



Ohio Deaf and Blind Education Services

Statewide Services & Outreach



Welcome to ASL Online!

In this document, you will find information such as contact and course information, materials, grading policy, expectations, and the course syllabus. Please read carefully.

Course: Advanced American Sign Language 301-302

Teacher: Dr. Janel Kisner, Lead ASL Online Teacher

Contact: kisner@osdb.oh.gov.

Contact Information:

Welcome to ASL Online! I have been teaching in this program since 2013. I look forward to another year of learning with each of you! I am always available to answer any questions, provide support, and address any other concerns you may have. Please feel free to contact me at kisner@osdb.oh.gov. When emailing me, please address me as: Dr. Kisner, Dr. Janel, or Ms. Kisner.

Course Description:

In Advanced ASL 301 and 302, students will focus on the expressive format of ASL by presenting on a variety of topics and in a variety of styles. Themes may continue from early ASL classes, with advanced study in the natural world and STEM areas, food and business, education, college, careers, and medicine. Students also learn more about ASL storytelling and literature. You may view detailed lessons planned on the last page of this document. Themes for each quarter follow:

Plan of Study: (detailed outline on last page)

- Quarter 1: The Natural World and STEM
- Quarter 2: Food and Entrepreneurship, The Dinner Table and Celebrations
- Quarter 3: College and Education, Life, Travel, and Hobbies/Talents
- Quarter 4: Careers, Medicine and Health. For the last half, students spend 4 weeks focused on ASL Literature.
- Classifiers: The first week of each quarter focuses on using Classifiers.

Prerequisites & Advancement:

Students enrolled in Advanced ASL must have completed one year of ASL 2 with a minimum grade of 80% or higher within the last year. Students must have an 80% in order to move up to Advanced Plus.

Materials:

Materials are teacher-created and requires the use of:

- Schoology
- ASLdeafined
- Zoom
- Google Apps: Slides, Docs, Sites
- Canva
- Internet Access including various ASL Dictionaries and Resources, as well as some apps including Blooket, Kahoots!, and others as requested

Assignments, Exams, and Projects:

- **Assignments:** students have 3-5 assignments each week that allow students to improve their receptive and expressive skills, as well as critical thinking. Assignments include video expressive video narratives, group discussions, and/or video receptive assignments.
- **Exams:** At the end of each unit, students are given summative assessments that will measure your presentational and interpretive skills, cultural awareness, and grammar knowledge. Exams and projects may be incorporated into one exam or separated into individual assessments measuring each skill. On average, there are 3 exams.
- **Projects:** Students are assigned projects 3-4 times a year, focusing on a variety of topics related to Deaf Culture, ASL, Education, and other related topics.

Video Materials:

You are expected to watch the instructional videos provided in the weekly Module folders. Our instructional videos are either direct video uploads or recorded through Screencastify from YouTube. These videos are saved in our Google Drive.

Participation:

Students are expected to attend all video conferences each week. We meet twice a week. During class, you are expected to be engaged and ready to learn. Please be sure you are in a location with minimal distractions.

Course Expectations:

Courses in the ASL Online program are cumulative, in that the units and lessons build upon each other. Missing multiple classes can make it overwhelming and make it difficult to catch up. To be a successful student in ASL Online, you are expected to:

- Attend all video scheduled video classes
- Communicate with your ASL teacher if:
 - You are unable to attend class
 - If you are struggling with your assignments
 - If you have difficulty understanding her in class
 - For any other reason that you would like to discuss
- Show engagement in the conferences
 - Maintain eye contact
 - Participate in class activities

- Complete all assignments on time
- Review the week's vocabulary before our first session. Vocabulary is usually posted on the Friday before the week.
- Use your lab days to focus on completing your assignments and practice with your classmates.
- Use ASL at all times during conferences and lab days, with Voice-Off.

