

**Bergen Community College Division of Arts and Humanities**  
**Department of ESL & World Languages**  
**Course Outline/Syllabus**  
**LAN170 – HY American Sign Language I**

*Instructor:*

*Class Meets:* in person & online

*Email:*

*Office Hours:*

\*Communicate via email please

*Virtual Office Hour:*

*Office:*

**COURSE TEXTBOOKS:**

❖ Recommended: Signing Naturally I workbook & DVD; ISBN# 0-915035-20-0

❖ ASL websites: [www.aslpro.com](http://www.aslpro.com)    [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com)    [www.asl.ms](http://www.asl.ms)  
[www.lifeprint.com](http://www.lifeprint.com)    [www.ASLResource.net](http://www.ASLResource.net)

**Course Description:** LAN170 American Sign Language I is an introduction to the receptive & expressive skills required to communicate in American Sign Language (ASL). Through active class work & use of basic vocabulary, syntax & grammar, students will begin exploration of Deaf Culture & the language of that culture. This course is recommended for students who have less than 1 year of previous study of this language. Students with more than 2 years of previous study should contact the Program Coordinator for placement guidance (General Education Course: 3 lecture, 1 lab, 3 credits, no prerequisites).

**Student Learning Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

Student Learning Outcome:	Means of Assessment:
1. Demonstrate expressive & receptive skills, listening, speaking/signing, reading and writing skills in ASL	Group work, presentations, written & receptive exams
2. Demonstrate an understanding of traditions, customs and beliefs related to the target language.	Group work, research paper, presentations, & written exams
3. Link information about the target language and cultures to other disciplines.	Group work, labs, attending Deaf events, Deaf Culture Club &/or ASL Tutor
4. Compare & contrast the target language and cultural concepts with one's own language & culture.	Group work, research paper & presentations
5. Interact with native speakers, both locally & globally, and gain a world perspective.	Group work, labs, attending Deaf events, Deaf Culture Club &/or ASL Tutor
6. Employ non-manual grammar & facial expressions so that feelings match register	Group work, attending Deaf events, Deaf Culture Club events, &/or ASL Tutor
7. Identify and describe a vocabulary of at least 50 signs	Group work, labs, presentations, & receptive exams

### Student Learning Outcomes link to Essential Learning Outcomes

SLOs:	EL1	EL2	EL3	EL4	EL5	EL6	EL7	EL8	EL9	EL10	EL11
1.	X	X			X	X	x	X	x	x	
2.	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
3.	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	
6.	x						x		x	x	x
7.	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	

EL1-Effective Speaking

EL7-Social-Behavioral Analysis

EL2-Effective Writing

EL8-Historical Analysis

EL3-Mathematical Reasoning

EL9-Humanistic Analysis

EL4-Scientific Reasoning

EL10-Intercultural Awareness

EL5-Technological Competency

EL11-Moral Literacy

EL6-Information Literacy

### Signature Assignment: ASL Presentation

Students will be required to videorecord themselves giving a presentation in ASL on an assigned topic. The presentation must be 1-3min & incorporate vocabulary, grammar, NMS & other concepts learned in class.

**Course Requirements:** In support of the above-mentioned goals, this course will include reading, writing & discussion, & assignments from textbooks & outside sources. Students are strongly encouraged to take an active role in class discussions & practice their expressive & receptive skills. Class participation is expected. Students will answer questions &/or complete online activities online & in class weekly (for class participation grade/attendance). Students will turn in 6 lab activities (approved list & report forms on Canvas). Students will also be required to give presentations as part of their evaluations. Finally, students will be responsible for a formal paper related to Deaf Culture (approved list & directions on Canvas). For extra credit, students may attend Deaf events (i.e., ASL Tutor, Deaf Culture Club meetings, theatre, Deaf Chats, workshops, etc.)

**Course Content and Class Schedule:** This course is intended to introduce students to the rules of ASL, including discourse markers, non-manual grammar, syntax, classifiers, temporalization, time concepts, pronominalization, locatives, sentence structure & types, and gesture. This course will also include lessons on Deaf culture, history, literature, and controversial issues within the Deaf Community.

### Tentative Class Schedule

<u><b>Week</b></u>	<u><b>Unit/Topic/Assignment</b></u>	<u><b>Student Learning Objective #</b></u>
Week 1	Intro	3, 6
Week 2	Deaf Awareness Quiz; Parameters Quiz	3, 6
	Intro to ASL, concepts, grammar, FS Tips	2, 3
	Complete online activities & assignments	
Week 3	Unit 1; Do Unit 1 homework complete online activities & assignments;	2, 3
	LAB #1 DUE	2, 3
Week 4	Unit 2, Deaf Culture, History of ASL	2, 3, 6
	Non-Verbal Expressions, Sign Intensity, NMS ; do Unit 2 homework,	1, 2, 3
	complete online activities & assignments, History Quiz	2, 3
Week 5	Intro presentations. LAB #2 DUE	
	Videos: Wizard of Oz & What is it...Deaf?	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Week 6	Family Tree Presentations; LAB #3 DUE	1, 2, 3, 5
Week 7	Unit 3; Mid-term exam review; LAB 4 DUE	2, 3
	do Unit 3 homework; complete online activities & assignments	2, 3
Week 8	MID-TERM EXAM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Week 9	Hearing Loss; video : Sound & Fury	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Week 10	Interpreting; RESEARCH PAPER DUE	1-6
Week 11	Unit 4; do Unit 4 homework; Complete online activities & assignments,	
	Gum Story quiz	1, 2, 3, 4
Week 12	Unit 5; Handshape Stories; LAB#5 DUE do Unit 5 homework;	
	complete online activities & assignments; LAB #2 DUE	2, 3, 4
Week 13	Social signing (bring gloves, mittens, cup)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Presentations (Handshape Stories)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Week 14	Unit 6; Deaf-Blind; do Unit 6 homework; complete online activities	2, 3, 5
	& assignments LAB #6 DUE	1, 2, 3, 5
Week 15	Review	1-6
	FINAL EXAM	1-6

