****

**WBUOnline**

**School of Languages and Literature**

**Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement:**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

# ****Course Name:****

ENGL 1479X (ASL 1401) Beginning American Sign Language I

## ****Full Name of Instructor:****

**Dr. Janellkay Brigham**

* **WBU Email Address: janellkay.brigham@wayland.wbu.edu**
* **Office Hours:** by appointment
* **Class Meeting Time and Location**: Various days and times

## Catalog Description:

Introductory course focused on initial development of receptive and expressive language skills in American Sign Language. Additional emphasis given to the communicative aspect of acquiring a language.

## ****Prerequisite:****

**None**

## ****Required Textbook and Resources****: [*www.signlanguage101.com*](http://www.signlanguage101.com)

## ****Course outcome competencies****:

Upon the conclusion of this course, students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. Express, negotiate, and interpret meaning in the target language on a beginner level.
2. Use and understand basic vocabulary and grammar in the target language.
3. Engage in basic conversations, such as giving commands and directions, using the target language.
4. Exhibit a basic understanding of Deaf Culture.

The more the student puts into the course, the higher his or her outcome competencies will be.

## ****Attendance Requirements****:

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings.  All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up.  When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director.  Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course.  Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

Discussion Assignments:

Discussions are meant to have to think and mull over topics that may be new to you. You will be required to participate in the Discussions and follow the directions given. They will post on Sundays and will be due the following Sunday by 11:59pm CST.

## Expressive Assignments:

You will be asked to sign videos to me. It is best to not wait until the last minute for these assignments. Work on them a little every day and then post before the due date. It is strongly suggested to practice the assignments throughout the week. At the beginning of EACH video, please state your name in sign language. (You will learn how in the first week).

## Exams/Quizzes:

These will be objective assessments testing your ability to understand ASL and the culture information presented through this course. These may be receptive or written quizzes and tests.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

**In order to learn ASL and be able to communicate, you need to practice the language. This means you need to consistently practice receptive and expressive signing throughout this course.**

**When watching the website, please turn down the volume. I want you to be able to read the captions but not depend on your hearing and expose you to this part of the Deaf culture. When recording and learning ASL, you should aim to be in a quiet place so that one language does not distract from you learning a visual/spatial language with no auditory component.**

## Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

## ****Disability Statement****:

“In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.”

**“Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”**

## ****Schedule (Week dates posted in Announcements)****:

| **Week** | **Assignment** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Discussion: “Deaf-friendly” cities  Watch Lesson 1 and ABC’s |
| 2 | Expressive Story 1: Introduce yourself and create a story using the gestures and signs in Lesson 1/ fingerspelling. You may not know the grammar, this should mostly be gestural in nature except for the spelling of your name. |
| 3 | Discussion: “Residential Schools”  Watch Lesson 2 |
| 4 | Expressive Story 2 use Lessons 1-2  Quiz 1  Watch Lesson 3 |
| 5 | Discussion: “How English Influences ASL”  Quiz 2  Watch Lesson 4 |
| 6 | Expressive Story 3 use Lessons 2-4 |
| 7 | Discussion: “The Milan Conference”  Watch Lesson 5 |
| 8 | Expressive Story 4 use Lessons 2-5 |
| 9 | Discussion: “Kimby Caplan”  Quiz 3 |
| 10 | Expressive Story 5 Use everything learned so far and create a story that is 2 minutes in length. |
| 11 | Exam |