Grading Policy:

Advanced ASL is a one-year course. Assignments are scored using a rubric and are given a numerical grade. Your letter grade is dependent on your school's grading chart based on the numerical score. For example, if you have a 90%, for some schools that can be an A- or a B+. ASL Online does not give a grading scale for a letter grade. Grades for Advanced ASL are generally weighed in the following manner:

- Grammar & Culture 10%
- Interpersonal Communication & Participation 20%
- Interpretive Assignments 30%
- Presentational Assignments 30%
- ASLdefined Assignments 10%

Late Work:

As long as you complete your work, especially on time, the likelihood of you failing the class is minimal. Most students fail the class because they do not submit work, or submit it very late. Please review the late work submission policy below. Work submitted late may be scored up to based on accuracy:

- 100%: Work submitted on time
- 80%: Work submitted late
 - Weeks 1-3 submitted by end of Week 4, 80%
 - Weeks 1-3 submitted after Week 4, 0%
 - Weeks 4-8 submitted before Exam Week, 80%
 - Weeks 4-8 submitted after Exam Week, 0%

Schoology is available 24/7 from any computer and mobile device connected to the internet. Assignments are usually up for 7-10 days before the due date. If you think you will be out when assignments are due, you are responsible for making sure you submit work before you leave or from home.

Please try to submit work at least two days before the due date. This will help cushion any issues you may experience such as problems with uploading, internet outages, computer crashing, etc.

- **Excused absences:** Death in family, severe illness. Must be verified by your class facilitator, and work must be complete within 2 days of returning. In addition, you must communicate with the ASL teacher since some assignments may be locked after the due date.
- **Unexcused absences:** School closings, school holidays, school events, sports, field trips, college visits, computer crashes, weather, can't upload, etc.

- **School closings** due to weather are notorious in rural Ohio. During statewide weather closings, the ASL teacher may provide some flexibility in due dates.

Video Connection Class Recordings

The bi-weekly video connections are usually recorded and posted in Schoology. If you miss a video conference, you are responsible for watching the recording.

ASL Immersion Expectations:

Opportunities to interact in an authentic environment using American Sign Language is encouraged. Immersion in a signing environment helps ASL students build fluency and confidence in your signing. However, due to various school policies, we are not able to require you to attend any events. If you are able, please seek out Deaf-centered events and festivals, church-supported activities that include ASL, your local Deaf Community Services, local colleges and universities (ASL Club), Silent Coffee Chats, Deaf Night Out, and other Deaf and/or ASL related events.

ASLTA Honor Society

ASL Online is a member of the American Sign Language Teacher's Association (ASLTA), which includes access to the Honor Society for high school students. You may earn honor cords and/or medals for graduation. To receive ASLTA Honor Society honor cords and medals, you are required to do a specific number of volunteer hours in the Deaf community in order to earn these honors. Please refer to our ASLTA HS advisor, Ann Tracy-Parker, for more information at tracy-parker@osdb.oh.gov.

Plan of Study Outline on Next Page

Have a Great Year!

Advanced American Sign Language 3 Plan of Study

Lessons outlined below align with ASLdeafined lessons, or other teacher-created lessons posted in Schoology.

	STEM & Current Events	Food & Entrepreneurship / Home & Wellbeing	Education, Religion, Live, Travel, Activities	Careers, Medicine & Health, ASL Literature
Week	Quarter 1- 8 Weeks	Quarter 2- 8 Weeks	Quarter 3- 9 Weeks	Quarter 4- 9 Weeks
1	Classifiers DCL & ECL	Classifiers ICL & PCL	Classifiers LCL & SCL	Classifiers BCL & BPCL
2	Classifiers & Mouth Morphemes	*Dinner Table/ celebrations Mouth Morphemes 1	College courses, college 1	Professionals 4 Job skills
3	Weather	Cooking, Menu Items	Various cultural terms, religion 3	Medical terms
4	World	Restaurant 1	Life events 1	Medical emergencies
5	Ocean	Money 2, 3	Vacation (Adv+)	ASL Lit: ABC & Number Stories
6	Animals	*A night out	Bucket List, Airport	ASL Lit: Name & Handshape Stories
7	Science, Technology, technology for the Deaf	Business world, Professionals 4	Travel & Tourism	ASL Lit: Personal Narration
8	Exams & Projects	Exams & Projects	*Learning something new	ASL Lit: Folklore, Jokes, ASL Poetry
9		<i>Quarter ends before winter break</i>	Exams & Projects	Exams & Projects

Lessons are subject to change