

*BVSD World Languages Course Outline*  
**American Sign Language I**

**Course Description:**

This class is an introduction to American Sign Language. Students build vocabulary and focus on the basic shifts to ASL grammar. Students carry the thread of an ASL story, read simple conversation without the aid of hearing or speaking the human voice, and have a strong grasp of reading and signing all vocabulary words (a minimum of 1,000). They master the reception and production of the manual alphabet and shift conversations into silent mode to build reception and syntax.

**Course Beliefs:**

We believe that our students must be prepared to face the challenges of an increasingly pluralistic society. Acquiring a World Language will equip them to participate in our global community and empower them to meet the challenges of the 21st century:

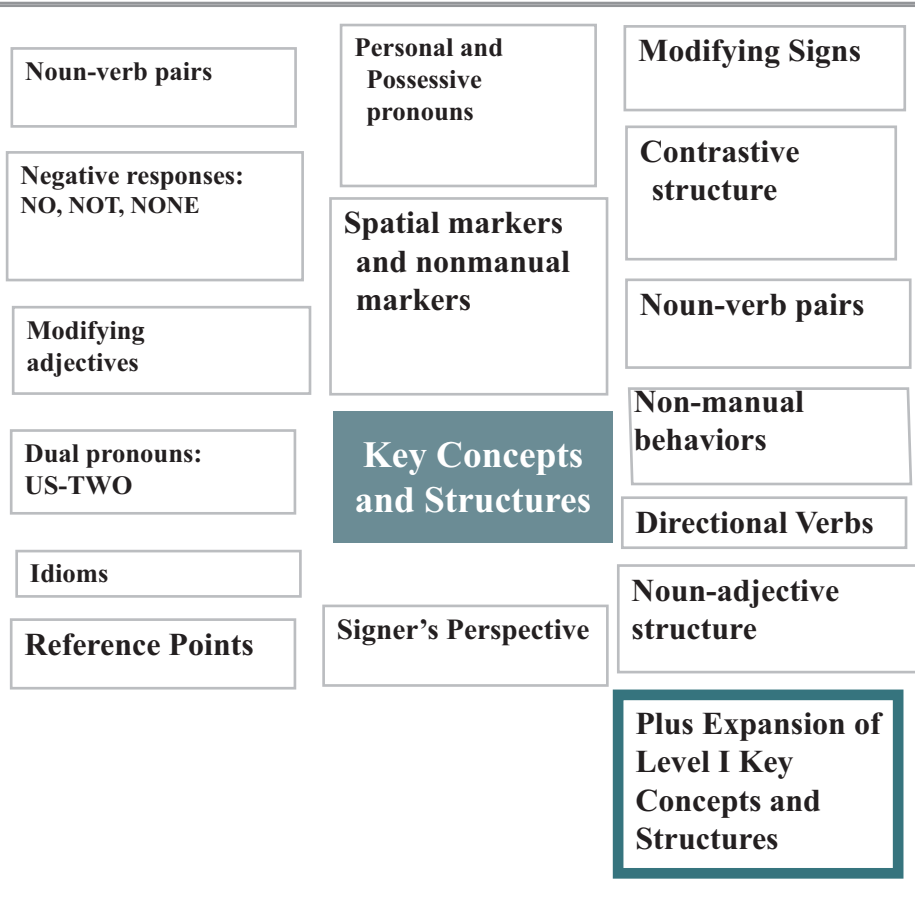
- **Lifelong Learning** -- The skills required to acquire a World Language are basic to the learning process.
- **Higher Achievement** -- A higher level of skill is demanded of all workers in a global community.
- **Economic Necessity**-- In order to ensure our own future, we must be able to communicate with the rest of the world.
- **Multicultural Perspective** --World Languages open doors not only to other languages, but also to other cultures, people and lands.

**Instructional Strategies:**

- Identifying similarities & differences
- Summarizing and notetaking
- Reinforcing effort and recognition
- Homework and Guided Practice
- Nonlinguistic Representations
- Graphic Organizers
- Cooperative Learning Groups
- Providing Feedback
- Generating and testing hypotheses
- Cues, questions, and advance organizers
- Formative & Summative Assessment

**Standards:**

1. *Communication:* Communicate in American Sign Language.
2. *Culture:* Gain knowledge and understanding of American Deaf Culture and the Deaf World.
3. *Connections:* Connect with other disciplines and acquire information in ASL.
4. *Comparisons:* Develop insight into the nature of language and culture.
5. *Communities:* Participate in multilingual communities, at home and around the world.



**Level I Topics:**

1. Alphabet
2. Classroom Objects
3. Clothing
4. Colors
5. Daily Activities
6. Days, Months, Dates & Time
7. Family
8. Foods & Beverages
9. Greetings, Farewells & Personal Information
10. Numbers
11. Places & Locations
12. Seasons & Weather

**Student self-assessment:**

Based on the **Standards, Topics and Key Concepts and Structures** listed here, students should ask themselves ...

1. Can I understand and communicate in American Sign Language?
2. Can I explain the American Deaf culture?
3. Can I connect my knowledge of American Sign Language to other disciplines?
4. Am I developing insight into my own language and culture through American Sign Language?
5. Do I participate in wider communities of American Sign Language and culture?

