



## **School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies** **CERTIFICATE IN DEAF STUDIES: TEACHING NZSL**

### **DEAF 801, Deaf Culture and Society** **Course Information**

#### **1. Trimester dates**

Teaching module dates                      15 Feb – 19 Feb 2010  
Final assessment in this course          April 1 (no external exams)

#### **2. Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

#### **3. Staff**

**David McKee**, course coordinator & lecturer  
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**Rachel McKee**, lecturer  
Von Zedlitz 317  
Email: [rachel.mckee@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:rachel.mckee@vuw.ac.nz)

#### **4. Class times and rooms**

Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm. End 4pm Friday.  
Old Kirk 301

#### **5. Announcements and additional information:** In class and by email

## 6. Aims & Delivery

This course will build a foundation of knowledge about Deaf community and culture for students in the *Certificate in Deaf Studies: Teaching New Zealand Sign Language*. It introduces social issues and cultural themes in the Deaf community in New Zealand and overseas. The course includes the following topics: Deaf people in society, membership of the Deaf community, Deaf identity, language issues in the Deaf world, values, beliefs, arts and other aspects of Deaf culture. Course delivery is in NZSL, designed for members of the Deaf community. Learning activities include lecture, discussion, readings, student presentations, daily homework tasks, assignments.

## 7. Objectives

*Students who pass this course will be able to -*

1. explain why Deaf people form a minority community in NZ society and societal factors affecting Deaf people's lives
2. explain two models of Deaf community membership
3. describe elements of a culture and give examples of material, social, and conceptual aspects of Deaf culture
4. describe how deaf education has influenced Deaf people's social status and identity
5. explain the development and role of NZSL in the Deaf community

## 8. Content

The course will cover the following topics, as detailed in the course book:

- Deaf People in Society
- Deaf Education and history
- Deaf Identity
- Values in Deaf Culture
- Social Norms and Communication Behaviours
- Tools and Technology of Deaf Culture
- Aspects of the Deaf World (Bonding forces, and Diversity)
- Language in the Deaf Community

## 9. Materials

**Required:** DEAF 801 Course Book and DVD notes  
*NOTE: coursebooks and DVDs will provided in class (NOT at bookshop)*

### Recommended extra readings:

*People of the Eye: Life Stories from Deaf World.* Rachel Locker McKee, Bridget Williams Books, 2001

*Talking Hands, Listening Eyes: The history of the Deaf Association of New Zealand.* Pat Dugdale, Deaf Association of NZ, 2001.

*A Journey into the Deaf World* Harlan Lane, Robert Hoffmeister, & Ben Bahan. San Diego, Dawn Sign Press, 1996

*Being Deaf: The Experience of Deafness* G. Taylor & J. Bishop (Editors), London, The Open University Press, 1991

*Deaf in America: Voices from a Culture* Carol Padden & Tom Humphries, Harvard University Press, 1988 (Available in library; call mark HV2545 P123 D)

*Outsiders in a Hearing World: A Sociology of Deafness* Paul Higgins, Beverly Hills, Sage Publications, 1980 (Available in library; call mark HV2395 H636 O)

*When the Mind Hears* Harlan Lane, Random House 1984. (Available in library; call mark HV2530 L265 H)

## 10. Assessment:

Your work in the course will be internally assessed as follows:

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Test (in class, written, one hour)                                | 25% |
| 2. Assignment 1 (in NZSL: 8 minutes videotape, or English 800 words) | 35% |
| 3. Assignment 2 (in NZSL: 8 minutes videotape)                       | 40% |

### Due Dates

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Test         | Friday Feb 19, in class 1.30pm               |
| 2. Assignment 1 | Postmarked by Monday March 8 <sup>th</sup>   |
| 3. Assignment 2 | Postmarked by Thursday April 1 <sup>st</sup> |

**Note** that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last two weeks of the trimester, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration.

## 11. Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

Assessment in DEAF 801 will help you review and show what you have learned in the course. The final grade will combine three pieces of work in which you will demonstrate that you understand concepts about Deaf culture and community. The Test will assess your understanding of information studied in class relating to all Objectives. In Assignment 1 you will explain and relate a model of the Deaf community to your own experience (objective 2). In Assignment 2 you will make a formal presentation about a topic on Deaf Culture (all objectives). Assignment details will be given out in class.

## 12. Penalties

Assignments handed in late may be penalised (marked down half a grade) unless a medical certificate is provided in the case of illness, or other genuine circumstances are explained to the course lecturer before the due date. If you are having problems with an assignment, please contact the tutor for help before the due date.

## 13. Workload:

Students can expect to do an average of 120 hours of work to make good progress in this course. This includes 35 hours of class time, plus group work, review of class work, reading time, preparation of assignments.

## 14. Attendance and Mandatory Course Requirements:

Students must attend 8 half-days out of 10 full days, and complete all three assessment tasks to receive a final grade for this course.

## 15. General University Statutes And Policies

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at: [http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx)

### **Class representative policy:**

<http://policy.vuw.ac.nz/Amphora!~policy.vuw.ac.nz~POLICY~000000000803.pdf>

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

## 16. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## 17. Student Support

The Student Services Group is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/)

Email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz).