Blinn College  
Bryan/Brenham Campuses  
American Sign Language II  
(SGNL 1402/Section 01/A1/A2/A3)  

Spring 2010

Professor: Robyn J. Marcak Email: robyn.marcak@blinn.edu
Office: Academic Bldg 4/31 (Brenham)  
Academic Bldg  A262 (Bryan)  
Hours: M/W  9:00 am to 9:50 am (Brenham)  
T/Th 8:00 am to 9:00 am (Bryan)  
5:10 pm to 7:10 pm (Bryan)  
By Appointment
Office Phone: 979-209-7529  
Call me through Sorenson Video Relay Service if you need to get a hold of me.  
1) Dial toll free: 1-866-327-8877  
2) When asked, provide my full name and videophone number:  
   a) Robyn J. Marcak  
   b) 979-209-7529  
3) A Sorenson video relay interpreter will connect us.
Website: http://www.blinn.edu/brazos/humanities/rmarcak  
Links: http://www.aslpro.com http://netac.rit.edu/goals

Courses/Labs:  
M/W  SGNL 1402 01  10:00 -11:15am/11:25-12:15 pm (Wed)  
T/TH SGNL 1402 A1  9:10 -10:25 am/10:35-11:25 am (Thurs)  
T/TH SGNL 1402 A2  12:00-1:15 pm/1:25-2:15 pm (Thurs)  
T/TH SGNL 1402 A3  2:50-4:05 pm/4:15-5:05 pm (Thurs)
Classrooms:  
10:00 ACAD 7/WR (Brenham)  
9:10 ACAD 118/G227 (Bryan)  
12:00 ACAD 118/G227 (Bryan)  
2:50 ACAD 118/G227 (Bryan)

Course Description: SGNL 1402 and Student Learning Outcomes:  
This course is conducted, in the main, without voice. It focuses on sign vocabulary, numbers,  
fingerspelling, and deaf culture. Emphasis is placed on the enhancement of both receptive and  
expressive skills and on the application of rudimentary syntactical structure. There is a prerequisite:  
SGNL 1401 or permission of the instructor. It is a 3 hour class and it has 2 hour lab time. The credit  
contains 4 semester hours.

Course Objectives:  
In this course, the students will acquire the following areas:  
- receptive/expressive skills in ASL  
- facial expressions/body language in ASL  
- conversing familiar signs in ASL  
- various issues in the deaf culture and ASL  
- speed/clarity of brief conversations in ASL  
- grammatical structures in ASL  
- history of deaf education through ASL
Required Texts:
- **Signing Naturally: Level 1** (student workbook/videotape)  
  *Smith, Lentz, and Mikos*
- **ABC Basic Book**  
  *Humphries, Padden, and O’Rourke*
- **For Hearing People Only**  
  *Moore and Levitan*
- **A Journey into the Deaf-World**  
  *Lane, Hoffmeister and Bahan*

Required Materials:
- Binder with Dividers (5)
- Pens/Pencils
- Blank Videotape or Blank DVD (to film on your own for a project)

Tentative Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activities/Assignments:</th>
<th>Objectives/Details:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1/19 & 1/21 | Unit 7 (SN1)  
Lesson 13 (ABC)  
Read FHPO Ch. 66-70  
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2  
*go over exercises in Lesson 13  
Pre-test Worksheet | develop receptive/expressive skills  
understand grammar/cultural notes |
| 1/26 & 1/28 | Unit 8 (SN1)  
Lesson 14 (ABC)  
Read FHPO Ch. 71-75  
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2  
*go over exercises in Lesson 14  
*quiz over Unit 7/Lesson 13  
Lab: Bravo #9 | develop receptive/expressive skills  
understand grammar/cultural notes |
| 2/2 & 2/4 | Unit 9 (SN1)  
Lesson 15 (ABC)  
Read FHPO Ch. 76-80  
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2  
*go over exercises in Lesson 15  
*quiz over Unit 8 & 9  
*quiz over Lesson 14 & 15  
Lab: Bravo #10 | develop receptive/expressive skills  
understand grammar/cultural notes |
| 2/9 & 2/11 | Report #1 and Project #1  
*attend library to get articles  
*work on reports | identify deaf individuals/background experiences |
| 2/16 & 2/18 | Movie Day  
*Discuss the purpose of the movie and its goal in ASL  
*Support your ideas/opinions | recognize sign/identify correct answers |
2/23 & 2/25
*Units 7, 8, and 9
*Lessons 13, 14, and 15
(Test #1)

