San José State University  
Connie L. Lurie College of Education, Special Education Department  
EDSE 14B-01 (42294) – American Sign Language (ASL) II – Fall 2018

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Everett Smith  
Office Location: Sweeney Hall (SH) 221  
Email: everett.smith@sjsu.edu  
Phone: (408) 217-6289  
Office Hours: By appointment.  
Class Days/Time: Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:00PM – 1:15PM  
Classroom: Sweeney Hall (SH) 230  
Prerequisites: EDSE 14A or instructor consent.

Course Format

We meet in class twice a week, but all course materials such as the syllabus, lecture notes, assignments, and guidelines are to be found on the Canvas website. The URL for Canvas is http://sjsu.instructure.com. You are responsible for regularly checking our course site, as well as checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (Canvas and SJSU Email) at http://my.sjsu.edu to stay on track and learn of any updates.

Course Description

EDSE 14B is continuation of EDSE 14A. Covers additional basic vocabulary and grammatical structures, cultural and linguistic behaviors within the Deaf community and information about the Deaf community.

Course Content

The development and cultivation of receptive and expressive skills are absolutely crucial in successful acquisition of ASL. As per Signing Naturally lessons, the following skills will be covered: 1) Unit 7 – Identifying present people, and describing personal and lost items; 2) Unit 8 – Making requests, agreeing with conditions, and asking for advice; 3) Unit 9 – Discussing neighborhoods, describing a restaurant and neighborhood, and suggesting an eatery; 4) Unit 10 – Giving opinions about tendencies and personal qualities, and looking for a misplaced object; 5) Unit 11 – Discussing one’s knowledge and abilities, asking opinion about someone, making and canceling plans, and discussing personal goals; 6) Unit 12 – Narrating stories, describing changes to a clothing item, retelling placement of characters, rehearsing agreement verbs with role shift, and rehearsing role shift exchanges between characters.

Signing Naturally lessons also cover: Asking for a sign, fingerspelling (clothing-related words, U.S. states, and Canadian provinces; Producing year, phone, clock, money, and age numbers; Translating questions; Translating sentences with negations, “have,” “drive to,” “take to,” and “pick up”; Giving directions; Telling where items are located; Describing reactions; Greetings and leave-taking; Minimizing interruptions; Keeping others informed; Interrupting others.
Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate intermediate expressive and receptive proficiency in ASL for intermediate conversation with other signers.
2. Demonstrate intermediate knowledge and awareness of Deaf Community and Culture in contextual settings.
3. Demonstrate intermediate proficiency in, and understanding of, introduced vocabulary and grammar.
4. Reasonably express in intermediate ASL thoughts and ideas, and describe objects/concepts.
5. Use signs and facial expressions in a conceptually accurate fashion.
6. Comprehend, reproduce, and respond to (when applicable) statements and/or questions in intermediate ASL with reasonable accuracy.
7. Replicate intermediate ASL stories, and perform your own storytelling.
8. Center on meaning rather than individual signs during a conversation. In other words, understand the message as a whole rather than in parts.
9. Ask questions or using a sign in context to confirm/verify information.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


DVD should be included with the textbook. However, if DVD is damaged or not included, you may subscribe to the Signing Naturally online video library at https://www.dawnsign.com/subscribe/signing-naturally-7-12

Other - Technology

A computer with Internet connection is required. Additionally, a DVD player is strongly recommended for the interactive Signing Naturally DVD that should be included with the student textbook. The DVD or online video subscription is necessary for the completion of majority of homework assignments outside classroom.

Course Requirements and Assignments

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.” More details can be found from University Syllabus Policy S16-9 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf.

1. For optimized contribution to and alignment with course learning outcomes, please use only signs that are taught in class or covered in Signing Naturally workbook. While some of you might already possess some signing skills prior to taking EDSE 14A and 14B, fully utilizing the Signing Naturally and lecture content helps avoid ambiguity and confusion. The sign(s) you know might not match what is learned in this course. The development of receptive skills is of paramount importance. If you use sign(s) that you and your classmates did not learn in this course, your classmates might not be
able to understand you; therefore, communication as well as their developing reception would be hindered.

