Introduction to American Deaf Culture

Grades: 7 - 12

Day(s) of Week: Monday
Time of Class: 1:00-2:30 pm ET
Length of Class: 10 weeks
Semester: Winter 2019
Tuition: $300.00

Class Dates:
January 14
January 21
January 28
February 4
February 11
February 18
February 25
March 4
March 11
March 18
Make Up Week: Week of March 25 (if a teacher needs to cancel)

High School Credit: 1 Elective Credit

Instructor’s Name: Selena Robinson
Instructor’s Email: selena@lookwerelearning.com

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. EST

Description of Class:
Can hearing people be a part of the Deaf community? Why are cochlear implants so controversial? Are Signed Exact English, American Sign Language, and Pidgin Sign all the same thing? In what ways are Deaf people and people with disabilities similar and different? What type of careers can I obtain working with Deaf people?

These are a few of the many questions we will answer this semester. This course is designed to introduce you to the most important aspects of the American Deaf experience. We will expose the history, contributions, and contemporary lives of Deaf people in America.

Using an interdisciplinary approach, we will address topics such as the diversity of Deaf people, Deaf cultural norms, Deaf arts, and Deaf international communities. This course will provide you will a foundation in which future Deaf Studies classes will expand.
Class Approach:
This class will primarily follow a lecture-style approach. However, students will be asked to participate during class discussions and should follow along with the intention of contributing regularly.

Goals:
To understand the composition, concerns, and history of the Deaf community in America. Students will also learn about societal norms and customs that are followed by Deaf communities in other parts of the world.

Textbook:
An Introduction to American Deaf Culture by Thomas K. Holcomb
Available from Amazon.com: http://amzn.to/2DGDKaf

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:
N/A

Requirements:
Class attendance is VITAL to students’ success in this class, especially as new signers. While your teacher is your primary resource, students will find that they will learn from each other as well.

Class Homework:
There will be three graded homework assignments after each class.

Homework Policy:
Homework should be submitted by the deadline. Please check the assignment details for each project.

Grading Policy:
The final grade for this course is calculated based on your ON-TIME completion of the course assignments and the final exam.

Written Class Assignments: 20%
Class Quizzes: 20%
Class Discussions: 20%
Final Exam: 40%

Homework Policy:
To receive an A in this class, you must complete all homework and submit it by the deadline.

Grading Scale:
Percentages/Grades
100-90: A
89-80: B
79-70: C
69-60: D
59 – 0: No effort: F
## Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

### Winter 2019

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<thead>
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Syllabus review / Introduction</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What is Culture?</td>
<td>Chapter 2: Culture Defined</td>
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<td>January 21</td>
<td>Deaf People</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Who Are the Deaf People</td>
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<td>Accepting Deafness</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Deafhood: A Personal Journey</td>
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<td>January 28</td>
<td>What is Deaf Culture</td>
<td>Chapter 5: Early Definitions of Deaf Culture</td>
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<td>What is Deaf Culture – Today?</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Deaf Culture Redefined</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>The Role of ASL</td>
<td>Chapter 7: ASL – The Language of the Deaf</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
<td>Art in the Deaf Community</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Deaf Lit</td>
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<td>Chapter 9: Deaf Art</td>
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<td>February 18</td>
<td>Deaf Manners and Customs</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Rules of Social Interaction</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Life in the Deaf Community</td>
<td>Chapter 11: The Vibrant Deaf Community</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Culture Vs. Disability</td>
<td>Chapter 12: The Collision Between Culture and Disability</td>
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<td>Chapter 13: Diversity In the Deaf Community</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>Deafness and the Future</td>
<td>Chapter 14: The Universality of the Deaf Experience</td>
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<td>Ch. 15: The Future of the Deaf Community</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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