

# American Sign Language I

## SGNL-1401

Summer II 2021 Section R01 CRN-40962 4 Credits 07/12/2021 to 08/09/2021 Modified 07/11/2021

### Meeting Times

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Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 10:00 AM to 1:20 PM, LIVE REMOTE

### Contact Information

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#### Instructor: Brent Ehrig

Email: [brent.ehrig@blinn.edu](mailto:brent.ehrig@blinn.edu)

Office: H 287

Phone: 979 314-7050

#### Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 1:30 PM to 2:00 PM

### Description

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80 total contact hours. Credit: 4 semester hours

This course is an introduction to American Sign Language and deaf culture. Students will acquire an understanding of multiple aspects of deaf culture, including its history, alphabet, vocabulary, correct grammatical structures, conversational behaviors, and social customs, consistent with requirements for a first-semester course at a four-year university. Four semester hours.

#### Requisites

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

#### Assessment

A variety of methods are used to determine effectiveness in this course, including the following: student scores on a course inventory test given during the first week of classes compared with the scores on the same inventory test given as part of the final exam; in grade distribution data derived from both campus-specific data and institutional data used to evaluate course content and presentation. Tracking into SGNL 1402

### Core Curriculum Statement

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This course is not a core curriculum course.

## Outcomes

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1. Demonstrate receptive-expressive skills in ASL.
2. Use facial expressions-body language in ASL.
3. Converse familiar signs in ASL.
4. Discuss various issues in the Deaf community and ASL.
5. Develop speed-clarity of brief conversations in ASL.
6. Identify grammatical structures in ASL.
7. Apply history of deaf education through ASL.
8. Describe appropriate behavior in Deaf Culture.

## Materials

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Materials required for all campuses:

*Signing Naturally Level 1*: Smith, Cheri, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos, student workbook / videotape. ISBN 9781-58121-2105

publisher DawnSign Press

publication date 5/28/2008

*For Hearing People Only*: Levitan and Moore. Edition 3

ISBN 9780963401632

publisher: M S M Productions, Limited

## Materials

Technology and Software:

- A computer (certain elements of this course cannot be completed on a phone, tablet, or Chromebook)
- Reliable Internet access
- Speakers, headphones, or earbuds
- A webcam with a microphone
- Google Chrome (download for free at <https://www.google.com/chrome/> (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2Fchrome%2F&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354535739&sdata=AeGfpe1PqbnOXIL6uwNhmSAAti%2BTuAK09wo%2ByMe2nAq%3D&reserved=0>))

## Course Requirements

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Online Course Integrity

Online Course Integrity

Humanities Division online instructors implement a variety of strategies to ensure scholastic integrity, including but not limited to

Turnitin originality checks, timed testing, Respondus LockDown browser, randomized test questions, ProctorU, webcam, Tegrity test capture, and/or completing coursework at approved testing centers. Individual instructors will provide more information.

## CONTACT HOUR REQUIREMENT

In compliance with ACGM and THECB rulings,

- face-to-face courses require a minimum of 48 contact hours per semester;
- blended courses require 49% (about 23) of those 48 hours to be face-to face and 51% (about 25) to be online hours;
- the number and type of contact hours per week are stated on the course reading and assignment schedule below; and
- in addition to in-class hours, all faculty post and keep regular office hours for individual consultations.

### Final Exam

The Final Exam is a comprehensive departmental exam that covers material in *Signing Naturally Level 1* and *For Hearing People Only*. No one will be exempt from taking it. The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time. No makeups will be given.

### Chapter Exams and Quizzes

There will be two major exams and quizzes as assigned on the dates posted by the instructor.

### Daily Evaluations (Daily Participation and Cultural Activities)

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, 2 points will be docked each time your voice is used in class from daily grade (ex: used voice 3 times Monday night – 6 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.

There will be opportunities for Service Learning, combining 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.

### Report

One report will be assigned and completed by the date assigned by the instructor.

### Projects

There will be three projects to be prepared and submitted by the students.