3/2 & 3/4
Unit 10 (SN1)
Lesson 16-17 (ABC)
Read FHPO Ch. 81-85
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2
*go over exercises 16-17
*quiz over Unit 10
*quiz over Lesson 16-17
Lab: Bravo #11

develop receptive/expressive skills
understand grammar/cultural notes

3/9 & 3/11
Unit 11 (SN1)
Lesson 18-20 (ABC)
Read FHPO Ch. 86-95
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2
*go over exercises 18-20
*quiz over Unit 11
*quiz over Lesson 18-20
Lab: Bravo #12

develop receptive/expressive skills
understand grammar/cultural notes

3/15-3/19
Spring Break

3/23 & 3/25
Unit 12 (SN1)
Lesson 21-22 (ABC)
Read FHPO Ch. 96-105
*watch VT/partners do Conv. 1 & 2
*go over exercises 21-22
*quiz over Unit 12
*quiz over Lesson 21-22
Lab: Bravo #13

develop receptive/expressive skills
understand grammar/cultural notes

3/30 & 4/1
*Units 10, 11, & 12
*Lessons 16-22
(Test #2)
demonstrate receptive/expressive skills
understand grammar/cultural notes

4/6 & 4/8
Movie Day
*Discuss the purpose of the movie
and its goal in ASL
*Support your ideas/opinions
recognize signs/gloss

4/13 & 4/15
Report #2 and Project #2 (on your own)

4/20 & 4/22
Mouth Morphemes/Conceptual Signs
*watch VT and take notes
Read FHPO Ch. 106-131
*quiz over Mouth Morphemes
Lab: Bravo #14 and #15
develop mouth morphemes when using ASL
**Course Requirements:**
First and foremost, this class will be what you make of it. Learning a visual language takes effort and persistence - it's unlike anything you've ever attempted. English and American Sign Language are two completely different languages! It is essential that you make every effort to attend EVERY class on time and participate in the class activities. This course utilizes visual stimuli to promote skills development. There is no way to make up an absence. There will be pre and post tests, projects, quizzes, reports, social events, tests and final exam.

**Grading Criteria:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*10 Quizzes</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*2 Tests</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*3 Deaf Social Events</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*6 ASL Conversations 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*6 Lab Assignments</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*1 Final Exam (including Post Test)</td>
<td>130 points</td>
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<td>*Pre Test</td>
<td>20 points</td>
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<td>*1 Group Participation in ASL</td>
<td>60 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*2 Worksheets</td>
<td>80 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*2 Reports</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*3 Projects</td>
<td>120 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>*1 Attendance Sheet</td>
<td>120 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) No Voice</td>
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<td>b) Participation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Use of ASL</td>
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**Total: 1330 points**
No talking or use of voice will be tolerated during class sessions. The skills to be developed in this class depend on visual perception and visual memory. The use of auditory clues inhibits this learning process for the person speaking and for those who are distracted by that person’s voice. In a true cross-cultural experience between those who are Deaf and those who are Hearing, it is important to respect a Deaf person’s position on the discriminatory use of voice in his/her presence. Every time you use your voice, 5 points will be docked each time your voice is used in class from daily grade (ex: used voice 3 times Monday night - 15 points docked). Using voice during test to help others cheat is a distraction, will result in immediate “0” as a final grade on that test.

Service Learning Project combines community service with classroom instruction or student club activities, focusing on critical, reflective thinking and civic responsibility to engage students. Service Learning programs involve students in activities that address local needs while developing their academic or professional skills and commitment to their community. If you do ASL/Deaf social events and workshops, you must have at least 10 hours of community service. Once you complete the project; you will receive a Blinn Certificate for recognition.

Blinn Policies:
(You should consult your Blinn Student Handbook for more details on the following topics).

