Course Information Sheet

ASL 102: American Sign Language 2

Section: 001
Term: Spring 2010
Campus: Brighton
Day/Time: MWF 9-9:50 a.m.
Room: 9-126

Professor: Michael Weingart
Office: 5-424
Videophone: 585-286-3574
Web: http://web.monroecc.edu/mweingart
E-mail: mweingart@monroecc.edu

Office hours:
*M 4:30-5:30
*TR 11:00-12:30 p.m.
*WF 11:00-12:00 p.m.

Course Prerequisite(s)

A passing grade in ASL 101 or approval from professor is required.

Required Course Materials

Students must purchase the following materials:

*Signing Naturally, units 7-12 student materials (DVD and workbook)
*For Hearing People Only, 3rd edition, by Matthew Moore and Linda Levitan (textbook)

Course Description

This course is a continuation of ASL 101 with emphasis on basic language skills for communication and on cultural aspects to promote understanding and appreciation of Deaf culture. Three class hours. (SUNY-FL)

Course Learning Outcomes

Respect for self and others in words and deeds
Responsibility for one's own success through personal accountability
Reality of the expectations and standards in a college environment
1. Demonstrate an ability to engage in small-group conversations by giving directions, describing people, making requests, talking about family and occupations, attributing qualities to others, and talking about routines
2. Demonstrate principles of appropriate cultural norms, practices and products in formal and informal settings
3. Demonstrate an understanding of major events in Deaf history that have had profound influence on Deaf cultural values
4. Examine and discuss the similarities and differences of inflections, verb types, role shifting, communication strategies, and schooling with one’s own language and culture
5. Attend local Deaf events and interact with members of the Deaf community by exchanging information about topics of personal interest

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies

The pace of this class makes attendance crucial. Attendance is mandatory and is taken at the beginning of each class. Each student is expected to stay for the whole class period. Should you be unavoidably absent or if you need to report any problems, please contact your professor during office hour or leave a phone or e-mail message. Please do not schedule appointments during class. Military, religious and school-related obligations are excusable per MCC policy.

The following policy on class attendance, as stipulated in the 2009-2010 MCC Catalog and Student Handbook, page 239, reads:

“Prompt and regular attendance at all class and laboratory sessions is expected. Faculty members are asked to report students for excessive absence when such absence is adversely affecting the student’s academic achievement in a particular course (not necessarily failing work). When this occurs, students may be reported to the Office of Records and Registration with the recommendation to warn the student or to withdraw the student from the course. In the event the student is withdrawn from the course, the grade of “W” will be assigned. Students should not assume that non-attendance will result in their automatic withdrawal from a course. Unless students themselves submit a formal course withdrawal, non-attendance may also result in an “F” grade and thus jeopardize the student’s academic record. Non-attendance does not relieve the student of his/her financial obligations.”

The last day to withdraw from a course with “W” grade is April 30 (for in-person transactions) or May 1, 2010 (for transactions submitted via the Web). Incomplete grades will only be given under extenuating circumstances.

Implications of Attendance on Financial Aid

As stated above, attendance is reported by your instructor to the Records and Registration Office. The Financial Aid Office looks at your record of attendance, usually before paying the financial aid you have been awarded. If you are counted as absent in any class(es), these classes will not be counted as enrolled hours for financial aid payment. For example, if you are registered for 12 semester hours and are attending only 9 of those hours, you would be considered enrolled 9 hours for financial aid purposes. Or if you are registered for 12 semester hours and not attending any classes, you would not be counted as enrolled for financial aid purposes. There are no exceptions to the attendance determination. If you have already been paid part or all of your financial aid and the Financial Aid Office is subsequently notified that you are not attending, your financial aid will be canceled. You will be responsible for repaying any financial aid credited to your account or refunded to you.
Statement on Academic Honesty

We will observe the Academic Honesty policy and its related process as stated in the 2009-2010 MCC Catalog & Student Handbook, pages 247-248. It is your responsibility to review the contents.

Course Requirements

Course requirements include final examination, ASL dialogue, tests, Deaf community events, participation, and homework assignments. There is no substitution for any of these requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASL dialogue</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf community events, participation and homework assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An unexcused absence results in a loss of five points, while three points are deducted for coming to class late, leaving early, and all other infractions. While military, religious and school-related obligations are excusable per MCC policy and do not affect your grade for participation, it is your responsibility to inform your professor in advance and follow up on missed lessons and homework assignments. If you cannot come to class due to an illness, a phone or e-mail message is necessary to excuse your absence. Scheduling an appointment that conflicts with the course schedule is discouraged. Please try to avoid parking difficulties and car troubles.