2. For a successful immersion in visual-based environment, do make every effort (challenge yourself) to **refrain** from mouthing English words, or using voice in any way, while signing. If your partner can hear you or read your lips, she/he will lose the opportunity to not only improve her/his receptive skills, but also lose the ability to pick up on new signs by a Deaf signer. It is a “sign” of disrespect, too.

3. It is highly impractical to attempt to speak, whisper, or mouth English and sign in ASL simultaneously. It does not improve, but can debilitate, ASL skills. In other situations, one does not speak two spoken languages at the same time.

4. Due to its roots in the English language, please keep fingerspelling to a minimum except when instructed, depending on lesson covered (names, cities, etc.). If you are not able to recall or I have not taught a sign for a concept/object, express/describe what you seek in another way.

**Assignments**

**Homework (ungraded)**
As part of regular review and study outside class, homework will be assigned at end of each class. These homework assignments are found in Signing Naturally workbook. Homework will not be graded. However, these assignments will provide an opportunity to drastically enhance receptive and expressive skills, as well as knowledge of ASL and Deaf Culture. Homework is also expected to increase class preparedness and participation, and improve performance on the exams. Participation and exams are graded.

**Participation (graded)**
I will assign in-class exercises/activities for participation points.

**Exams (graded)**

1. There are three production exams, which evaluate your signing skills. You will be provided with instructions about what to sign for each production exam.

2. Comprehension exams evaluate your ability to comprehend what is being signed to you. There are two of these exams. Study guide will be provided before each comprehension exam.

**Final Exam (graded)**

Final Exam: Exit Interview consists of one-to-one conversation with your instructor who will evaluate your ability to hold a brief conversation in ASL. This presents an opportunity to assess and review your first-level ASL knowledge and skills overall. More information will be provided closer to the end of the semester.

University policy on final examination can be found in **University Policy S17-1** ([http://www.sjsu.edu senate/docs/S17-1.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu senate/docs/S17-1.pdf)), which states that:

“There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean who has curricular responsibility for the course.”
## Grading Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points / Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production Exam 1</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehension Exam: Units 7 through 9</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production Exam 2</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehension Exam: Units 10 through 11</td>
<td>10 / 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production Exam 3</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15 / 15%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 / 100%</strong></td>
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### Grading Scale (point range = letter grade)

- 93% - 100% = A
- 90% - 92.5% = A-
- 87% - 89.5% = B+
- 83% - 86.5% = B
- 80% - 82.5% = B-
- 77% - 79.5% = C+
- 73% - 76.5% = C
- 70% - 72.5% = C-
- 67% - 69.5% = D+
- 63% - 66.5% = D
- 60% - 62.5% = D-
- 0% - 59.5% = F

**Extra Credit:** No extra credit offered in this course.

### Late Policy / Make-Up Exams

Make-up exams, early exams, and late assignments will only be permitted in extraordinary circumstances. Notify me immediately by email (preferred) or phone if you must miss an exam or an in-class activity. You must arrange for your make-up with me within one week of the time the exam was scheduled or otherwise you will not be able to take the make-up or early exam). If you need to take an early exam, you must notify me at least one week before the scheduled exam. It is your responsibility to contact me if you need a make-up exam, early exam, or make up a missed assignment. You will need to provide a university-approved verification to document need for these alternatives (e.g. written note from physician).

More guidelines on grading information can be found from the [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf).
Classroom Protocol

Attendance

“Participation in class activities is crucial to your success in this class. The class forms a small community and your effort or lack of impacts the success of the group. Please make every effort to come to every class with homework done and ready to learn and participate. If you know you will be absent from class make arrangements for a classmate to take notes and collect handouts for you.”
(Excerpt from Signing Naturally syllabus)

Note that University Policy F15-12 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf states that “Students are expected to attend all meetings for the courses in which they are enrolled as they are responsible for material discussed therein, and active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit to all class members. In some cases, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class. Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Attendance shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

Classroom behavior

I will always be respectful and considerate of my students’ needs, and I expect to be afforded the same courtesy. However, if I find a student or students engaging in distracting or disruptive classroom behavior that hinders other students’ opportunity to learn, I will have to ask the student(s) in question to leave the classroom. (They can come back in when ready to respectfully focus on ASL lessons.)