## ✓ Evaluation

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### Grading System

|   |           |           |    |                                    |
|---|-----------|-----------|----|------------------------------------|
| A | 90 – 100% | Excellent | I  | Incomplete                         |
| B | 80 – 89 % | Good      | Q  | Dropped                            |
| C | 70 – 79 % | Average   | QF | Dropped Failing                    |
| D | 60 – 69 % | Poor      | W  | Dropped for Good Cause or Withdrew |
| F | Below 60% | Failure   |    | College                            |

## Criteria

| Type                 | Weight | Topic                                       | Notes                                                             |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Group Participations | 5%     | FHPO Facts                                  | FHPO Group PowerPoint @ 25 points                                 |
| Worksheets           | 5%     | Transcriptions and Classifiers Worksheets   | 2 Each worksheet @ 20 points total of 40 points                   |
| Deaf Famous Person   | 5%     | Deaf Famous Person                          | 1 Activity on a Deaf Famous Person @ 50 points                    |
| Daily Grades         | 10%    | Attendance, Class Participation, Use of ASL | Daily Grades @ 3 points per day; 30 days times 3 points=90 points |
| Conversations        | 12%    | Short Conversations                         | 6 ASL 1 & 2 Conversations @ 20 points total of 120 points         |
| Labs                 | 16 %   | Speed/Clarify                               | 8 Labs @ 20 points total of 160 points                            |
| Unit Quizzes         | 9%     | Short Quizzes                               | 6 Each unit quiz @ 10 points total of 60 points                   |
| Projects             | 10%    | ASL Projects                                | 2 Major projects @ 45 points total of 90 points                   |
| Midterm              | 11%    | Units 1-3                                   | 1 Midterm @ 100 points                                            |
| Final Exam           | 17%    | Final Exam Units 1-6/Other Materials        | 1 Final Exam @ 100 points                                         |

## Blinn College Policies

All policies, guidelines, and procedures in the [Blinn College Catalog \(http://catalog.blinn.edu/\)](http://catalog.blinn.edu/), [Blinn College Board Policies \(http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204\)](http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204), and the [Blinn College Administrative Regulations \(https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/\)](https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/) are applicable to this course.

[Specific information on civility, attendance, add/drop, scholastic integrity, students with disabilities, final grade appeal, alternative retailers, campus carry and proctoring arrangements and cost. \(http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/\)](http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/)

Notice of any action taken under these protocol and procedures, by Blinn College or its employees, may be delivered by hand, through the U.S. Postal Service, or electronically to the student's Blinn Buc e-mail account. Notice shall be deemed received upon actual receipt, on deposit in the U.S. Mail, or upon entering the information processing system used by Blinn College for Blinn Buc e-mail accounts, whichever first occurs.

Information about the changes Blinn has made to the May Minimester, Summer I, and Summer II semesters: [Back with Blinn \(https://www.blinn.edu/back-with-blinn/index.html\)](https://www.blinn.edu/back-with-blinn/index.html).

## Humanities Division Policies.

# Humanities Division Policies

**Attendance and Absence.** To succeed in college, students are expected to attend class regularly. Instructors will keep accurate records of student attendance, and students are responsible for contacting instructors promptly regarding necessary absences. Attendance is determined by the following College policies in conjunction with the stated instructor policy (refer to Instructor Policies below).

- **Traditional and Blended Classes:** Students are expected to attend during class time, whether they are scheduled to be in the physical classroom or in the virtual classroom using Zoom. Any student who has been exposed to COVID-19, feels ill in any way, or does not feel comfortable attending class in person should notify the instructor and attend class remotely using Zoom.
- **Live Online Classes:** In Live Online classes, students are expected to log in to eCampus and attend class using Zoom during the scheduled class time.
- **Fully Online Classes:** To be counted present in fully online classes, students must not only log in to eCampus but also complete the minimum specified work by the scheduled due dates. Refer to the Instructor Policies and the Course Schedule for details.