It is strongly recommended that you use plenty of time to travel. The College usually does not close during inclement weather. However, if you feel that it is unwise to drive in severe weather and dangerous road conditions, you must contact your instructor prior to the class that you plan to be absent from. Phone or e-mail messages are acceptable, but a notification from a friend or classmate is not.

In addition, please inform your professor in advance if you are planning to bring a child, a friend, or anyone to class. Your professor reserves the right to not admit unregistered students and individuals into class.

You are encouraged to meet with classmates to engage in signed conversations outside the classroom on a regular basis and to spend at least one hour each and every day on assignments. Study groups are strongly recommended. To meet with your professor, office hours are available or you may make an appointment.

You are expected to incorporate each new concept and vocabulary learned into new lessons. If you don't understand or even ask for clarification at the last class, you will surely be lost at the following class. You must take the responsibility to clarify the problem with a friend, a classmate, or with the professor outside of or during class. It is very important to get help as soon as any difficulties are encountered.

This course is rigorous, so attendance is crucial to your language learning experience and, therefore, taken at each and every class. If you miss more than a total of three hours of classes due to absences, late arrivals, or early departures, you will receive an e-mail message from your professor. Missing more than six hours of classes, coming to class very late often, or leaving too early on a regular basis will result in
an attendance warning and a meeting with your professor to review your academic performance. Exceptions may be considered in cases of serious illnesses, especially H1NI influenza.

**Special Statement on H1N1 Influenza**

Spring 2010 brings flu season and this year it is expected to bring the H1N1 variant of influenza. You are encouraged to take notice of the preventive measures that have been communicated to all students at the College. Your professor supports the request that students, faculty and staff stay home when they are ill. In this class, your professor typically allows for up to three absences. As a result, you are encouraged to be present at every class. If you do become ill, you will still have those days to cover illness-related absences. You are also asked to take contact information for two of your classmates, so that they can share notes and information you may miss while absent.

**Final Examination and Tests**

The common final examination is comprehensive and composed of two parts: ASL receptive skills and linguistic/cultural knowledge based on lessons from *Signing Naturally* and *For Hearing People Only*.

Please be reminded that most four-year colleges will not accept transfer grades lower than a C.

Also, there are five tests in total and are given on a biweekly basis.

**Make-up Policy**

There are no opportunities to make up missed tests. However, your professor may consider options to replace a missed test at his discretion.

Homework assignments that are turned in no more than one full day after they are due will be accepted for partial credit.

Final examinations are administered only during the period set aside for finals in the college calendar. In other words, no final exams are to be given early. Make arrangements to be present on the day of the final. MCC policy states that “a student who misses a final examination needs to contact the professor within two working days to discuss the eligibility for a make-up examination.” Otherwise, s/he will automatically fail. Exceptions will be considered only in special cases due to unforeseen circumstances (going on vacation is not one of them).

**Grading System**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 and above</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Superior work. Performance that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course outcomes and requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Better than average work. Performance that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course outcomes and requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Average work. Performance that meets the course outcomes and requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Below average, but passing work. Performance that is</td>
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</table>
### Learning Center Referrals

Monroe Community College has a number of Learning Centers at Brighton (for example, Accounting, Math, Psychology, Writing, the Electronic Learning Center, etc.) and at Damon (for example, the Integrated Learning Center, Electronic Learning Center, etc.). Learning centers are staffed with instructional personnel and may be equipped with computers and software to assist students. It is recommended that students use the Learning Centers to get additional help with concepts learned in the classroom and with their homework. Please refer to your MCC student email to review your referral and objectives for your use of the Learning Center(s).

Foreign Language and ASL students are encouraged to use the Interdisciplinary Programs Learning Center in 11-211 (Brighton Campus) or the Integrated Learning Center at DCC.

### ASL Tutoring

Your instructor may refer you to an ASL tutor if you are struggling in the course. Also, if you are interested in receiving ASL tutoring, you must first check with your professor. The purpose of tutoring is not just to review concepts learned in the classroom, but also to improve ASL comprehension and production skills. You must go to room 11-211 and sign up to make an appointment with the tutor. Tutoring services do not begin until few weeks after beginning of semester.

### Emergency Closings/Class Cancellation

If the College is closed or classes are cancelled due to inclement weather or some other emergency, all Rochester area radio and television stations will be notified no later than 5:30 a.m. or in the case of a mid-day decision, no later than 3:00 p.m. In addition, the home page on the MCC website ([www.monroecc.edu](http://www.monroecc.edu)) will display a message indicating the College is closed or classes are cancelled. Please do not call the College to avoid overloading the telephone lines.

