



SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

DEAF 102 Elementary New Zealand Sign Language

TRIMESTER 2, 2013

Trimester dates: 15 July to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 15 July to 18 October 2013

Mid-trimester break: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Last assessment item due: October 15 2013

Withdrawal dates: See www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class times and rooms

Both streams attend a combined lecture Mon 10.00 – 10.50am (HMLT104)

Plus one language workshop:

L 2 (CRN 10030) **Tues** 10.00 – 11.50am (*New Kirk 105*)

L 3 (CRN 10732) **Tues** 1.10 – 3.00pm (*New Kirk 105*)

Tutorials

Select ONE of the following options (sign up sheet on Deaf Studies noticeboard, VZ level 3). All tutorials are held in **VZ 003** (Language Learning Centre – Level 0).

Group A: Wed 12.00 – 12.50 pm

Group B: Thur 11.00 -11.50am

Group C: Thurs 4.10 – 5.00 pm

Note: Tutorials start in week 1. Last tutorial is **week 11** (test) – *no tuts in final week*.

If you can't attend your tutorial for a genuine reason, you may attend another session. But please notify the tutor in advance by email so you will not be marked absent at your regular tutorial.

Staff contact information

Course Coordinator & Lecturer

Dr Rachel McKee

rachel.mckee@vuw.ac.nz ph 463 5626

Office: Von Zedlitz 317 , Office hour: Mon 11- 12

Language Lecturer

Dr David McKee

david.mckee@vuw.ac.nz

Office: Von Zedlitz 316, Office hour: Mon 12-1

Tutor

Mark Berry mark.berry@vuw.ac.nz

Office: Von Zedlitz 314

Course Administrator (LALS School office, VZ210)

Dayna Taramai (04) 463 5255

Dayna.taramai@vuw.ac.nz

Monday – Friday, 9am – 4.15pm

Communication of additional information

Announcements and additional information will be posted on Blackboard and/or distributed in class. See www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz

Email will be sent via 'myvuw' student email addresses. If you do not check this email account, please set up a 'forward' to your private email address.

Course prescription

This course further develops beginners' skills in understanding and using NZSL, and extends students' understanding of the Deaf community and culture in New Zealand. 100% internal assessment.

Course content

This course builds on beginners' knowledge of NZSL with a continued focus on understanding and using the language in everyday situations. Lectures and readings provide background information about the Deaf community and the structure of NZSL. Students will extend their mastery of core vocabulary and grammatical structures, using these in dialogues and short narratives. A schedule of weekly topics will be handed out separately. The course will expand comprehension and expressive skills in the Learning Objective areas below.

Learning objectives

Students who pass this course will be able to understand and use appropriate sign vocabulary and grammatical structures to do the following in NZSL:

1. Give information about self, family members and relationships
2. Give and understand directions to locations
3. Make and respond politely to requests for assistance
4. Describe characters and a sequence of actions in a short narrative
5. Identify people by describing personal appearance and clothing
6. Talk about common occupations
7. Discuss everyday activities in relation to calendar and clock time
8. Use numbers for counting, ordinal numbers, age, prices
9. Demonstrate understanding of selected aspects of Deaf culture and community

Teaching format

A communicative approach to language learning used in this course emphasizes active participation. Interaction in the two-hour language class and tutorial sessions will be conducted entirely in NZSL, to develop skills in a visual language modality. The Monday lecture provides opportunity for explanation and discussion of language and culture issues in spoken English. Regular language practice outside of class is an integral part of learning, and students are expected to independently complete the assigned weekly tasks.

Expected workload

Students can expect to do up to 13 hours of work per week to make good progress in this course. This includes 1 hour of lecture, 2 hours of classes, 1 hour of tutorial, assigned video homework, independent study and language practice. Students are also encouraged to attend 'Deaf Coffee', a weekly conversation practice opportunity (time t.b.a. in class).

Set texts

1. *NZSL Units 7-12 Student Videotext and Workbook Units 7-12* (Available at vicbooks). Also held at LLC and Central Library, Processing Room (Level 2)
2. *DEAF 102 Readings* (Posted in Blackboard - Course Resources, weekly folders.)

