

American Sign Language 1

(Course Code: 0717300)

Content Guide 2026-2027

SJCSD World Languages

American Sign Language 1 Content Guide

Master ASL Unit 1 – Semester 1					
Topics	Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
Greetings and goodbyes	Gallaudet intro		Closing signal		Things/strategies to Learn ASL
Fingerspelling	Interacting with Deaf people		Deixis		1:2 cardinal numbers 0-10
Introductions			Subject/object/verb order		1:3 fingerspelling
Question maker			Topic/comment		*1:5 what, who, where
Yes/no	Eyebrows raised Tilt/Lean Forward and Hold last sign		Conceptual accuracy		1:6 cardinal numbers 11-5
			5 parameters		brief history of ASL
			facial expression ASL not English Fingerspelling Precision Eye contact Signing space Dominant/non-dominant hand		
			NMS/facial expressions		

- can be used in Master ASL Unit 2
- Assessments: School PLC creates common summative assessments to determine student proficiency in the Receptive, Expressive and Cultural categories. Topic related scales are used to assess student progress in these areas. Each scales utilizes a 4 level scale to determine a student progress. See Appendix A for exemplar scales and rubrics for identified topics specific to units.

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Master ASL Unit 2 - Semester 1						
Topics		Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
Directionality		Labels/identity		WH-face		2:2 Cardinal numbers 16-19
WH Questions		Variations		Iconic signs		2:7 Cardinal numbers 20-29
How to say “you’re welcome”		What is Deafness		Signed question mark		
Helpful signs				When signs		
Activities				The WH sign		
In the classroom						
Making conversation						
Days of the Week						

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Master ASL Unit 3 - Semester 1						
Topics		Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
Where are you from?		Name signs		Topic/comment structure		1:8 Identify a person (colors)
Background signs		Is sign language universal		Possessive signs		4:1 Conversation 1: Contrastive Structure
Interests						4:8: Conversation 3: Possessive Adjectives
States						8:2 Talking about months
Names of cities and towns						11:5 States and Provinces 1
Colors						11:10 States and Provinces 2
Favorites						
Email						
Addresses/telephone numbers						
Birthdays						
Months of the year						
Seasons						
Major holidays						
Weather						

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Master ASL Unit 4 - Semester 2						
Topics		Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
Family		Deaf family dynamics		Gender distinction		4:1 Talking about immediate family
CODA		Deaf experience & arts		Shoulder Shifting		4:5 Talk about siblings
Pets		Friendship in Deaf Community		Age spot		4:7 Telling How Old
Ages				Listing & Ordering		4:8 Talk about extended family
Life events				Verb “to go”		4:9 Tell how family members are related
Friendship				Fixing Mistakes		4:11 Discussing Family
Relationships				Pronouns & numbers		5:8 Talk about activities with others
Qualities						

Master ASL Unit 5 - Semester 2						
Topics		Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
School Locations		Deaf Education		Agent Marker		2:1 Conversations 1 & 2: Yes-No Questions; Insight: Making Connections; Insight:

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						Which Hand Do I Use?' Cultural: Gallaudet University
School Personnel		GallaudetUniversity ASL History Deaf Schools in American History		Initialization		3:6 Ordinal numbers 1 st – 9 th , Giving Basic Directions
School Activities				Classifiers		9:3 Giving the Time 1
School Classes				Time Spot		9:9 Giving the Time 2
Time				Multiple Meanings		
Beginnings & Endings						

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Master ASL Unit 6 - Semester 2						
Topics		Culture		Grammar		Signing Naturally Supplements
Sports & Activities		Football Huddle		Experience & Finish		5:1 Conversation 1 & 2 WH Word?
ASL Storytelling (i.e. ABC stories, handshape stories...)		Deaf Olympics		Classifiers		5:7 Tell How Often
Tense (see grammar section for pages)		Literature of ASL		Tense		5:8 Conversation 5 - Tell about an "Out of the Ordinary" Activity
				Rule of 9		
				Duration of activity		