**Grading & Assessment Methods:** This is a general education course. It has no pre- or corequisites. Students should not use their voices to communicate during class. Students will complete 6 lab activities. Students are required to give presentations as part of their evaluations. There will be a mid-term & final exam (format & topics will be described during reviews). Finally, students will be responsible for a formal written report related to deafness. Class participation is expected. Students will be expected to participate in group work in person or online. Plagiarism of written or videorecorded work is not acceptable. Please see the “Academic Integrity” section of the BCC catalog for details. Late assignments will not be accepted. All assignments are due by 11pm Thursday (unless otherwise specified) & must be submitted via Canvas. If you cannot access Canvas, email work to me.

**Grading & Assessment Methods:**

Presentations(each) 17.5%	Grade Distribution:		
Mid-term & Final(each) 20%	90-100= A	70-76= C	
Book Report 10%	87-89= B+	77-79= C+	
Class Participation 15%	80-86= B	60-69= D	0-59= F

Class cancellations are posted on the Bergen website: [www.bergen.edu](http://www.bergen.edu). I may also post cancellations on Canvas or via email.

**Bergen Community College Attendance Policy:** All students are expected to attend, punctually, every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance & lateness policies & sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative & counseling purposes.

**Attendance Policy in this course:** The study of a World Language necessitates that students attend class regularly and punctually in order to obtain proficiency. Therefore, students are expected to attend class regularly & actively participate in every class meeting, because a significant amount of learning takes place as a result of (virtual) classroom interactions. Attendance will be taken at each class session. Weekly online activities & assignments count towards attendance. Students absent four times will automatically drop a full letter grade. Special circumstances must be discussed with the instructor. Each student is responsible for all material presented, even if absent. Cell phones must be silenced during class.

**WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES PLACEMENT POLICY:** Students interested in studying a world language at Bergen Community College may choose to either begin a new one or continue the language studied previously. Students who have studied a world language in high school, and have received a grade of B or better, should enroll in the appropriate Bergen course as follows:

Years of study:	Register in:
Up to one year	Level I courses (e.g., ASL I)
Two years	Level II courses (e.g., ASL II)
Three or more	Level III courses (e.g., Intermediate ASL I)

**College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements:**

Statement on plagiarism and/or academic dishonesty:

[Academic Matters - Bergen Community College - Acalog ACMS™](#)

Statement on the appropriate use of AI [AI-Guidance-Resource-Page.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

ADA statement: [Disability Services \(Office of Specialized Services\) | Bergen Community College](#)

Sexual Harassment statement: [HR-003-001.2018-Policy-Prohibiting-Sexual-Harassment.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

Statement on acceptable use of BCC technology: [Acceptable-Use-Policy.pdf \(bergen.edu\)](#)

**STUDENT & FACULTY SUPPORT SERVICES:**

BCC provides exemplary support to its students & offers a broad variety of opportunities & services. A comprehensive array of student support services including advising, tutoring, academic coaching, & more are available online at <https://bergen.edu/currentstudents/>.



Tutoring: Tutoring can occur online. Request an appointment with an ASL Tutor.

Services for Students with Disabilities: A wide variety of services are available to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Specialized Services (OSS). For further information, go to the OSS website: [www.bergen.edu/oss](http://www.bergen.edu/oss).

Library: To support the curriculum, the library acquires, organizes, & provides access to print, media & electronic resources. Use the website to access media & get information.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is not permitted in print or video; see the BCC catalogue for policies.

General: All students are subject to the rules, regulations & policies set forth in the current Bergen Community College Catalog.

**COMMUNICATION POLICY**: As an online course, our interactions will be online. Please be aware that tone & intention are rarely clear via email or forum posting. Be mindful of what you type & what comments you make, including when on Zoom. Take care not to be offensive or sarcastic, as misinterpretations can occur. Is it helpful or hurtful? Consider whether you would make that comment to the person's face if they were in the room. Remember that things stay on the internet forever; would you like what you wrote to come back to haunt you if you were to run for office? In addition, please be sure to comment or inquire in the correct locations. Questions should be submitted via email; they will be answered within 48 hours, except weekends. Private inquiries or issues can be addressed via Email; I will reply within 24 hours, Online office hours are by appointment if you need to audio/videochat with me.