE SYLLABUS

## AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 1

**Google Classroom Code:** 2hex4ae

**Teacher:** Ms. Myla Watson

**Email:** myla-watson@scusd.edu

**Class Phone:** 916-395-5090 ext. 506113

**Google Voice Phone:** 916-426-6927

**Room:** B13

**COURSE FOCUS:** Class completes World Language component of A-G requirements towards a diploma. This course will focus on basic ASL and will include the following areas: introducing oneself, exchanging personal information, telling about families, how to get attention, using appropriate cultural behaviors, and making requests. We will also learn about Deaf history and culture.

All instruction and discussion in the classroom will be conducted in American Sign Language (ASL). Although, during the first few days we will need to use voice once the time for practice has begun, please refrain from using your voice in class.

### **COURSE GOALS:**

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

1. Identify and accurately produce approx. 500 + ASL vocabulary words/concepts.
2. Provide an explanation of the cultural aspects of ASL as present in the course.
3. Identify and apply the grammatical features of ASL presented in the course.
4. Demonstrate a beginning conversational level of comprehension when communicating in ASL.
5. Demonstrate a beginning conversational level of expressive fluency when using ASL.

**In class work:** can be completed using Google Forms if posted there or in Google Docs by typing your answers there and then submitting them in Google Classroom. Make sure you **put your name on all assignments**.

### **Quizzes & Tests: (50% of overall grade)**

There will be at least one quiz after each lesson and a test after three lessons. Some days we will have Pop Quizzes so you must always be prepared. There are generally two parts of tests: Comprehension, which is usually signed by the teacher, and, Expressive, which you will sign on topics related to the Unit we learned. If you missed class on the day of the test, you need to make it up within a week either before or after school.

### **Participation: (50% of overall grade)**

Everyone **MUST** participate in class activities and discussions, as this will be an important part of learning and retaining your skills you previously learned. Failure to participate will result in lower grades and possibly not passing the class.



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## GRADES:

You will be graded on using appropriate cultural behaviors in class especially in the presence of deaf person(s) in the room. You must follow and respect the rules of communication with Deaf persons.

You should treat everyone in the room as if they were deaf so this way you will greatly improve your skills.

Keep this in mind when you walk in the room. If you do not pay attention to what the teacher or others are saying, you will miss a great deal and get further behind. This will be apart of

your participation grade. Using your voice (distracting others) in class will affect your grades.

\*\*If you use your voice a lot, you will be asked to “perform” (tell story, or mime something) in front of class at the end of the class

Participation, classwork, and homework	50%
Quizzes & Tests	50%

## Participation

Participation means you are actively engaged and taking part in all activities during class. You participate in question and answer sessions as well as asking questions for clarification. You practice signs during practice, you actively sign until the teacher has let you know you can stop signing (this ensures I see you sign the words). You receive 25 points per day for participation and those points are dependent on your active participation. You MUST sign when called upon during class or you will lose points from your daily grade. Be present.

## Absence/Make-up Policy:

It is your responsibility to complete the work you have missed. You will need to make an appointment with me if you need help outside of school hours. I am happy to help you but you need to be responsible and makeup work you have missed.

## Cell Phones:

There will be times when you will be using your cell phone in class HOWEVER... for the majority of the time, you will be asked to keep your cell phones off your desk/table tops at all times. Should you have your phone out when you are not supposed to be using it, you will be asked to give it to the teacher or paraprofessional for the remainder of the period. We will ask one time only. If you refuse to give the phone up, you will receive a referral for having your phone out as well as refusing to follow directions and refusing to comply with an adult’s request during class. **CELL PHONES ARE NEVER TO BE OUT**

**JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL**

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*HOME OF THE COUGARS*

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