Recommended text

New Zealand Sign Language Grammar: A Guide for Learners, McKee & McKee, 2007 (Available at Vicbooks, www.vicbooks.co.nz, and library)

Additional materials

- *DEAF 102 Videotext and Workbook* (Available in LLC & Central Library)
- *Beginner NZSL Exercises Online*, Volume 1, 2 & 3 (see link from LLC homepage)
- http://www.victoria.ac.nz/llc/llc_resources/nzsl/index.htm
- *Online NZSL Dictionary*: <http://nzsl.vuw.ac.nz>
- *Deaf Way, Deaf View A Study of Deaf Culture from a Deaf Perspective*, (1999) Penman, Peter. Unpublished Masters thesis, VUW (VUW library, Closed Reserve)
- *Inside Deaf Culture* Carol Padden & Tom Humphries. 2005 Harvard University Press (VUW library. Call mark HV2545 P123 I)
- *A Journey into the Deaf-World* Lane, H., R. Hoffmeister, & B. Bahan, San Diego: Dawn Sign Press. 1988. (VUW library. Call mark HV2380 L265 J)
- *Seeing Voices: A Journey into the World of the Deaf*. Sacks, Oliver. University of California Press, 1989. (VUW library. Call mark HV2370 S119 S 1990)
- Schein, J. (1989) *At Home Among Strangers: Exploring the Deaf Community in the United States*. Washington D.C.: Gallaudet University Press (VUW library. Call mark HV2545 S318 A)

Please note that the LLC and central library hold a wide collection of video and reading material relevant to Deaf Studies. Try a key word search using terms *Deaf* or *Sign Language*.

Assessment requirements and dates

Your progress will be internally assessed by four language tests and a written test, all conducted in regular class and tutorial times. Weekly homework is required to be handed in.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	Due date
1	Test 1 Receptive	15	In tut Aug 14/15
2	Test 2 Receptive & Expressive	25	In tut Sept 25/26
3	Test 3 Expressive	25	In tut, Oct 9/10
4	Test 4 Receptive	20	In class Oct14/15
5	Written test	10	In lecture Oct 14
6	Weekly homework	5	weeks 2-11, at tut

Assessments encourage you to review what you have learned and provide feedback on your progress. Tests 1-4 assess cumulative mastery of vocabulary, grammar, and conversational topics learned in classes and homework tasks up until the assessment date.

The written in-class test (5) will assess knowledge of NZSL grammar and Deaf community topics addressed in lectures and readings.

- Details of test format and focus will be provided in class and Blackboard a week prior.
- The schedule of weekly homework tasks will be distributed in class and on Blackboard.
- If you need special accommodations or support in relation to assessments, please talk to Course Coordinator, Rachel McKee, as early as possible.
- An aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30% of the course assessment.

Note: Please notify language lecturer David McKee *in advance* if you can't attend a test and need to make special arrangements (such as attending an alternate class). Tests will not be re-scheduled without *prior agreement* or medical certificate in the case of unexpected illness.

Grade Scale

The scale for final course grades in DEAF 102 is as follows*:

A+	91 -100 %	Excellent performance in all respects
A	85 - 90 %	Excellent performance in almost all respects
A-	80 - 84 %	Very good, some aspects excellent but others not
B+	75 - 79 %	
B	70 - 74 %	Good performance overall
B-	65 – 69 %	
C+	60 – 64 %	Work satisfactory overall, strengths outweigh weaknesses
C	50 - 59 %	
D	40 - 49 %	Poor performance overall, weaknesses outweigh strengths
E	0 - 39 %	Well below the standard required
K	Fail due to not satisfying mandatory course requirements, even though the student's course mark reached the 50% level specified for a pass	

* This differs from the general VUW grade scale. Language tests in this course are designed to measure mastery of specific language structures that have been practised in class. In general, scores on these types of tests are higher and less spread than scores on other types of assessment (eg, essays), because test items are highly specified and set at a level

to enable students to demonstrate achievement of the learning objectives. For this reason, the points bands in the grade scale are slightly higher, to differentiate levels of performance.

Mandatory course requirements

Learning NZSL requires face-to-face interaction, so your attendance at all scheduled sessions is vital to progress in the course. Regular study and practice is important in learning any language, therefore completion of all video homework tasks is required as a minimum. In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- **Attend at least 80% of language class sessions (ie, 10 out of 12 sessions).** Class attendance is essential and will be marked. Please notify your lecturer of expected absences or illness.
- **Attend at least 80% of tutorials (ie, 9 out of 11 sessions).** Tutorial attendance is essential and expected. Please notify your tutor of expected absences or illness.
- Complete **all assessment tasks** listed above (4 practical tests and written exam)
- Hand in completed **video work** weekly (as per Homework Schedule)

What to do if you cannot attend a class

If for a genuine reason, you have to miss a language class or tutorial, please notify your lecturer David McKee or tutor Mark Berry by email. Try to attend one of the other streams that week, or an alternative tutorial session in the case of a missed tutorial.

If that is impossible, here are some ways that you can catch up on what you missed:

- Check the Course Resources folder in BB for that week - for a vocab list, etc.
- Make sure you have studied the video homework - this covers relevant material.
- Ask a classmate to go over any new language with you.
- See your teacher in office hours if you need further pointers on what was covered.

Although each lesson builds on what you have learned in previous lessons, and your teacher will normally include review in class, they will not always have time to 're-teach' language that one student may have missed during a previous class. It is your responsibility to catch up on you what you have missed, using the strategies above.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz.