



Department of World Languages and Philosophy ASLP105 VISUAL GESTURAL COMMUNICATION

Professor: | Pauline Laster |

Office: | MT-422 |

Telephone: | 301-637-2935 (VP) |

Class Location: | CC212 |

Class Meets: | Tue & Thurs, 1:00-2:30pm |

FALL 2018

CRN: | 21180 |

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Office Hours: | Days/Time |

Textbooks and other resources:

Eastman, Gilbert C. *From Mime to Sign* Edition 1 U.S.; ©1989: TJ Publishers, Inc. ISBN: 9780932666345.

Course Description:

An introduction to the comprehension and expression of visual-gestural aspects of communication in relation to ASL. This course includes instruction in forms and hand shapes involved in mime and gesticulation. Emphasis is placed on activities that creative visual, motor, and cognitive readiness for signed languages. Instructional activities will foster the development of visual, spatial, and motor language memory. Recommended to be taken with ASLP106. *Assessment Level(s): ENGL101/ENGL101A, READ120.* In-class is supplemented by one hour each week in the language learning laboratory. *Three hours each week. Formerly SL105.*

Course Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

- Discuss the history of the manual alphabet and handshapes.
- Demonstrate the correct hand configuration of the manual alphabet and handshapes.
- Distinguish among similar hand configurations.
- Demonstrate speed and comfort in spelling by starting from simple diphthongs and working up through words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and finally short stories.
- Recognize, with 70% accuracy or better, significant differences in a group of signs that use the double open handshake.
- Discriminate among groups of fingerspelled words patterned after selections from a vocabulary list.
- Read at 70% accuracy, employing receptive, as well as expressive, skills of fingerspelling.
- Spell smoothly and accurately.

Grading Policy: The final grade will be determined as follows:

Participation/Attendance	10%
Assignments (5)	15%
Quizzes (4)	40%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

Grade Scale:

A	90 – 100%	B	80-89%	C	70-79%	D	60-69%	F	<60%
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Examinations:

- Students will be required to successfully complete all classroom examination.
- A rubric system will determine your competency/proficiency in sign language (during the mid-term/final exam).
- There will be no make-up quizzes or exams. Timely attendance is required for all quizzes and exams. Tardy students receive zero for the parts missed.
- **Final exam:** a cumulative final exam will be given on the day scheduled during the exam period. The final exam is mandatory and cannot be rescheduled.

Class Assignments:

- **Class Activity:** hand-outs, in-class exercises, lecture, reading, and video.
- **Participation/Attendance** - Active participation in class contributes to your learning and is an important factor in your grade. There are three aspects regarded in your daily participation: your contribution to the class, use of ASL and presence. While your presence is extremely important, just being present is not enough! Your participation in this course is measured by your daily level of preparedness, engagement in the learning process, spontaneous volunteering, respect for others and for the culture you are studying, and use of ASL. By the same token, if you are not in class, you cannot learn; so attendance and punctuality is imperative as is being attentive and focused in class.

ASLP105 adheres to a **Voices Off/ASL Only Policy** in order to replicate an immersion environment in the classroom, and allow students the opportunity to concentrate in ASL as a gesture-visual language, with a minimum of auditory distractions. Using your voice in class will affect your daily participation grade negatively. Your instructor will monitor your participation according to the following rubric.

PARTICIPATION RUBRICS	POINTS
Student is on time, fully engaged and participating. Only uses ASL in class.	5 points
Student is late or leaves early, but fully engaged and participating. Only uses ASL in class.	4 points
Student is partially engaged and participating. Only uses ASL in class.	3 points
Student is partially engaged and participating. Uses spoken English in class.	2 points
Student is late or leaves early and partially engaged and participating.	2 points.
Student is not engaged, participating or is absent. Excessively using spoken English.	0 points

Assignments: To be completed prior to the following session. Homework assignments must be turned in the class on the due day otherwise the grade will be zero. Either receptive or expressive assignment will be determined by an instructor.

Quizzes: Lowest of six scores will be omitted. Either receptive or expressive quiz will be determined by the instructor.

Exams: There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. Expressive only. There will be video-recording to examine expressive skill on both exams.



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Late and/or Make-up Policy for Coursework: Coursework is to be completed prior to the following session. There are no make-up quizzes or exams.

