



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE  
PROGRAMS

## American Sign Language IV

PST 304-01

Term, three credits, Date

---

### Instructor Information

Name:

Office Location:

My office hours are:

You can reach me at [first.last@gallaudet.edu](mailto:first.last@gallaudet.edu)

### Course Information

*This course is a continuation of PST 303, comprehension and production skills emphasizing on complex grammar, short stories, narratives, and interactive use of the ASL. The student will continue a study in depth about the Deaf community and Deaf culture globally.*

**Prerequisite:** ASL III with a grade of "B", or equivalent and permission of program coordinator.

### ASL<sup>2</sup> Programs Mission Statement

*Gallaudet University's ASL<sup>2</sup> Program is dedicated to providing an exemplary array of comprehensive and interactive curricula for individuals interested in learning American Sign Language (ASL) as a second language or foreign language. Using direct instruction and immersion in ASL, augmented by written English and visual learning supports, the program's instructors engage learners in acquiring and developing increasing levels of proficiency in*

*expressive and receptive use of the language. They also guide student's exploration of the development of the language, its complexities and relevance in American Deaf communities.*

## Gallaudet University Student Outcomes

Gallaudet University's Student Learning Outcomes are:

1. **Language and Communication** - Students will use American Sign Language (ASL) and written English to communicate effectively with diverse audiences, for a variety of purposes, and in a variety of settings.
2. **Critical Thinking** - Students will summarize, synthesize, and critically analyze ideas from multiple sources in order to draw well-supported conclusions and solve problems.
3. **Identity and Culture** - Students will understand themselves, complex social identities, including deaf identities, and the interrelations within and among diverse cultures and groups.
4. **Knowledge and Inquiry** - Students will apply knowledge, modes of inquiry, and technological competence from a variety of disciplines in order to understand human experience and the natural world.
5. **Ethics and Social Responsibility** - Students will make reasoned ethical judgments, showing awareness of multiple value systems and taking responsibility for the consequences of their actions. They will apply these judgments, using collaboration and leadership skills, to promote social justice in their local, national, and global communities.

## Program & Course Outcomes

<b>ASL<sup>2</sup> Program Student Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>GU SLOs</b>
1. Students will demonstrate the ability to comprehend and express ideas in ASL in person and through digital technologies. (ACTFL 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 5.1)	1 and 3
2. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of ASL as it is used in other academic disciplines. (ACTFL 3.1)	1, 2, and 5
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of Deaf communities through comparisons of ASL and their own languages and cultures. (ACTFL 2.1, 2.2, 4.1 and 4.2)	1, 2, 3, and 5

<b>ASL<sup>2</sup> Program Student Learning Outcomes:</b>	<b>GU SLOs</b>
4. Students will demonstrate understanding of the benefits of learning ASL and becoming bilingual or multilingual. (ACTFL 3.2)	1, 2, 3, and 5

Note: The program outcomes are modified from "Learning Outcomes for American Sign Language Skills Levels 1-4" authored by Kim Brown Kurz, Ph.D. and Marty Taylor, Ph.D. which is based on American Council for Teachers of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards for foreign language.

**The American Sign Language IV (ASL 304) Outcomes** and their relation to the ASL<sup>2</sup> Program Outcomes and Gallaudet University SLOs, along with the assessment projects and tools, can be found in the following chart:

<b>ASL 304 Course SLOs</b>	<b>Assessment Project for each SLOs</b>	<b>Assessment Tool(s)</b>	<b>ASL2 Program SLOs</b>	<b>GU SLOs</b>
<i>Comprehend and express oneself with intermediate ASL vocabulary and correct grammar in person and through digital technologies.</i>	<i>Pair and group exercises, and/or presentations</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklists and using ASL rubrics for comprehension and production skills at intermediate level.  Target level of B or better in assessments.</i>	<i>1 and 2</i>	<i>1 and 2</i>
<i>Engage, debate and exchange information and perspectives on topics of Deaf culture and related products in group settings successfully at intermediate level.</i>	<i>Debate in classrooms and/or presentations.</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklist and/or using ASL rubrics at intermediate level.  Target level of B or better in assessments</i>	<i>3 and 4</i>	<i>1, 2, 3 and 5</i>
<i>Engage in discussion and exchange more information and perspectives on topics of other disciplines in person and group settings.</i>	<i>Inclusion of other disciplines in the unit quizzes and/or class exercises.</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklists, and/or using ASL rubrics for the knowledge of other disciplines at intermediate level.</i>	<i>1, 2 and 3</i>	<i>1</i>

<b>ASL 304 Course SLOs</b>	<b>Assessment Project for each SLOs</b>	<b>Assessment Tool(s)</b>	<b>ASL2 Program SLOs</b>	<b>GU SLOs</b>
		<i>Target level of B or better in assessments</i>		
<i>Compare and contrast students' languages and cultures with those of Deaf communities on grammatical and discourse structures, and cultural products, practices and perspectives at intermediate level.</i>	<i>Inclusion of language and cultural comparisons, in quizzes, midterm and/or final exams.</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklists, and/or using ASL rubrics for understanding of comparisons with other language (s) and culture(s) at intermediate level</i>  <i>Target level of B or better in assessments</i>	<i>3 and 4</i>	<i>1, 2, 3 and 5</i>
<i>Ability to articulate and demonstrate intermediate grammatical features that make ASL a complex human language.</i>	<i>Unit quizzes, class exercises, short presentations, and/or video reflection.</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklist, and/or using ASL rubric for production skills at intermediate level.</i>  <i>Target level of B or better in assessments.</i>	<i>1, 3 and 4</i>	<i>1 and 5</i>
<i>Engage and converse information and share perspectives with the Deaf community members at the intermediate level.</i>	<i>Attendance of two Deaf events.</i>	<i>Assignment-tied checklist, using ASL rubric for production skills at intermediate level.</i>  <i>Target level of B or better in assessments.</i>	<i>1, 2, 3, and 4</i>	<i>1, 3 and 5</i>

### Textbooks, Materials & Activities

- *Smith, C., Lentz, E., & Mikos, K. (2001). Signing naturally – Level 3. Student Set. San Diego, CA: DawnSignPress. ISBN: 978-1-58121-135-1.*
- *GoReact Student Account ([www.goreact.com](http://www.goreact.com), \$19.99)*

The following activities are what you can expect to do:

- Use of BlackBoard ([mygallaudet.edu](http://mygallaudet.edu))- use your Gallaudet's Account to login
- Use of GoReact.com ([www.goreact.com](http://www.goreact.com))

All students registered for ASL courses will use GoReact. GoReact is a web-based tool for recording video assignments and for your instructors to provide video feedback and instructions. This is easy to use and very helpful for this Spring. The cost is \$19.99 per course. Please wait for the invitation link from your instructor. When you click on the link, you'll be prompted to register and pay with your credit card OR bookstore code.

## Course Expectations

1. **Course Format:** This course consists of engaging in class discussions, activities and viewing online lectures as well as academically-related videos in ASL.
2. **Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to actively participate by attending class and completing assigned activities, participate in class discussions, serve in groups, complete assignments on time, respect diverse perspectives and opinions, and support your opinions and answers with reasons, explanations and documentation from a variety of sources.
3. **Classroom Etiquette:** Basic classroom etiquette includes turning off external electronic devices that may interfere with class participation, arriving on time for class, staying the entire period and avoiding behavior that interferes with the concentration, and learning of other students. Attention should be given to the instructor, guest speakers and fellow students.
4. **Expectation for Communication in on-campus course:** Since ASL is a visual language, use of spoken English or of speaking and signing simultaneously ("sim-com") is not allowed during the course session including breaks. Students using voice or signing/voicing simultaneously will be asked to leave the classroom until the next class with no exceptions. This will be counted as unexcused absence.
5. **Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class. You are expected to arrive on time and stay the entire class period. You will be allowed three absences. After your three absences have been used, you will lose ten percent from your overall course grade for each class that you miss, regardless of the reason. (If you had four absences and you received 93% for your final grade, you would end up with 83% after losing ten percent due to one over-the-limit absence.) Two tardy constitute an absence.
6. **Peer Network:** Each student is responsible for getting access to and understanding what is expected of each assignment. Please form a strong network with your peers. If you miss a class, go to Blackboard for assignments and ask other classmates to learn about what you missed.
7. **Deadlines:** Assignments will not be accepted past due dates. Allowance will be made in the event of inclement weather or an unforeseen situation on the instructor's end.

8. **Class Discussions:** Instructions are to be followed meticulously. Missed class discussion will be counted as zero. Late submissions will not be accepted unless an agreement was communicated with your instructor 24 hours in advance.
9. **Office appointments:** Please email me if you'd like to meet with me at a specific time, and I will be sure to make myself available for you. Please keep your appointments with me, and if you have to cancel, please email me.
10. **Inclement weather or any cancelled classes:** If the university closes for any reason or if the class is cancelled unexpectedly, please check your Gallaudet email and the announcement in Blackboard for further instructions.
11. **Course evaluation:** You will be required to complete the course evaluation before you will be able to receive your final course grade.

### **On-Campus Credit Hours:**

This course is a 3-credit course, which means that students are expected to do at least 112.5 hours of course-related work or activity during the semester. This includes lecture/discussion meetings as well as time spent completing assigned activities, studying for tests and examinations, participating in lab sessions, preparing video assignments and other course-related tasks. In addition to this, please include the consideration that this is also for college credit.

<b>Student workload expectations for 3-credit online courses</b>	<b>In-Class hours</b>	<b>Outside-of-class hours</b>	<b>Total hours</b>
<i>Term courses meeting 2 hours and 40 minutes per week for lecture/discussion</i>	37.5	75	112.5

\*Additional information on credit hour compliance can be found here:

<https://www.gallaudet.edu/academic-catalog/registration-and-policies/undergraduate-policies/semester-credit-hour.html>

## *Assignments*

**GoReact Assignments:** In this course, there is in total of four GoReact assignments. To be able to receive a grade for your video assignment, submission through GoReact is the only acceptable way. Every GoReact video length varies, however, the maximum of minutes for all videos is three minutes. If GoReact renovates and prevents you from submitting your video assignment on time, please email your instructor, explain the situation and share YouTube link.

