

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

DEAF STUDIES

DEAF 101 Introduction to New Zealand Sign Language

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: In class, weeks 11 & 12

Withdrawal dates: Refer to 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.

Class times and locations

Stream	Time	Room
L1 CRN 8674	Tue 9.00 - 10.50	Alan MacDiarmid 102
L2 CRN 10029	Mon 2.10 - 4.00	Alan MacDiarmid 102
L3 CRN 10520	Tue 2.10 - 4.00	Alan MacDiarmid 102
+ All streams	Mon 12.00 -12.50	Murphy 632, Level 6
+ Tutorial (50 min)	<i>Four time options to be advised in Wk 1. Sign up at Deaf Studies noticeboard level 3, Von Zedlitz</i>	Language Learning Centre, Von Zedlitz 003 (level 0)

Note: Tutorials start in week 2 of the course.

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

Holiday dates affecting classes:

Tutorials and lectures that fall on public holidays will not run:

Wk 7, Fri April 18th Good Friday

Wk 12, Mon June 2nd Queens Birthday

Names and contact details



Dr David McKee

Language classes, Mon & Tues

Office: Von Zedlitz 316

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Dr Rachel McKee Course coordinator*

Lecture Mon 12-12.50

*See Rachel for admin or academic support queries

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Tutor t.b.a.

Language labs

Office: Von Zedlitz 314

Communication of additional information

On Blackboard www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz and by email to VUW student addresses. If you don't use My Victoria regularly, please set your student email to forward to your personal address. (Go into Student Email, FAQ to find out how). Otherwise you will miss important course-related messages.

Prescription

A beginners' course in NZSL, emphasising acquisition of basic receptive and expressive skills in sign language for everyday conversations. The course also includes information about aspects of grammatical structure and Deaf community and culture.

Course content

This course offers absolute beginners a guided introduction to conversing in NZSL in everyday situations with Deaf people. You will learn core vocabulary and basic grammar of NZSL. You will learn about customary ways of interacting in the visual communication environment of the Deaf community. Readings will provide background understanding about the structure and use of NZSL. The main goal of this course is to develop a foundation of comprehension and simple conversational skills.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to do the following in NZSL:

1. Greet and take leave appropriately in a signed conversation
2. Make introductions and exchange personal information in a short conversation
3. Describe family members and relationships
4. Identify familiar objects and locations in the immediate environment
5. Make and respond to requests for basic wants and needs
6. Give and understand directions to a nearby location
7. Use Deaf conversation behaviours for starting and maintaining a conversation
8. Describe personal appearance
9. Talk about routine daily activities and basic time concepts
10. Understand and use numbers for counting
11. Understand and use fingerspelling for names in the context of NZSL
12. Use a Dictionary of NZSL to find sign vocabulary

Students will also be able to:

13. Identify key historical and cultural factors that define the NZ Deaf community

Teaching format

Classes are taught in an interactive way that aims to build confidence in practical NZSL skills. Your participation is important for creating a good language learning environment. The two-hour class and tutorial sessions in the AV lab will be conducted in sign language only – please leave your voice outside! Learning in a sign-only environment will help you develop skills in a visual language more quickly. There is opportunity for questions and explanation in English during the one-hour lecture.

Mandatory course requirements

Face-to-face interaction is essential to learning NZSL. If you miss a 2-hour language class, new language that is introduced and practised cannot be easily caught up. Your participation also contributes to learning of all members in your class group. Therefore, your attendance at ALL scheduled language classes and tutorials is expected and will be recorded. Regular study and practice is essential for language learning, so completion of the online homework diary is required as evidence of doing this.

In addition to achieving an overall mark of 50%, students must:

- Complete all assessment tasks listed (4 tests and written assignment).
- **Attend at least 10 out of 12 of the 2 hr language classes.** Full class attendance is expected, and will be recorded at each session.
- **Attend at least 9 out of 11 tutorials.** Full tutorial attendance is expected, and will be recorded at each session.
- Hand in online **homework diary** weekly (in weeks 3-12) as per instructions.

Lecture attendance (Mon 12 pm) is not recorded, but the material taught in this session will support learning in practical sessions, and the written assignment

Absences (beyond the minimum attendance requirements) due to illness or other unexpected crisis should be notified to the course coordinator.

Workload

Students can expect to do an average of 10-12 hours of work per week to make good progress. This includes 3 hours of classes and 1 hour of tutorial per week, weekly homework, and work towards the written assignment and practical tests. Students are encouraged to practice NZSL outside of class with other signers.

Assessment

Your work in the course will be internally assessed through a series of practical language tests and one written assignment, as follows:

Item	Type	Due date	Weighting (% of final grade)	CLO (s)
Test 1	Comprehension	Wk 4 - in class March 24, 25	10%	1 – 12
Test 2	Comprehension	Wk 7 - in class April 14,15	15%	1 – 12
Test 3	Vocab review	Wk 9 – in tut, wk of May 12	5%	1 - 12
Test 4a	Comprehension	Wk 11 - in class May 25, 26	30%	1 – 12
Test 4b	Expressive	Wk 12 - in tut, wk of June 2	25%	1 – 12
Assignment	Written task 850 words	Wk 8 - May 9	10%	13
Homework diary	On template provided	Weekly, x 10 (from Wk 2)	5%	1 – 12

- Details of test content and assessment criteria will be provided in class and Blackboard a week prior to the test.
- Written assignment instructions and assessment criteria will be distributed in class and on Blackboard.

