

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ASL 100

Credits: 2

Course Title: Orientation to Acquisition of ASL as an Adult

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Presents a brief introduction to the U.S. Deaf Community, focusing on the differences in language and literature. Introduces many common "pitfalls" experienced by adults when acquiring ASL as a second language. Introduces students to the various ASL and IE curricular options offered at JSRCC. Lecture 2 hours per week

General Course Purpose

To introduce students to ASL as a foreign language and Deaf people as a community and cultural identity.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

None.

Course Objectives (Each item should complete the following sentence.)

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. describe at least one way in which ASL signers and American English speakers have different perspectives of the same phenomena.
- b. describe the phenomena known as "foreigner talk" and "contact signing" and how each impacts adults acquiring a second language.
- c. identify a form of ASL literature for which English has no parallel form, and identify a form of ASL literature for which there is a parallel form in English.
- d. identify the varying forms of manual communication, and identify each as either naturally occurring or contrived forms.
- e. describe, in general terms, how ASL developed, including the identification of at least one language to which ASL is linguistically related.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. ASL is the primary language used by members of the U.S. Deaf Community and it is a language separate from English.
- b. Manually coded forms of English (MCEs) are contrived and not naturally-occurring forms of communication.
- c. The difference between a communicator and an interpreter.
- d. Discussion of common pitfalls by adults acquiring ASL.
- e. A brief introduction to the literature and history of the U.S. Deaf Community.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): April 10, 2009