

# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III

## 2013-2014



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**Classroom:** 245

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**Homepage:** <http://www-pmhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/ASL/>

Welcome back to a wonderful, exciting year of American Sign Language (ASL). We have many wonderful plans and ideas for helping each of you to continue in your journey through ASL and Deaf culture. We are truly looking forward to the possibilities ahead of us for this year and hope you share in our excitement. It is very important that you understand some very basic things before we begin:

As you know, this class involves much interaction and presentation of skills in ASL. Standing in front of your peers is a difficult thing to do and is often heightened by an inattentive, disrespectful audience. As a member of this class you will help create a “safe environment” through support and encouragement in daily activities and especially during presentations of expressive projects. This is done by treating your teacher, your peers, yourself, and others with respect at all times. We are a team and you are expected to act in such a manner of support and encouragement to your classmates at all times. Any inappropriate actions and/or remarks (signed or spoken) will not be tolerated. Any student not doing his/her part to help create and maintain a “safe environment” will be dealt with accordingly.

This class will strive to follow a “FULL IMMERSION” model. This means the class will be immersed in the language and culture of Deaf people as often as possible. Much of instruction and class activities will be conducted using ASL. Various methods will be used to help you understand. You will be expected to participate and follow along in class using ASL. If you do not understand, and I guarantee there will be times you won’t, it is essential that you follow Deaf culture & use the signs **SLOW, AGAIN, DON’T-UNDERSTAND**, for clarification. You need to give regular feedback to me and classmates through active listening skills. \*Through these active listening skills you can show me your desire to have the best “full immersion” experience.

\*\*\***IMPORTANT** - All questions and/or clarifications should be directed to the teacher, not another student, so that all can benefit from the answer.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to enable students to enhance proficiency in American Sign Language through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. There is a continued emphasis on the development of receptive and expressive signing skills. Experiences with American Sign Language and Deaf literature are broadened. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Engage in conversations in American Sign Language to express feelings and ideas and exchange opinions.
2. Demonstrate understanding of expressive American Sign Language on a variety of topics.
3. Present information and ideas to an audience through expressive American Sign Language.
4. Demonstrate understanding of social interaction patterns within American Sign Language and Deaf culture(s) through participation in cultural activities.
5. Apply knowledge of American Sign Language and Deaf culture(s) to further knowledge of other disciplines.
6. Analyze and use different patterns of communication and social interaction appropriate to the setting.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of use of American Sign Language within and beyond the school setting.

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### COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Signing Naturally Level II. Smith, C., Mikos, K., & Lentz, E. Dawn Sign Press. ISBN: 0915035162 \$69.95.

Signing Naturally Level III. Smith, C., Mikos, K., & Lentz, E. Dawn Sign Press. ISBN: 0915035162 \$69.95.

### METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Instructional methods will include but are not limited to demonstrations, lectures, PowerPoint presentations, videotapes/DVDs, assigned readings, cooperative learning activities, class discussions, student presentations, student interaction, and reinforcement activities.

### METHODS OF EVALUATION

A student's total grade consists of their total points earned from Tests, Quizzes, Class Participation (including daily class work and attendance), Homework, Projects, and Presentations, divided by the total points possible. It is the teacher's discretion as to the point value of each assignment.

The following point scale will be used:

A= 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

D= 60-69

F= 59 or below

### CLASS PROCEDURES/RULES

1. Cell phones and iPods/music players will immediately be confiscated without warning. Please do not text for any reason in our class. If there is an emergency, let us know and/or contact the front office.
2. Dress code must be followed, arrive to class on time, no foul language, etc.
3. The classroom should be considered a "voice-off" environment unless otherwise instructed. You may sign, write, fingerspell, or gesture in order to communicate with the instructor and with your classmates.
4. Assignment policy: Classwork and homework are to be turned in on time. If homework, it is your responsibility to turn it into the teacher: 10 points deducted per day, maximum of 2 days late.
5. Make-up work is your responsibility. It is your responsibility to see us if you have missed class or if you will be absent from class to get the appropriate work. We will be following the school policy on make-up work due to an absence.

### SUPPLIES (BRING THESE EVERYDAY):

- 3 Ring Binder/ 2 Pocket Folder
- Something to write with
- Paper

### RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

These websites provide help with signing and fingerspelling. Some are online signing dictionaries; others are fingerspelling sites which can help you improve your speed and comprehension. I HIGHLY recommend you use these websites and smartphone apps.

[www.aslpro.com](http://www.aslpro.com)

[www.commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm](http://www.commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/aslweb/browser.htm)

<http://www.asl.ms> (has an excellent fingerspelling quiz)

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## **2013-2014**

ASL Dictionary-52,000 words (smartphone app)

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### Parent & Student Signature of receipt/review of Syllabus

To ensure that we are all working towards the same goals, this syllabus is presented in class. We would also like you to review this syllabus with your parents/guardians. We ask that you and your parents/guardian sign it. Please return it along with the video permission forms by Friday, August 23rd. ***The class website is extremely important to be checked daily.*** If you have time for facebook, twitter, instagram, snapchat, vine, and all of those other technology apps, you have time for our website! Your first homework assignment is to turn the BOTTOM PORTION of this paper in to us signed along with the video permission forms signed. Your second assignment will be a quiz related to what you saw on the class website.

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Student Signature	Print name	Date
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Parent/Guardian Signature	Print name	Date
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