Submission and return of work

Submission of written assignment is by hard copy, in class or in the LALS office assignment box, level 2 Von Zedlitz. The assignment will be returned at tutorials by week 11. Homework diary submitted by hard copy in tutorial. This will not be returned as no feedback is given.

Extensions and penalties

An extension for the written assignment (with no penalty) will be considered on grounds of illness, exceptional personal circumstances or unusual workload pressure.

Late submission of the assignment without an extension will be subject to a penalty of 1 point (out of the potential 10 points) per day.

Language tests will not be repeated. It is essential to attend all scheduled test sessions. If you can't, for a reason such as illness, please contact the lecturer or tutor in advance in case recording arrangements need to be made.

If you need special accommodation or support with assessments or in class activities, please talk to the Course Coordinator as early as possible. Your learning is important to us, and we try to accommodate individual needs.

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

Set texts

There are no texts to purchase for this course. Homework practice activities and dictionary resources are online (see links in DEAF101 Blackboard).

Readings (pdf) are online in a folder within Course Resources area of Blackboard.

Homework site is: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/lc/lc_resources/DEAF101online/index.html

NZSL Online Dictionary is accessed at: <http://nzsl.vuw.ac.nz/>

- *Do check Blackboard each week for supporting materials – including readings, key vocabulary, lecture handouts, and links to relevant websites.*

Recommended reading

New Zealand Sign Language Grammar: A Guide for Learners, McKee & McKee, Revised Version 2007. (Available at VicBooks, in library, and LLC).

NZSL Student DVD & Workbook (Units 1-6) (Available to purchase online at: <http://www.nzslta.org.nz/resources>; also held in Central Library The Glass Room (Level 2), DVD 3230, and Language Learning Centre.)

A Concise Dictionary of New Zealand Sign Language Kennedy, G. et al (Eds). Bridget Williams Books 2002. (Available at VUW bookshop & major booksellers)

Selected library materials relevant to DEAF 101

VIDEO

Sign of the times the story of New Zealand's visual language. 52 min doco. Central Library The Glass Room (Level 2) Call Number:HV2985.5 S578 2006. LLC – ask for DEAF.GEN.10791.D

The Art of Signing 30 min TVNZ documentary about NZSL (screened April 2000) (LLC and VUW library The Glass Room. Level 2)

See What I Mean Horrocks, Shirley (Producer/Director) (1992), Point of View Productions Ltd. 1 hr TV doco about NZ Deaf and Hearing Impaired people and their perspectives . (LLC and VUW Library The Glass Room, Level 2)

Open door, deaf culture. 24 min doco about deaf people and their efforts to make mainstream New Zealanders understand why deafness is part of their identity. TVNZ. Central Library The Glass Room (Level 2), HV2985.5 O611 2009. LLC - DEAF.GEN.14187.D

BOOKS

For hearing people only: answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the deaf community, its culture, and the "deaf reality". Moore, M. S. & Levitan, L. Rochester, N.Y., Deaf Life Press, 1993. (Call Mark HV2545 M823 F, Level 3, 3-day)

Introduction to American Deaf Culture (2013) Thomas K. Holcomb (Call mark HV2545 .H65 2013)

Deaf in America: Voices from a culture. (1988). Padden, C & Humphries, T. Cambridge, Mass., Harvard Univ. Press 1988. (Call mark HV2545 P123D)

A Journey into the Deaf-World. (1996). Lane, H., Hoffmeister, R., & Bahan, B. San Diego: DawnSignPress. (Call mark: HV2380 L265 J, Level 3, 3-day)

Seeing Voices: A Journey into the World of the Deaf. Sacks, Oliver. University of California Press, 1989. (Call mark HV2370 S119 S 1990, level 4)

People of the Eye: Stories from the Deaf World by Rachel McKee, Bridget Williams Books 2001 (Call mark: HV2985.5 M154 P 2001, level 3, 3-day, & level 4)

Outsiders in a Hearing World: A Sociology of Deafness by P. Higgins, Sage Publications 1980 (Call mark: HV2395 H636 O, level 4)

When the Mind Hears by Harlan Lane, Random House 1984 (Call mark: HV2530 L265 H, level 4)

Reading between the Signs: Intercultural Communication for Interpreters by Anna Mindess, Intercultural Press 1999. (Call mark: HV2402 M663 R 2ed, level 4)

Inside Deaf Culture by C. Padden & T. Humphries, Harvard University Press 2005. (Call mark: HV2545 P123 I, level 3, 3-day)

- The Language Learning Centre (LLC) in Von Zedlitz level 0 has a collection of NZSL related materials. Ask their staff. *Most are in the main VUW library catalogue.*
- The Central Library, Glass Room (Level 2) has additional video materials. Search catalogue by Video/DVD and 'New Zealand Sign Language'.
- The library also has a collection of Deaf Studies reading material. Search by key words 'deaf' and 'sign language'.

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/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz