

American Sign Language Year 1 Ashley Anderson

Tuition: \$220 (½ due at registration; ½ due first day of classes in August)

Credit: 1 full foreign language credit

Description: This class is designed for sign language beginners. We will cover at least the first 15 lessons of the curriculum, which includes a list of new vocabulary, sentences to sign for homework, vocab quizzes and tests. Students will be introduced to Deaf culture, learn a bit of ASL history, and focus on building vocabulary and becoming conversational in ASL, a very attainable goal with an adequate amount of effort and practice.

Tests will include a section on receptive skills, where I sign and students convert to English, and a section on expressive skills, where I provide a sentence or concept in English and students sign it to me. During the second semester, students will begin signing brief stories in addition to sentences for homework. By the end of the year, we will have a few class days that will be silent, meaning we will only communicate in ASL for the entire class. I am not a fan of an “all work, no play” atmosphere, so we will often use review games for practice during class time.

Students will need to download Marco Polo, a free app available for a phone that allows them to send short videos quickly and easily. This is how they will submit their ASL homework to me. They will also need an active email account. Students and parents will need to create a free account with igrade to view assignments and student progress/grades.

***As pandemic regulations allow, I will try to plan extra experiences for students such as a visit to the TN School for the Deaf (here in Knoxville), Deaf Club meetings, or a visit to a church with services interpreted. I will keep students informed as these opportunities arise. Unfortunately, with so much uncertainty lingering, I can not promise any of this will come to fruition, but I will do my best! It is almost certain that we will have at least one visit during the year from my Deaf family members.

Materials Needed:

Marco Polo account on phone

active email account

igrade account

loose leaf paper

pencils/pens

small 3 ring binder or a divider section in a 3 ring binder for keeping lesson worksheets.