Tardy

1. Be on time for class. Late entrances can cause disruptions/distractions.

2. It is especially important to be on time for scheduled exams. Late arrivals may miss a significant if not entire part of the exam. This can negatively affect exam scores.

Communication

Our classroom adopts a visual environment that is as closely representative of the Deaf world as possible. We will rely on our ability to communicate visually and using our hands, body language, and facial expressions without using our voice. During each class session, please maintain a respectfully silent but vividly visual atmosphere for all who are here to learn ASL by giving your vocal chords a rest for an hour and fifteen minutes.

Keeping our voices turned off enable us to:

1. Experience what it is like for Deaf individuals who primarily rely on ASL to communicate.

2. Prepare our minds to immerse and function in a visual environment, with increased motivation to express ourselves in ASL in the absence of a spoken language.

3. Develop respectful awareness of, and communication etiquette in, the presence of Deaf signers.
Cell phones and other electronic devices

Please make sure your devices are turned off or in silent mode during class time. You can check your device outside the classroom especially in an emergency, but you risk missing a portion of the lecture/activity that may help your performance on an exam or exams.

Contacting Me

Email is the best and quickest method of communication for this course. I check my email often and will respond within 24 hours during weekdays. I generally do not respond to emails on the weekend unless it is an urgent situation.

- When you email me, it is helpful for you to include the course title in the subject line. I teach several classes and I have difficulty remembering what course you are in, especially at the beginning of the semester.
- Please feel free to schedule an appointment to meet me in my office when you have additional questions or need help.
- You may try calling me on the telephone, but if you need to leave a message, indicate who you are and how to contact you, as well as specifying the class you are taking from me.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/” Make sure to review these university policies and resources.

EDSE 14B-01 / American Sign Language II, Fall 2018 Course Schedule

Course Schedule (subject to change with fair notice)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/21</td>
<td>Introduction – Syllabus – Units 1-5 Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/23</td>
<td>Lessons 7.1, 7.2, 7.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Lessons 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8/30</td>
<td>Lessons 7.8, 7.9, 7.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>Lessons 7.11, 7.12, 7.13; Unit 7 Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/6</td>
<td>Lessons 8.1, 8.2, 8.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Lessons 8.4, 8.5, 8.6</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>9/13</td>
<td>Lessons 8.7, 8.8, 8.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Lessons 8.10, 8.11, 8.12</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>Lessons 8.13, 8.14; Unit 8 Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/25</td>
<td>Production Exam 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Lessons 9.1, 9.2, 9.3</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Lessons 9.4, 9.5, 9.6</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>10/4</td>
<td>Lesson 9.7, 9.8, 9.9</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Lessons 9.10, 9.11, 9.12</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Lessons 9.13, 9.14; Unit 9 Review</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/16</td>
<td><strong>Comprehension Exam: Units 7 through 9</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/18</td>
<td>Lessons 10.1, 10.2, 10.3</td>
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<td>10/23</td>
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<td>Lessons, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9</td>
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<td><strong>Production Exam 2</strong></td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>11/8</td>
<td>Lesson 11.3, 11.4, 11.5</td>
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<td>11/13</td>
<td>Lesson 11.6, 11.7, 11.8</td>
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<td>Lesson 11.9, 11.10, 11.11</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>Lesson 11.12, 11.13, 11.14; Unit 11 Review</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>11/22</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Holiday – Campus Closed</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>11/27</td>
<td><strong>In-Class Review for Comprehension Exam</strong></td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>11/29</td>
<td><strong>Comprehension Exam: Units 10 through 11</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>12/4</td>
<td><strong>Production Exam 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>12/14 (9:45AM – 12:00PM)</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
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<td>For the SJSU final exam schedule, please refer to <a href="http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-fall.html">http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/final-exam-schedule-fall.html</a></td>
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