In the event of an emergency, such as a campus evacuation or closure, severe weather alert, fire in a building, hazardous material incident, etc., where time-sensitive, proactive actions need to be communicated, the SUNY NY-Alert system will be utilized to provide immediate notification to all MCC students and employees who have opted to receive such alerts. Those who sign up for SUNY NY-Alert can choose to receive emergency messages via a variety of communication technologies, such as e-mail (college and/or personal accounts), and audio and/or text message to a campus, home or cell phone, fax, etc. For more information on SUNY NY-Alert, including how to sign up, please visit [http://www.monroec.edu/depts/pstd/NYAlert.htm](http://www.monroec.edu/depts/pstd/NYAlert.htm).

Class cancellation information is available daily on the web or through the telephone. Simply go to the MCC website ([www.monroecc.edu](http://www.monroecc.edu)) and under the “Quick Links” window on the homepage, click on “Class Cancellations”. Additionally, class cancellation information is available by dialing 292-2066, press “1” for the Brighton Campus and “2” for the Damon Campus. If possible, please use the web as there could be delays in the voice recordings based on the number of cancellations.

### MCC E-mail Account
All students who are registered have MCC e-mail accounts. Therefore, you are required to access your MCC account as often as necessary, preferably every day or two. If you haven’t utilized this provision, please go to http://www.monroec.edu/go/semail/basics2.htm. This arrangement facilitates quality communication with the instructor, enhances student’s overall performance in the course, and maximizes his or her learning experience with technology. As stated above, homework assignments, with prior approval from your professor, can be sent by MCC, not personal, e-mail.

**Students with Special Needs**

If you have documentation that can support needs for additional services, please contact the MCC Offices for Students with Disabilities in Building 11-208A (292-2357) on the Brighton campus. You are responsible for informing your instructor of your special needs and providing an official documentation stating your specific needs during the first week of classes or as soon as possible. Upon receipt of documentation, your instructor contacts you to make an appointment to review your specific needs with you to ensure that you receive equal educational opportunity.

**Extra Credit**

Your instructor may consider opportunities for extra credit at his discretion.

NOTE: No more than two grade increments are allowed in a semester. For example, if your final grade is a B, it may increase to no more than an A-minus.

**American Sign Language Student Club**

The ASL club is a chartered student club for ASL students and those who may be interested in learning the language and culture of the American Deaf community. If you are interested in joining the club to explore your interests, meet new people and connections, and develop leadership and organizational skills, you can contact the Student Center office in 3-134 on the Brighton campus or by calling (585) 292-2534. The official club e-mail address is MCC_ASL_Club@yahoo.com.

**No voice policy**

We insist on maintaining a signing environment at all times in the classroom for two reasons; One, it is considered rude and insulting to talk in front of a Deaf person and not make the information passing between you and the other person accessible. Since a good number of your instructors will be Deaf and your goal is to get to know Deaf people in the community, it is imperative that you develop the habit of signing when Deaf people are present. Secondly, this is an immersion class, which means only the target language is used. Using only ASL helps you to develop both your comprehension skills and your expressive skills quickly and effectively. Talking disrupts this process and delays your language development. If a fellow student asks you for help, feel free to help by using signs you have learned or by writing back and forth. In this way, I can see what is being said and can join in to help, if needed be.

**Conduct**

All cell phones and pagers cannot be used during class and must be turned off. Please review pages 9 (Civility and Honor Code) and 244-256 of the MCC 2009-2010 Catalog & Student Handbook on the rights and freedoms of students, especially conduct regulations. You can download the full PDF version of the catalog by visiting http://www.monroec.edu/depts/mcchome/catalogtoc.htm. Video recordings of the instructor or the class cannot be made without the explicit prior written permission of the instructor.
# ASL 102 – Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introductions, review Course Info Sheet and web-enhancement</td>
<td>Review CIS; pp. v-vii; Read pp. 5; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 32, 35, 108 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Unit 7: Giving Directions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Unit 7; Test #1</td>
<td>Read pp. 14-15; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 11, 68, 111 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Review test #1; Unit 8: Describing Others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Unit 8</td>
<td>Read pp. 31-32; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 22, 118, 122 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Test #2; Unit 9: Making Requests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Review test #2; Unit 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Unit 9; Test #3</td>
<td>p. 49; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 45, 78, 79 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Unit 10: Talking About Family and Occupations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Unit 10; Test #4</td>
<td>p. 63; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 24, 60, 90 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Review test #4; Unit 11: Attributing Qualities to Others</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Unit 11</td>
<td>pp. 78-80; <em>FHPO</em> ch. 28, 29, 102 and complete assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Test #5; Unit 12: Talking About Routines</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Review test #5; Unit 12</td>
<td>Prepare for ASL dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>ASL Dialogue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBA (May 22-27)</td>
<td>FINAL EXAMINATION</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>