American Sign Language III  
CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS  
ASL 2200 Section 01  
Fall 2015

**Instructor:** Gail Schenfisch, M.S.  RID IC, CI, CT,  QMHI (Qualified Mental Health Interpreter)

**Lecture Hours:** 4 hours  
**Lab Hours:** 0 hours  
**Credit Hours:** 4 credits

**Class Time:** 4-5:50 p.m.  
**Days:** T and Th  
**Room:** LH 284

**Office Phone 307-268-2588**  
**Home Phone:**307-234-3834  
**Email:** gasl@bresnan.net

**Office Hours:** M and T 10:00-11:30, W and Th 10-11:00 and as arranged

**Course Description:** This course will provide advanced level instruction in American Sign Language, fingerspelling, deafness and deaf culture. Emphasis will be on developing receptive and expressive language skills within the parameters of sign language using the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language 5 C’s to include: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons and Community. Advanced vocabulary and ASL grammar will be taught and reinforced through classroom presentations and activities, cultural models and visual media presentation. Discussions will focus on deafness, deaf history, current trends and related topics. The direct experience method (using ASL with no voice) will be used to enhance language acquisition.

**Statement of Prerequisites:** Successful completion (C or better) of CO/M 1220 or ASL 1220, and/or with instructor’s permission.

**Goal:** To apply conversational strategies and maintain conversation at an advanced level of communicative competency in American Sign Language. Students will develop proficiency in the reception, analysis, evaluation and interpretation of information and information sources through signed and oral communication and apply audience appropriate conventions to the preparation and presentation of signed communications

**Outcomes:** Students will:

ASL 2200 fulfills the Gen. Ed. requirement for Cultural Environment.

**Course Objectives:** Students will develop proficiency in the reception, analysis, evaluation and interpretation of information and information sources through signed and oral communication and apply audience appropriate conventions to the preparation and presentation of signed communication. Students will develop an appreciation and deeper understanding of deafness, the deaf community and its’ history, as well as be exposed to visual languages from around the world. Students will demonstrate the ability to discuss social and work topics in American Sign Language with responses generally 3-5 sentences in length with some confidence.

**Methodology:** Advanced vocabulary and ASL grammar will be taught and reinforced through classroom presentations and activities, cultural models and visual media presentation. Discussions will focus on deafness, deaf history, current trends and related topics. The direct experience method (using ASL with no voice) will be used to enhance language acquisition.
**Evaluation Criteria:** 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D 59 and below = F

Assignments & Quizzes, Midterm, Final Exam will be considered equally for grading purposes. All work in the class will be graded by points for each correct answer. Points will be averaged from the total number of possible points and the grade will be determined using the above criteria.

*Attendance* is critical. Students will be allowed up to three unexcused absences per semester. Each unexcused absence after three will result in a reduction of your final grade by 0.5 a letter grade. Beyond these absences, only a college sanctioned absence or medical absence will be excused (an official college or department excuse form or a note from your doctor will be necessary to excuse you. The note must be submitted by the next class meeting following your absence.) No absences of any kind will excuse you from class responsibilities. 3 absences = no grade reduction, 4 absences = a 0.5 reduction of your final grade, 5 absences = a 1.0 reduction in final grade

*Tardiness:* Attendance will be taken promptly at the start of class. If you enter the room after the roll call has been completed, you will be considered tardy. 3 tardies = 1 absence.

Assignments are **due on the posted date.** Assignments will be accepted one day late with reduction of one letter grade. It is the student’s responsibility to follow up with the teacher. **Late assignments after the grace day will NOT be accepted. No electronic submissions will be accepted.** Written receptive quizzes will be administered for each unit.

Casper College may collect samples of student work demonstrating achievement of the above outcomes. Any personally identifying information will be removed from student work.


*Sounds Like Home* by Mary Herring Wright Gallaudet University Press ISBN 1-56368-080

**Class Policies**

**Last Date to Change to Audit Status or to Withdraw with a W Grade:** See catalog.

**Cell Phone Policy:** All cell phones must be turned off and must remain in backpacks, purses, etc. during the class. For an already established emergency situation about which you may be expecting a call, the instructor must be notified before class begins.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Academic Dishonesty - Cheating & Plagiarism:** Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the
Casper College Student Code of Conduct. **Students plagiarizing any portion of work will be immediately withdrawn from class by the instructor.**

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly. This is also where you will find course evaluation links during course evaluation periods.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.

