**Mohawk Valley Community College**

Course Outline

# Course Title: AL101 American Sign Language I C-3, Cr-3

**Course Description:** This course introduces American Sign Language (ASL), a natural and visual-gestural language used by deaf people in the United States and Canada. It covers finger spelling, signs, grammar, syntax, sentence structure, non-manual behaviors, basic communication techniques, and conversational skills as well as receptive and expressive language skill development. It reviews number of facets of Deaf culture. ***A minimum of 5 hours of participation in the Deaf community is required.***

**Student Learning Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the basic similarities and differences between ASL and spoken/written English.
2. Utilize basic cross-cultural adjustment skills in communicating in ASL, and with Deaf individuals.
3. Accurately communicate personal information such as name, where you live, your family profile, your educational background, etc., using correct ASL grammar and syntax.
4. Accurately describe personal information such as name, where you live, your family profile, your educational background, etc., which has been signed to them, using correct ASL grammar and syntax.
5. Engage in and respond accurately in conversation, including the use of appropriate attention getting protocol in line with Deaf culture norms and behaviors, using correct ASL grammar and syntax.
6. Describe an experience with the Deaf community as it relates to their knowledge of Deaf culture.
7. Blend appropriate grammar and sentence structure of ASL with fingerspelling, sign vocabulary, concepts and context.
8. Complete a minimum of 5 hours of participation in the Deaf community.
9. Compare and contrast the historical changes in experiences of Deaf individuals.
10. Describe Deaf history.
11. Create a manipulative and facilitate a learning activity to teach an ASL basic concept to a non-native speaker.
12. Create a vocabulary portfolio.
13. exhibit basic proficiency in the understanding and use of a world language\*; and
14. demonstrate knowledge of the distinctive features of culture(s) associated with the language they are studying.\*

**Major Topics:**

The Syntax of American Sign Language

Introduction to the Culture of the Deaf Community

The Manual Alphabet

Finger spelled words and concepts

Deaf Cultural Norms and behaviors

The Five Parameters of ASL

Introduction to Number Principles in ASL

Information Gathering techniques

Sharing personal information about work, school and family

Colors, Food, days of the week, months of the year and calendar events

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\* = SUNY General Education requirement