ASL Program: No-Voicing Policy: This is a no voice class. During class time, unless given permission, you should keep your voice off and not whisper nor rely on “exaggerated mouthing.” If other students *voice* to you, you should respond as if you couldn’t hear them and ask them (by signing) to communicate with you by signing or fingerspelling (or even writing on paper or the board). Review the participation rubrics to understand how your participation grade will be impacted by using spoken English in class.

Contact: E-mail is for communication only, primarily for questions or assistance with assignments. Please allow 2-3 days for an e-mail response. No assignment will be submitted via e-mail.

Department Policies:

Important Student Information Link

*In addition to course requirements and objectives that are in this syllabus, Montgomery College has information on its web site (see link below) to assist you in having a successful experience both inside and outside of the classroom. It is important that you read and understand this information. The **link below provides** information and other resources to areas that pertain to the following: **student behavior (student code of conduct), student e-mail, the tobacco free policy, withdraw and refund dates, disability support services, veteran services, how to access information on delayed openings and closings, how to register for the Montgomery College alert System, and finally, how closings and delays can impact your classes.** If you have any questions please bring them to your professor. As rules and regulations change they will be updated and you will be able to access them through the link. If any student would like a written copy of these policies and procedures, the professor would be happy to provide them. By registering for this class and staying in this class, you are indicating that you acknowledge and accept these policies.*

<http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/mcsyllabus/>

Academic Honesty: Montgomery College’s policies on academic dishonesty are found in the *Student Handbook* and under *Section VIII* of the *Student Code of Conduct* available at the following link: <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/pnp/#Chapter 4>. Each student is expected to do his or her own work. Any student found cheating or plagiarizing will be given an F for the assignment. If the same student is involved in a second incident of cheating, the case may be referred to the Student Discipline Committee, a grade of F for the course may be awarded, and/or the student may be dropped from the course.

Absence and Tardiness Policy: Attendance is fundamental in a language class, and excessive absence/tardiness will affect the participation grade. Any student arriving after class has begun is tardy. You are responsible for all work assigned whether you are present or absent.

Classroom Behavior: Please review the *Standards of College Behavior* in the *Student Handbook* or *Section VII* of the *Student Code of Conduct* available at the following link: <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/pnp/#Chapter 4>. The college seeks to provide an environment where discussion and expression of all views relevant to the subject matter of the class are recognized and necessary to the educational process. However, students do not have the right to obstruct the faculty member’s ability to teach nor the ability of other students to learn. The instructor has the right to



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determine appropriate conduct in the classroom, and it is expected that students will conduct themselves at all times in a manner that is respectful of their instructor and their peers.

Inappropriate behaviors include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Socializing with other students once class has begun.
2. Refusing to complete assigned tasks in the class or labs.
3. Sleeping in class, arguing with the professor or other students, showing disrespect towards the professor or other students, or disrupting the class in any way.
4. Using cell phones or texting during class.

Students who do not adhere to these policies will be asked to leave by the professor; if they do not comply, Security will be called. If a student repeatedly refuses to comply with classroom regulations, s/he will be referred to the Dean of Student Development.

Tutoring. American Sign Language tutoring is available free of charge in MT 020. For an updated schedule of World Language tutoring, call 240-567-7215 or 240-567-7457. You may also go to MT 020 to look at the posted schedule, or ask any staff member for assistance.

FERPA. The *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act* prohibits the instructor from discussing a student's grade and performance in the course with anyone but that student. All exceptions/allowances must be submitted in writing by the student.

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ASLP 105 - COURSE SCHEDULE

CLASS	DAY	DATE	DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	T	9/11	Syllabus Overview & Name Introductions	
2	R	9/13	Chapter 1: Déjà vu	
3	T	9/18	Chapter 1: Déjà vu & Chapter 2: 2D or Not 2D?	
4				Homework Exercise #1
5			Quiz #1	
6			Chapter 3: Your are about to enter another	
7			Chapter 4: Taking matters into your own hands	
8				Homework Exercise #2
9			Quiz #2	
10			Chapter 5: The right place at the right time	
11			Midterm Exams	
12			Spring Break	
13			Chapter 6: Lights! Camera! Action!	
14				
15			Chapter 7: All hands on deck	
16				Homework Exercise #3
17			Quiz #3	
18			Chapter 8: The more, the merrier	
19			Chapter 9: The great outdoors	
20				Homework Exercise #4
21			Quiz #4	
22			Chapter 10: The best story I've ever seen	
23			Quiz #5	Homework Exercise #5
24			Final Exam Review	
25			Final Exam	