**Calendar or schedule indicating course content:** This syllabus is your guide for this course; specific information regarding assignments will be given in class. Assignments are subject to revision and/or deletion based upon the instructor’s assessment of needs and progress of the class working from the syllabus.
American Sign Language III
Student Calendar - Fall 2015
Tuesdays and Thursdays ASL 2200
Instructor - Gail Schenfisch, MS  RID IC, CI/CT, QMHI

WEEK 1  Aug 25 & 27  Unit 13  Locating Things Around the House
*topic/comment, ordinal numbers, reference points,
locative classifiers, semantic classifiers

WEEK 2  Sept 1 & 3  Unit 13  Locating Things Around the House

WEEK 3  Sept 7 & 9  Unit 13  Locating Things Around the House
Create ABC Story or shape story to present in class

WEEK 4  Sept. 15 & 17  Unit 14  Complaining, Making Suggestions & Request
*recurring, continuous signs, temporal aspect, inflecting
Verbs, role shifting, conditional sentences

WEEK 5  Sept 22 & 24  Unit 14  Complaining, Making Suggestions & Requests

WEEK 6  Sept 29-Oct 1  Unit 14  Complaining, Making Suggestions & Requests
Deaf History- A brief overview

WEEK 7  Oct 6 & 8  Unit 15  Exchanging Personal Information: Life events
*when clauses, phrasing for sequencing events,
contrastive structure, possessive forms, descriptive CL

The Hammer (Story of Matt Hamill – UFC Wrestler)

WEEK 8  Oct 13 & 15  Unit 15  Exchanging Personal Information: Life events
Food for Thought Activity night (Deaf Social-Cultural Experience)

WEEK 9  Oct 20  No class Fall Break
Oct 22  Unit 15  Exchanging Personal Information: Life events
Deaf Biography (rough draft on zip drive)

WEEK 10  Oct 27 & 29  Unit 16  Describing and Identifying Things
*descriptive CL, instrument CL, topic comment, NMM

Deaf Biography Recording due for class presentation

WEEK 11  Nov 3 & 5  Unit 16  Describing and Identifying Things

WEEK 12  Nov 10 & 12  Unit 16  Describing and Identifying Things

WEEK 13  Nov 17 & 19  Unit 17  Talking About the Weekend
*temporal sequencing: finish w/when clause, time signs
with durative aspect, element CL

WEEK 14  Nov 24  Unit 17  Talking About the Weekend

WEEK 15  Dec 1 & 3  Unit 17  Talking About the Weekend

WEEK 16  Dec 8 & 11  Food for Thought Activity night (Deaf Social-Cultural Experience)

Final Exam to match the published College Schedule

This schedule is a guideline for students (and the teacher). All assignments are due on their due date. No electronic submissions accepted
Course Assignments

Weekly Assignment
Students will submit weekly fingerspelling (25 words per week) using the following website – [http://asl.ms/]()(). Fingerspelling papers are due on Mondays at the beginning of class. This assignment will be worth 5 completion points. Fingerspelling speed ≥ fast

Response Paper – Observation of a Deafness Related Activity
During the semester you will be required to attend and participate in a minimum of one hour of a “deaf event”. You may attend more than one event. You must interact with at least one deaf or hard of hearing participant whom you don't already know. Using the information gleaned from your observation, write a full 2 page response paper telling about your experience. You will be asked to report back to the class about your experiences within a week of attendance. This report will be given in American Sign Language

Please refrain from mentioning specific names of participants in your paper or in class. Describe the person in a way that clarifies your story but respects the Deaf community's privacy. Also attach a “verification” of your attendance. Possible activities will be listed in class or may be approved by the instructor prior to attending. Do not wait until the last week to complete this assignment.

Deaf Biography Students will research a person (historic or current) who is deaf and has made a contribution to society. Students will prepare a signed 3 to 5 minute recorded presentation to share their research with the class. The week before the assignment is due students will review their rough draft of the recording in a private conference with the instructor. The final revised recording will be presented to the class. Information should include insight as to why the deaf person is noteworthy and what impact this individual had on deaf or hearing culture.

Sounds Like Home - Students will be reading the book and examining the author’s observation of life ‘growing up black and deaf in the south’. Students will be asked to journal their thoughts and observations as they read every three chapters. The journal will be due on a weekly basis.

Food for Thought Activity Night – Students will organize and host 2 signing potluck/activity nights to provide hearing and deaf community members the opportunity to socialize and interact in a communal gathering. This activity satisfies the ACTFL (American Council of Foreign Language Teachers) goal of Communities (#5.1 and #5.2) where students participate in multilingual communities by using the language both within and beyond the school and show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.