

## **American Sign Language (1, 2) and Deaf Culture Studies**

*Please provide a 3" three ring binder to keep homework in. Parents: please practice with your student each week what we have been learning in class. This will encourage and reinforce acquired language skills. Students are also encouraged to work with a study partner.*

*This is a year-long course*

This course is designed for students who want to learn American Sign Language, and for students who desire to enter a second year of ASL and continue to build their language foundation. Students will focus on learning communication skills reinforced by observation, repetition and hands-on experience, this will include an occasional class and/or activities with "no voice" allowed. Vocabulary will be presented in a functional grouping within the context of everyday situations. Application and demonstration of weekly lessons is expected for all students. Students will also learn about the Deaf Culture.

Here is a short list of what to expect throughout the academic year: Exposure to topics of deaf culture and language will include interviewing guests from the deaf community, watching videos in class featuring deaf characters and ASL, and students will be required to participate in deaf community events. Homework assignments will vary, examples include web-based sign language practice, borrowing sign language material from the public library, viewing a closed-captioned/subtitled TV program or movie (with no sound), studying popular deaf culture topics, a famous person in the history of the Deaf, and completing an ASL career research project.

Essential Academic Learning Requirements:

The student

- 1.1 Uses listening and observation skills and strategies to focus attention and interpret information.
- 1.2 Understands, analyzes, synthesizes, or evaluates information from a variety of sources.
- 2.1 Uses language to interact effectively and responsibly in a multicultural context.
- 2.3 Uses skills and strategies to communicate inter-culturally.
- 4.1 Assesses effectiveness of one's own and other's communication.
- 4.2 Sets goals for improvement.

Evaluation Methods:

1. Quizzes
2. Completion of homework assignments
3. Coming to class prepared and participation
4. Attendance record
5. Vocabulary Journal & Binder Organization

Learning goals:

1. Students will use observation skills (with eyes only) and strategies to gain understanding.
2. Students will use observation skills (with eyes only) and strategies to focus attention and to understand information signed by the instructor and to interact effectively with other students.
3. Students will be able to communicate in simple dialog that involves asking questions and responding to questions.