Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: https://catalog.uvu.edu/

Semester: Spring 2025.
Course Prefix: ASL
Course Title: American Sign Language Literature.

Year: 2025.
Course and Section #: 4620-001
Credits: 3.

Course Description

Explores the dynamics of ASL literature and its traditions by studying various genres and ASL storytellers. Covers stories with hand shape constraints.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:
* General Education Requirements
□ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
□ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
□ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
□ Elective Core Requirements in Program
□ Open Elective
Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: *Matthew Spurgeon*

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of your coursework at Utah Valley University you should have acquired confidence and proficiency in the following areas:

1. Define various genres of ASL literature;
2. Explain literary stylistics and poetics of signed texts;
3. Define various ASL storytelling techniques;

4. Characterize the cultural context in which works of literature are produced and received;
5. Perform different genres in ASL literature;

6. Analyze ASL literary works from various genres.

Course Materials and Texts

Required—

Signing the Body Poetic: Essays on American Sign Language literature (SBP) edited by Bauman, Rose and Nelson. (Available at the bookstore and on reserve in the library.) **This book includes a DVD. If you buy a used copy, be sure it includes the DVD!**

Required—*Available Online for FREE*

Deaf American Literature: From Carnival to the Canon (DAL) by Cynthia Peters.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy
Assignments are weighted by group:

Presentation 15%

Discussion 5%

Quizzes 15%

Assignments 15%

Midterm 25%

Final Exam 25%

Total 100%

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments
1.Introduction
2.Face-face Tradition in the American Deaf Community
3.The Camera as Printing Press: How Film Has Influenced ASL Literature
4.Deaf American Theater
5.The Embodied Text: " Writing" and Vision in ASL literature
6. Textual Bodies, Bodily Texts
7. The Poet in the Poem in the Performance: The Relation of Body, Self, and Text in ASL Literature
8.ASL Literature Come fo Age: Creative " Writing in the classroom
9. " If there are Greek epics, there should be Deaf epics" How Protest Became Poetry

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion
1. Is There Really Such a Thing as DeafAmerican Literature?.
2. Carnival: Orature and Deaf American Literature.
3. Deaf Carnivals as Centers of Culture
4. The Oral Tradition: Deaf American Storytellers as Tricker
5. Literary Night: The Restorative Power of Comedic and Grotesque Literature
6. Deaf American Theater
7. The Deaf American Novel
8. Poetry
9. From Orature to Literature: The New Permanence

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI
This course requires you to complete assignments that assess your understanding and application of the material. You are expected to do your own work, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as chatbots, text generators, paraphrasers, summarizers, or solvers, is strictly prohibited for any part of your assignments. Using these tools will be considered academic dishonesty and will be handled according to the university's policy. If you have questions about acceptable use of AI tools, please consult the instructor before submitting your work.

Using Remote Testing Software
* This course does not use remote testing software.

□ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities
Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](#) or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their rights and responsibilities. In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in UVU Policy 541: *Student Code of Conduct*.

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as

participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a specially dedicated space for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.