Disability Policy: Students with documented disabilities may seek support from Blinn College’s Office of Disability Services (209-7251). Students are encouraged to contact this office as early as possible to initiate services. The student must then discuss requested accommodations with the instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

Incomplete Policy: A grade of “I” incomplete may be given ONLY in emergencies such as the serious illness of the student or a close family member. This grade is not for students who fall behind in their work. To receive an incomplete, the student must have satisfactorily completed all but one or two of the final requirements of the course. The instructor, student and division chair must all sign the incomplete contract. All work must be made up within 90 days of the course completion contract or zeros will be assigned for the incomplete work. The instructor will then average these zeros with the rest of the grades to compute a final course grade and will fill out a grade change and submit to the Division Chair.

W/WF/WP Policy: Students who drop a course prior to the official drop deadline in a semester will receive a grade of W. Students who drop after the official drop date will receive a grade of WF. A student may request of the instructor that this WF be changed to a WP, providing the student is passing on the day he/she drops the course. To change the grade, the instructor will fill out a grade change form with the Division Chair.

Scholastic Integrity Policy
Blinn instructors are responsible for maintaining scholastic integrity by refusing to tolerate any form of scholastic dishonesty. As academic honesty is stressed in all classes, there is no distinction between intentional and unintentional plagiarism. According to the Blinn College Student Handbook, violations of the Scholastic Integrity Policy “shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.” This handbook defines “plagiarism” as “the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work.” Blinn College stipulates that “collusion” is the “unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements.” Violations of the Scholastic Integrity Policy may result in a “penalty ranging from a grade of zero on the assignment/examination up to and including the imposition of an F for the entire course.”
Textbook Policy: The assigned textbooks are essential for your learning, especially in classes focusing on the study of the written word. You must provide yourself with the books from the very beginning of the semester. You are required to bring the textbook with you every day unless otherwise notified. You may not share the textbook during class or use photocopied pages instead of the book. Students who fail to bring the textbook to class will be penalized.

Civility Policy: Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others. If student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to arrange for this conference.

Attendance Policy: “The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students place themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student’s name appears on the roster, through final examinations. If a student has one week’s worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be sent an email by the College District requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. Should the student accumulate two weeks’ worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class.” Blinn College policy allows excused absences for two reasons: documented attendance at a Blinn-sponsored function or for a religious holy day.

Electronic Device Policy: “All the functions of all personal electronic devices designed for communication and/or entertainment (cell phones, pagers, beepers, iPods, and similar devices) must be turned off and kept out of sight in all College District classrooms and associated laboratories. Any noncompliance with this policy will be addressed in accordance with the College District civility policy (administrative policy). Additionally, any communication understood by the instructor to be in the nature of cheating shall have consequences in accordance with the section in this policy regarding academic dishonesty. Students exempted from this policy section will include active members of firefighting organizations, emergency medical services organizations, commissioned police officers, on-call employees of any political subdivision of the state of Texas, or agencies of the federal government. Exempted students are expected to set the emergency-use devices on silent or vibrate mode only.”

Email Account Policy: All Blinn students are provided a Blinn email account. Students should activate their accounts and check their email regularly, or have the Blinn email account set to an auto-forward for an email account that is checked regularly.

**NO FOOD OR DRINKS IN ANY CLASSROOMS OR LABORATORIES**

Humanities Division Policies:
Mid-term grades: Although not required by Blinn College, this Division does require that all instructors inform their students, in writing, of their standing at mid-term each semester.
Instructor/Course Policies:
Exams will have three parts: written (based on texts and lectures), receptive (teacher will sign material and you will write down the correct answers), and expressive (you and/or a partner will be videotaped during signing an assigned dialogue or demonstrate it in front of instructor).

If you are absent more than 4 times, you will be dropped from my class automatically. There is no way you can get back into my class. Be aware of that!

Make-up work/exams will only be allowed in cases of dire emergency in case of death in the family or emergency surgery only. Your make-up grade will be docked 25 points automatically from the grade you earned on make-up assignments based on the two cases mentioned above. Do NOT schedule doctor or dental appointments DURING my class times! At the instructor’s discretion, make-up exams and other assignments, if allowed, may be different from the original assignments.

Familiarize yourself with the texts, the videotape, and your classmates. I suggest you review your units before, during, and after they are assigned. Also, it is a good idea to team up with some of your classmates to practice what you are learning. Fingerspell every word you see! Use every sign you know! Practice, practice, practice!!!