**Unit 18 Assignment:** The ASL video work is to narrate a prank that involves an object or liquid with another person. Due before class on due date.

**Unit 21 Assignment:** This assignment is to share your incident with horse, bicycle or any transportations introduced in the unit. Due before class on due date.

**Unit 19 Assignment:** Telling the facts that you find so interesting to you are the objective of this ASL video work. With this assignment, you will also include percentages and fractions to apply the facts. Due before class on due date.

**Unit 20 Assignment:** This ASL video work is a focus on the rules you live by daily. You will explain about the one mistake you made with driving rules in this assignment. Due before class on due date.

**Deaf Events:** *Attending two Deaf community events in the vicinity area is mandatory to immerse yourself in an ASL signing environment and utilize vocabulary, grammar and cultural behavior learned in the class. To earn a satisfactory grade, the video should include the following list:*

1. A summary of the event
2. Report your findings and/or experience
3. Your reflective thoughts.

**VLOG (Video Blog):** *Watch, review and react to one VLOG focusing on Deaf related issues. A list of VLOGs will be provided by your instructor in Blackboard under ASL Resources.*

**Quizzes:** *Quizzes vary depending on units taught in the class but all will be submitted through GoReact. In all quizzes, comprehension and production skills will be evaluated along with linguistic and historical knowledge of the language. The dates of quizzes are posted in the course schedule. The details of each quiz are posted under Quizzes tab on the left column in Blackboard. The video content will be organized according to the rubrics provided in the Blackboard.*

**Class Presentation:** *This individual presentation focuses on introducing a culture to the class. You may choose any of the cultures in the world and educate about its rules and customs.*

*You are expected to do a heavy research about the culture and ensure that you provide the proper information in a respected manner. This group presentation should be three to five-minute long. Students are expected to maintain the proper grammar structure, topical vocabulary, and cultural information acquired throughout the course this semester. Class presentation guideline and rubric are provided under the tab named Class Presentation on the left column in Blackboard.*

### Grading

*The final grade will be determined by averaging the grades earned for each evaluation given.*

<i>GoReact Assignments (4)</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Deaf Event (2)</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>VLOG (1)</i>	<i>5%</i>
<i>Quizzes (3)</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>Class Presentation</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100%</i>

\*To take the next level of language study course, the final grade must be B (85%) or above.

*The final course grade is based on percentages:*

<i>93</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>A</i>
<i>90</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>A-</i>
<i>87</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>B+</i>
<i>83</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>80</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>B-</i>
<i>77</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>C+</i>
<i>73</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>C</i>
<i>70</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>C-</i>
<i>67</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>D+</i>
<i>60</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>D</i>
<i>0</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>F</i>

### **Incomplete Grade**

*A grade of incomplete (INC) is given when a portion of a student's required coursework has not been completed and evaluated at the end of the semester due to illness, or other unforeseen, but fully justified reasons, and earning credit is still possible. When this is the case, the INC form (available electronically at Faculty Center in Bison), including required supporting*



documentation and signatures, must be submitted to the Registrar's Office before the last day of classes. A student will not receive an incomplete grade for poor, incomplete, or failing work, or willful non-attendance of class. Students with an INC grade must complete the coursework and receive a grade by the end of the seventh week of the following traditional semester. Incomplete grades given during summer school must be removed during the following fall semester. Otherwise, the "INC" grade automatically becomes an "F". The time for removing an incomplete grade may be extended one time. The student must petition for an extension prior to the deadline following the report incomplete. The student must have the approval of the course instructor, program coordinator, and department chair of the school in which student is enrolled.

## Policies and Procedures

**Student Grievance Procedure:** Complaints about course grade must first be resolved through your instructor, then the program coordinator, the department chair, the school dean and the Provost in that order until a resolution is reached. You will be asked if you complied with this procedure when filing a grievance.

**Student Withdrawal Request:** If you need to withdraw from the course for any reason, you will need to contact our program coordinator. There will not be any refunds for course withdrawals.

**Instructor Contact Expectation:** You may expect a response from your instructor within 24 hours of initial contact.

**Students with Disabilities:** Requests for all accommodations must be made through the Office for Students with Disabilities. Additional information about OSWD and accommodation requests can be found here: <http://www.gallaudet.edu/oswd-the-office-for-students-with-disabilities.html>

## Academic Integrity Policy Statement

Gallaudet University has an official Academic Integrity Policy. Its entirety can be found on the Registrar's home page in the 2013-14 GU Undergraduate catalog at <http://www.gallaudet.edu/catalog.html>

## *Syllabus Amendment*

*The information in this syllabus is subject to change in extenuating circumstances. Changes to the course syllabus will be provided to the students in writing within one week prior to the event.*