

Common Course Outline
ASLS 213
Fingerspelling & Number Use in ASL
3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

ASLS 213 – Fingerspelling & Number Use in ASL introduces students to appropriate methods for using fingerspelling and increases receptive and expressive skills development. Students focus on appropriate use of numbers in American Sign Language (ASL), including cardinal and ordinal systems, numeral incorporating systems, and other independent classes of signs. Throughout the course, students monitor skills using self, peer, and instructor evaluation and feedback.

3 Credits

Prerequisite: ASLS 203 with a minimum grade of ‘C’ or higher

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. create fingerspelled words and signed numbers using the appropriate handshape, orientation, location, and movement;
2. construct transitions from one manual letter to another;
3. construct specific lexicalized fingerspelling;
4. recognize fingerspelled words, special abbreviations, loan signs, and signed numbers in various rates of fingerspelling and from various angles;
5. demonstrate increased expressive and receptive fluency in fingerspelling and numbers;
6. describe the cognitive processes involved in producing and understanding fingerspelling;
7. demonstrate increased understanding of ASL grammatical incorporation of fingerspelling;
8. evaluate fingerspelling and number signs on video;
9. employ prediction skills to support comprehension; and
10. produce narrative structures using appropriate rules for fingerspelling conventions.

Major Topics

- I. Learning theory of reception preceding expression
 - A. Rapid serial visual representation
- II. Recognizing configuration, cloze and context clues for improving receptive skills
- III. Fingerspelling rules for expression
- IV. Coordination with mouth movement
- V. Rules and context with ASL number systems

- VI. Lexicalized fingerspelling
 - A. Eight types of modifications to full fingerspelling
 - B. Context specific usage
- VII. Receptive and expressive skill development
 - A. Single lexical items
 - B. Embedded in sentences
 - C. Embedded in signed discourse

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Grading/exams

- A minimum of one videotaped story project including fingerspelling and numbers with a written self-evaluation
- A minimum of one in-class presentation
- A minimum of eight homework assignments using commercial and/or college produced videos for receptive practice
- A minimum of one research paper focusing on fingerspelling topics
- A minimum of four quizzes
- A comprehensive final examination including both receptive and expressive skills

Written Assignments: Students are required to utilize appropriate academic resources.

Other Course Information

This course is a required course in the Associate of Arts in American Sign Language and Deaf Culture within the Communication Arts Department and is taught in American Sign Language. Students will use video technology to record their work and receive feedback from the instructor. Students must have access to a webcam and computer for homework assignments.