**Alphabet:**

- Use fingerspelling and ASL appropriately to communicate.
  - Uses the four parameters of sign production
  - Negotiates the signing environment using appropriate non-manual behaviors (facial expression, body posture, spatial organization).
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* All Topics
- 🌐 *Culture:* Discusses why ASL has its own culture

**Classroom Objects:**

- Interprets and presents information related to the classroom objects using names, colors, and size
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Colors; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Numbers, Places & Locations
- 🌐 *Culture:* Personal supplies

**Clothing:**

- Identifies and presents information related to clothing in terms of different types, shopping, color, cost, size, and appropriateness based on daily activities.
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Colors; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Family; Numbers; Places & Locations; Seasons & Weather

**Colors:**

- Uses colors to describe objects and present information regarding likes and dislikes
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Classroom Objects; Clothing; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Family; Foods & Beverages; Numbers; Places & Locations

**Daily Activities:**

- Students' daily activities
  - Daily activities of others
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* All Topics
- 🌐 *Culture:* Sports

**Days, Months, Dates & Time:**

- Interprets and presents information about the days of the week and the months of the year
  - Interprets and presents information about events, holidays, activities, and celebrations.
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* All Topics
- 🌐 *Culture:* Appropriate food and drink during certain seasons, holidays and occasions

## American Sign Language I

### Learning Experiences & Performance Indicators

Using the three skills of **listening, speaking, and reading** students will be able to understand and communicate knowledge of these topics in context of culture

**Family:**

- Description of immediate family
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Clothing; Colors; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Foods & Beverages; Greetings, Farewells & Personal Information; Numbers; Places & Locations
- 🌐 *Culture:* *Similarities and differences*

**Foods & Beverages:**

- Common foods and beverages
  - Basic opinions
  - Description
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Colors; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Family; Numbers; Places & Locations; Seasons & Weather
- 🌐 *Culture:* Discusses menus at typical holiday celebrations and special events; describes how to order and pay in restaurants.

**Greetings, Farewells & Personal Information:**

- Interprets and engages in a variety of greetings.
  - Exchanges appropriate personal information
  - Describes, interprets, and engages in a variety of farewells
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Family
- 🌐 *Culture:* Appropriate gestures and forms of address used

**Numbers:**

- 0-100
  - Use of numbers in dates, time, counting, telephone numbers, addresses, currency, shopping, ages, etc.
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* All Topics
- 🌐 *Culture:* Currencies; exchange rates; Metric and English systems

**Places & Locations:**

- Common building names, *e.g.* library, museum, store, station
  - Common geographic words, *e.g.* lake, mountain, park, state, country
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Classroom Objects; Clothing; Colors; Daily Activities; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Family; Foods & Beverages; Numbers; Seasons & Weather
- 🌐 *Culture:* Visits to places and locations for business and pleasure

**Seasons & Weather:**

- Names of seasons
  - Different kinds of weather
- 🗨️ *Connecting Topics:* Alphabet; Clothing; Daily Activities; Foods & Beverages; Days, Months, Dates & Time; Numbers
- 🌐 *Culture:* Similarities and differences; holidays

## American Sign Language I Performance Indicators

Topic	Communication	Culture
Alphabet and History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses fingerspelling and ASL appropriately to communicate.</li> <li>• Uses the four parameters of sign production..</li> <li>• Negotiates the signing environment using appropriate non-manual behaviors (i.e., facial expression, body posture, spatial organization).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discusses why ASL has its own culture.</li> </ul>
Classroom Objects Clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and presents information related to the classroom objects using name, color, and size.</li> <li>• Identifies and presents information related to clothing in terms of different types, shopping, color, cost, size, and appropriateness based on daily activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes personal supplies used in the classroom.</li> </ul>
Colors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses colors to describe objects and present information regarding likes and dislikes.</li> </ul>	
Daily Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and presents information about daily activities.</li> <li>• Interprets and presents information related to the daily activities of others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explains the importance of small groups to Deaf culture.</li> <li>• Describes the importance of physical proximity in different settings.</li> </ul>
Days, Months, Dates, and Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and presents information about the days of the week and the months of the year</li> <li>• Interprets and presents information about events, holidays, activities, and celebrations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes appropriate food and drink during certain seasons, holidays, and occasions.</li> </ul>
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchanges information about the immediate family.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiates the ways the deaf and hearing cultures give information about their families.</li> </ul>
Food and Beverages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and presents information about common foods and beverages.</li> <li>• Describes food likes and dislikes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes how to order and pay in restaurants.</li> </ul>
Greetings, Farewells, and Personal Infor- mation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and engages in a variety of greetings.</li> <li>• Exchanges personal information about self.</li> <li>• Describes, interprets, and engaging in a variety of fare-wells.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiates the signing environment using appropriate non-manual behaviors.</li> </ul>
Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and uses numbers 0-100 in the context of age, date, time, counting, telephone numbers, addresses, currency, shopping, and prices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses the English system of measurement.</li> </ul>

## American Sign Language I Performance Indicators (continued)

Topic	Communication	Culture
Places and Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets, and presents information about common building names including library, museum, store, and station.</li> <li>• Interprets and presents information about common geographic words including lake, mountain, park, state, country.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes locations for business and pleasure.</li> </ul>
Seasons and Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interprets and presents information about the weather.</li> <li>• Describes the seasons in the context of weather, clothing, food, time, and activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes seasons in context of holidays.</li> </ul>

## Key Concepts and Structures

- Personal and Possessive pronouns
- Noun-adjective structure
- Negative responses: NO, NOT, NONE
- Contrastive structure
- Modifying signs
- Modifying adjectives
- Non-verb pairs
- Dual pronouns: US-TWO
- Non-manual behaviors
- Noun/verb pairs
- Spatial markers and nonmanual markers
- Reference points
- Signers's perspective
- Directional verbs
- Idioms