Sometimes students may be unable to attend class at the scheduled time, especially if they are extremely ill or caring for

someone who is ill. In these situations, students are responsible for communicating with their instructors in a timely manner; students also should be able to provide documentation, like a letter from a doctor, to substantiate the reasons for the absence. Blinn's health clinics are located on the Brenham, Bryan, and RELLIS Campuses and provide free health services to all current Blinn students throughout the College District, including online students: <http://www.blinn.edu/health-clinic/index.html> (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.blinn.edu%2Fhealth-clinic%2Findex.html&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354535739&sdata=NfJsqMvmWmxO%2Bgh6%2BcnU%2FUCwiRrr5yfEmAfdwVn3fKM%3D&reserved=0>). The stated instructor policy (below) in conjunction with the College's [Attendance Policy](#) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.blinn.edu%2Fsyllabus-policies%2F&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354545731&sdata=nnq70jVmtuNvKd3WNdnSWPoeLJ7%2BZvl9ibJbjkXIBfk%3D&reserved=0>) will determine whether a given absence is excused, whether a student is allowed to make up any missed work, and what the student should do to continue to make progress in the class.

**Dropping the Class.** Students who want to drop a class are responsible for dropping themselves. Students can drop a class by clicking the Add/Drop button in myBlinn. Students who need to withdraw from a class for medical reasons or military service should contact Blinn's Enrollment Services (979-830-4800). More information about dropping can be found in the [College Catalog](#) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcatalog.blinn.edu%2Fcontent.php%3Fcatoid%3D4%26navoid%3D118%23important-information-related-to-adding-dropping-deadlines-of-courses&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354545731&sdata=q4DsN59erXoRYtTd7CngF160LQqAukyA5wdlN46ZdzE%3D&reserved=0>). For classes in the 1<sup>st</sup> 8-week term, the last day to drop a class with a grade of Q is Friday, October 2; for classes in the 16-week and 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week terms, the last day to drop the class with a grade of Q is Monday, November 30.

**Face Masks.** In accordance with CDC guidance, Blinn requires all individuals on campus to wear face masks or cloth face coverings that cover both the nose and mouth when in the presence of others. Therefore, all students must correctly wear face masks while attending in-person classes. Some individuals may not be able to wear a cloth face covering due to a pre-existing medical condition or other disability. Students should contact the [Office of Disability Services](#) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.blinn.edu%2Fdisability%2F&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354555725&sdata=B2%2BBFqxWGBluKJKX9TV3n4zox8AK8vsUjBw1NseUcy4%3D&reserved=0>) to request an exemption. Students without accommodations who do not correctly wear a face mask or other appropriate face covering will be asked to leave class. If a student continues to refuse to wear a mask or face covering, he or she will be subject to the College's [Incivility Protocol Procedure](#) (<https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fcatalog.blinn.edu%2Fcontent.php%3Fcatoid%3D10%26navoid%3D335%26hl%3Dincivility%26returnto%3Dsearch%23incivility-protocol-procedure&data=02%7C01%7Civaldez%40blinn.edu%7Ca0892b25111243c0c73f08d835030400%7C60448a85d0074d57a583bfec98e99c29%7C1%7C0%7C637317634354555725&sdata=8mjaVWknlhUrcR4z7w0rCeobpnUMaQZN7B2FJk2A%2BnM%3D&reserved=0>).

**Health and Safety.** To support the health and safety of everyone on campus, students and faculty will follow all social distancing guidelines and other recommendations provided by the CDC to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Every week, students and faculty must self-certify that they do not have COVID, do not have COVID symptoms, and have not been exposed to COVID. In the event that members of a class need to self-isolate or a room needs to be closed for cleaning, the class will continue to meet online using Zoom at the scheduled class time for the period recommended by the CDC. In these circumstances, students will be notified that they do not need to attend class in person and will instead attend class remotely. Furthermore, starting Monday, November 30, all class meetings will take place live online for the remainder of the semester. Closures, changes in class meeting locations, and other information about health and safety will be announced via email by the instructor or the College, so students should check eCampus and their Buc email accounts regularly for updates.

