



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

*Certificate in Deaf Studies: Teaching NZSL*

**DEAF 802: Introduction to the Structure & Use of NZSL**  
20 POINTS

FULL YEAR 2015

### Important dates

**Module Teaching dates:** 15 June – 19 June 2015

**Last assessment item due:** July 24, 2015

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### Class times and locations

This is a modular course. Teaching dates:  
Mon June 15 – Fri June 19, 9.00 - 5.00 daily

**Room:** Old Kirk 501 (level 5)

### Names and contact details

Dr David McKee, Coordinator      [david.mckee@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:david.mckee@vuw.ac.nz)  
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**Lecturers**  
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## **Communication of additional information**

Announcements and additional information will be in class and by email.

## **Prescription**

This course includes an introduction to the phonology, morphology, syntax and use of NZ Sign Language, and its history and variation.

## **Course content**

The course will cover the following topics:

- History of NZSL
- Myths and facts about signed languages
- Phonology of NZSL
- Morphology of NZSL
- Syntax of NZSL
- NZSL lexicon
- Variation and change in NZSL

## **Course learning objectives (CLOs)**

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. Describe the origins and development of NZSL from 1880 to the present
2. Identify parts of signs, types of signs, and constraints on the formation of signs
4. Explain and demonstrate how NZSL verbs are modified
5. Identify and demonstrate sentence types in NZSL, including assertion, negation, questions, conditionals, contrasting, time reference.
6. Identify reasons for and examples of sociolinguistic variation in NZSL
7. Explain types of signs in the lexicon and the concept of high/low frequency signs

## **Teaching format**

Teaching and learning in this course will include lectures, discussions, practical lab tasks during the teaching module. Assignments based on course materials will be completed independently.

## **Mandatory course requirements**

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must attend 8 half-days out of 10 half-days of class, and complete all assessment tasks. Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## **Workload**

Students can expect to do an average of 200 hours of work to make good progress in this course. This includes 38 hours of class time, plus group work, review of class work, reading, assignments.

## Assessment Tasks

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Length/format</i>	<i>Weighting</i>	<i>Learning objectives</i>
1	June 19	Assignment 1	Video in NZSL, as per instructions. Record in lab	30%	4 & 5
2	July 10	Assignment 2	Video in NZSL as per instructions	30%	2 & 7
3	July 24	Take-home test	As per test instructions	40%	1-7

Assignment details and marking criteria will be given out in in class.

An aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30% of the course assessment.

The grade scale for final grades in this course is:

0-39%	E	70 - 74%	B
40-49%	D	75 - 79%	B+
50 - 54%	C-	80 - 84%	A-
55 - 59%	C	85 - 89%	A
60 - 64%	C+	90-100%	A+
65 - 69%	B-		

## Submission and return of work

- Send assignments by emailing a video clip, or uploading your video to **unlisted** YouTube and emailing the link to David. Assignments will normally be marked within 2 weeks.

## Extensions and penalties

- Please contact David **before** a due date if you need to request an extension due to illness or other genuine circumstances
- Late assignments may be penalised by 2% for each day beyond the deadline.

## Set texts

*DEAF 802 Course Book*, and NZSL translation on YouTube links – distributed in class.

## Recommended extra reading

McKee, R. 2015. *New Zealand Sign Language: A Reference Grammar*. Bridget Williams Books. (E-book format): <http://www.bwb.co.nz/books/new-zealand-sign-language>

McKee, R. & D. McKee, 2007. *New Zealand Sign Language Grammar: A Guide for Learners*. LALS, VUW Occasional Publication. Available at Vic Books, \$38.25

Johnston, T. & A. Schembri. 2007. *Australian sign language (Auslan): An introduction to sign language linguistics*. Cambridge University Press. Library callmark: HV2474 J721 A, Kelburn Library (Level 3)

Sutton-Spence, R. and Woll. B. 1999. *The linguistics of British Sign Language: An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. In LLC: DEAF.LAN.11853.V2F1, Language Learning Centre, Ask at Counter. Library callmark: HV2474 S967 L, Level 3

Valli, C., Lucas, C. & Mulrooney, K. 2005. *Linguistics of American Sign Language: A resource text for ASL users* (4th ed.). Gallaudet University Press. Library Callmark: HV2474 V188 L, Level 3

## 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

Previous student feedback about this course has been very positive about content and teaching. This year we have updated the NZSL video material and made it available on YouTube instead of DVD, and included more practical lab work in the block course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://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/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)