**Papers.** To maintain physical distancing, instructors will neither distribute nor collect papers in class. The course syllabus as well as instructions, prompts, and other course materials will be posted on eCampus for students to access. Students in all classes will submit all major writing assignments to a Turnitin-enabled dropbox through eCampus. All other assignments must be submitted online according to the instructor's requirements.

**Attendance, Absenteeism, and Makeup Work.** To succeed in college, students are expected to attend class. Instructors will keep accurate records of student attendance, and students are responsible for contacting instructors promptly regarding necessary absences.

Attendance in online classes is determined by the stated instructor policy (refer to Instructor Policies below). To be counted present in an online class, students must not only log in but also complete the minimum specified work. The stated instructor policy in conjunction with College policy will determine whether a given absence is excused and whether a student is allowed to make up missed work

**Academic Honesty.** Academic integrity is taught and enforced in all division classes. Plagiarism and other dishonesty will not be tolerated, whether intentional or not. Academic dishonesty includes

- submitting another person’s work as one’s own,
- failing to credit research sources in one’s papers,
- copying or sharing items on a test or exam,
- resubmitting work from another class (without explicit instructor permission),
- colluding inappropriately on an assignment, and/or
- submitting falsified documents such as doctors' notes.

While deliberate intellectual theft signals a lack of respect for oneself and others, careless or accidental plagiarism shows the student has not understood and followed guidelines for academic writing.

As part of the grading process, students in this division submit all major papers through a similarity detection service. An instructor who suspects academic dishonesty will call a conference with the student to clarify the issue. If a student has been found in violation of the Scholastic Integrity Policy, the student’s name will be forwarded to the Blinn College Student Conduct Database.

If the student has previously been cited for plagiarism at the College, a grade of F in the course will be assigned, even if the student decides to drop the course. If it is the student’s first offense, the instructor will decide whether to allow the student to rewrite the paper for a reduced grade or to assign a grade of zero.

If you are having difficulty with an assignment, please get legitimate help from your instructor, the Writing Center, your handbook, or a classmate rather than resorting to plagiarism. The short- and long-term consequences are simply not worth it. Please see the [College Catalog](#) for current policy and appeal statements.

**Proctoring Requirement for Online and Blended Courses.** In order to maintain high academic standards, Blinn College requires that a minimum of one major assignment worth at least 10% of the total course grade must be proctored.

Because final exam integrity is essential, the Humanities Division requires that all online and blended courses proctor their final exams. Additional proctoring for exams, quizzes, and other major assignments will be determined by the instructor.

In this class, the following assessments are required to be proctored:

Example

| Proctored Assessment | Type of Proctoring                       |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Exam 1               | Honorlock                                |
| Exam 2               | Honorlock                                |
| Exam 3               | Honorlock <i>or</i> Blinn Testing Center |
| Composition I        |                                          |
| Composition II       |                                          |
| Final Exam           |                                          |

- Honorlock uses AI technology to monitor your testing session. Blinn College pays for access to Honorlock, so there is no direct cost to students at exam time. **Students must have a reliable high-speed internet connection, a webcam, and a microphone (if the webcam does not have one); students also must use Google Chrome to take the exam. Click [here](#) for an overview of Honorlock.**
- Proctoring through a Blinn Testing Center is available for free on all five campuses: [Brenham](#), [Bryan](#), [RELLIS](#), [Schulenburg](#), and [Sealy](#). Refer to the Testing Centers' websites and your eCampus class for detailed information about policies, hours, and how to arrange to take an exam at one of these locations.
- In-person proctoring by the instructor. [IF YOU ARE USING THIS OPTION, PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION.]

**Medical Excuses--Bryan Campus.** Students must inform their doctors' offices or clinics that their instructor might call to verify a medical excuse. If the appointment cannot be verified, the excuse will not be accepted. Falsifying such documents is prohibited under the Blinn College Discipline Code. Penalties for violating this code can include measures such as suspension or permanent expulsion from the College. **Students who do not see a doctor may also see the Blinn College nurse at the Health Clinic (Science Building, 209-7269) who can write notes for them to verify their illness.**

**Student e-mail accounts:** Blinn College assigns every student an email account to facilitate official College correspondence. Students need to check their Blinn accounts regularly for important communications, including excessive absence reports and emergency announcements.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT POLICIES

### Make-up Work for Assignments

1. If a test or composition is missed, the student will need an original, authorized excused absence when he or she returns to class. Leaving a recorded telephone message or sending an email to the instructor **does not** constitute an excused absence. It is necessary to speak directly with the instructor, preferably during his or her office hours.
2. An authorized excused absence consists of a Blinn College sponsored event (requires an official letter); or a letter from a doctor or funeral home stating a) reason for absence, b) date of absence, c) length of absence, d) signature of doctor, etc., and e) a phone number or email address of the doctor's office or of the funeral home. If students miss class because of religious holy days, they should let the instructor know prior to the occasion. This request should be accompanied by a letter from a religious leader or organization.

The instructor reserves the right to evaluate each excuse. If an excuse is refused, the student will be given a "zero" for any assignment due that day. For each excused absence requested, the instructor will have the student fill out a petition with the appropriate documentation attached, i.e., a doctor's excuse.

**Students who miss more than 2 major assignments will receive zeros for these even if they present a valid excuse.**

The final grade will be the result of the student's performance during the whole semester. There will be **no extra credit assignments, nor is a curve given on assignments or tests to raise the final grade at the end of the semester.**

In summer classes, the student may be administratively withdrawn after three unexcused absences.

## \* Course Policies

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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).

**Make-up work will only be allowed in cases of dire emergency in case of death in the family or emergency surgery only. You will have to turn in your make-up work by next class.**

**Students who miss class are responsible for finding out the assignments missed from other classmates. Please do not contact the**

instructor for assignments. It is necessary to get some email addresses and phone numbers from some of your classmates for this purpose.

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!!!

## Schedule

| <i>Weeks:</i> | <i>Dates:</i> | <i>Assignments:</i>                                                      | <i>Notes:</i>                           |
|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| July<br>1     | 7/12 - 7/13   | Unit 1 (SN1)<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #1<br>Lab:<br>Pre-Test                 | Chapters 1-15                           |
| 1             | 7/14 - 7/15   | Unit 2 (SN1)<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #2<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases               | Chapters 16-30                          |
| 2             | 7/16 & 7/19   | Unit 3 (SN1)<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #3<br>Project #1<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases | Chapters 31-45<br><br>Project Due:_____ |
| 2             | 7/20          | Movie:_____<br>Read FHPO<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases                           | Chapters 46-60                          |
| 3             | 7/21          | Library Day<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases                                        |                                         |



|   |             |                                                                                                  |                                                  |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 3 | 7/22        | Midterm Exam                                                                                     | Project Due:_____                                |
| 3 | 7/23 & 7/26 | Unit 4 (SN1)<br>Project #2<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases                                                 | Chapters 61-75                                   |
| 3 | 7/27 -7/28  | Unit 5 (SN1)<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #5<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases                                       | Chapters 76-90                                   |
| 3 | 7/29- 7/30  | Unit 6 (SN1)<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #6<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases                                       | Project Due:_____<br>Last Day to Drop with a "Q" |
| 4 | 8/2         | Transcriptions W.S.<br>Classifiers W.S.<br>Read FHPO<br>Quiz #7<br>Quiz #8<br>Lab: Idioms/Phases | Chapters 91-130                                  |
| 4 | 7/3         | FHPO W.S.                                                                                        |                                                  |

|   |     |                                                                                                                                  |                   |
|---|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 4 | 8/4 | Parameters:<br>a) Handshape<br>b) Location<br>c) Movement<br>d) Palm Orientation<br>e) Non-Manual Signals<br>Quiz #9<br>Quiz #10 |                   |
| 4 | 8/5 | Student Conference<br>Check Answers on FHPO                                                                                      |                   |
| 4 | 8/6 | Review for Final Exam<br>Post-Test                                                                                               | Last Day of Class |

**Final Exam will be given on Monday, August 9th at 10:00 am – 12:15 pm**

**Contact Hours per week = 20**

**Total Contact hours = 80**