

**Valencia College
Course Syllabus**

ASL 2701 / ASL Literature
Fall 2012
August 27 – December 16 (Full-Term)
CRN 14368

<p>Alyse Suzanne Rasmussen / (407) 951-6229 Videoconferencing: Skype: Alyse.Rasmussen (office hours) Posted in Blackboard</p>	<p>Class Meeting: Blackboard Days/Times: 5 Days / Week (recommended) 3 Days / Week (required) Location: Online</p>
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Course Description & Prerequisites

Introduction to American Sign Language literature as recorded on videotape or film and in live performance; art, traditional folklore, storytelling, poetry, drama, oratory, jokes, and nonfiction narrative; analysis of genres in their social and cultural contexts as expressions of Deaf identity and the Deaf experience; how historical and current issues in Deaf culture are represented in literary form.¹

Prerequisites: Minimum grade of C in ASL 2160 or departmental approval

Course Text and Supplemental Materials

Text:

- Dirksen, H., et. al. Eds. (2006). *Signing the Body Poetic: Essays on American Sign Language Literature*. Berkley, CA: University of California Press. ISBN 0520229762 & 978-0520229761 [paperback edition] \$31.95 (Read this text second)
- Rutherford, S. (1993). *A study of American Deaf Folklore*. Burtonsville, MD: Linstok Press. ISBN 0-932130-17-8. Must be read prior to beginning the Deaf-lore module. \$22.95 (Read this text first)
- Valli, Clayton. (1998). *ASL Poetry*. San Diego, CA: DawnSignPress. ISBN 0-915035-24-3. Must be read prior to beginning the Poetry module. \$29.95 (This is a DVD-text, not a book.)

Supplemental Materials:

Online: <http://learn.valenciacollege.edu>

- Online courses require strong computer skills.
- You are expected to log in the first day of class to access the online materials.
- Your user name and password are the same ones that you use with Atlas.

Required: Valencia ASL Honor Society (ASL Club) on Face Book

- Will post Deaf and/or Silent events

Recommended:

- Captioned Media Program: <http://www.cfv.org/>. Students may request a free account and may either borrow materials by snail-mail or watch them directly online.

¹ Formerly: EDG 2935 Selected Topics in Education: American Sign Language Literature

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Special Equipment and/or Skills:

ASL courses make heavy use of videoed materials. You will need high-speed internet access. If you do not have this capability from your home, you may need to go to your local VALENCIA COLLEGE campus to complete your assignments. You will also need to use and/or download free software programs².

Videos:

The ability to create and upload short videos to a 3rd-party server is critical. If you do not already have a YouTube account, set one up before the end of the first week of class.

YouTube: www.youtube.com

Videoconferencing:

In order to contact your instructor and/or peers you will need videoconferencing capabilities. Instructor contact information is “alysse.rasmussen” (all lower case) on Skype. You may use other programs, but Skype is mandatory; there will be online office hours.

Skype: www.skype.com

Major Learning Outcomes

- Sociolinguistics of literature
- Forms of Deaf literature
- Deaf literature's place within the community
- Distinguish between literary works
- Forms of Deaf folk-Literature
- Deaf storytelling
- Performance versus written literature
- Compare & contrast literature's value
- Cinema graphic techniques in ASL storytelling and ASL communication
- Discuss imagery
- Discuss symbolism
- Discuss ways to raise social consciousness through the arts

Valencia Student Core Competencies

This course seeks to reinforce the following Valencia Student Competencies:

- Think:
 - Analyze data, ideas, patterns, principles, perspectives
 - Employ the facts, formulas, procedures of the discipline
 - Integrate ideas and values from different disciplines
 - Revise conclusions consistent with new observations, interpretations, or reasons
- Value:
 - Recognize values as expressed in attitudes, choices, and commitments
 - Distinguish among personal, ethical, aesthetic, cultural, and scientific values
 - Employ values and standards of judgment from different disciplines
 - Evaluate your own and others values from individual, cultural, and global perspectives
 - Articulate a considered and self-determined set of values
- Communicate:
 - Employ methods of communication appropriate to your audience and purpose
 - Evaluate the effectiveness of your own and others' communication
- Act:
 - Apply disciplinary knowledge, skills, and values to educational and career goals
 - Implement effective problem-solving, decision-making, and goal-setting strategies
 - Act effectively and appropriately in various personal and professional settings

² Be sure to set the privacy settings as high as possible, then share any necessary access data with your instructor and fellow classmates.

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Attendance Policy

You are expected to sign in to your online course daily (**5 days each week**) in order to read posts and check for emails and announcements. In the event that you are unable to check in at least 3 days during a single week, you should contact your professor as soon as possible to indicate the reason.

Regular attendance and regular class participation are significant factors which promote success in college. If you have too many absences, i.e., don't check in at least 3 days/week, you may receive a warning that further absences could result in your withdrawal from the course.

Excessive absences are defined as a) not signing in at least 3 days each week, and / or b) not completing assignments for a period of 3 weeks. In the event of excessive absences, the instructor may withdraw you from a course – without your permission. See College Policy: 6Hx28: 4-11 Class Attendance and Grade Records

Withdrawal Policy

Per Valencia Policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals), a student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadline (see below) will receive a grade of "W." A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A faculty member MAY withdraw a student up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy. A student who is withdrawn by faculty for violation of the class attendance policy will receive a grade of "W." Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of "F." For a complete policy and procedure overview on Valencia Policy 4-07 please go to: <http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policydetail.cfm?RecordID=75>.

Part of Term	Withdrawal Deadline (To receive a 'W')
Full	November 2

"No Show" Status

Class attendance is required beginning with the first class meeting. If you do not attend the first class meeting, you may be withdrawn from the class as a "no show." If you are withdrawn as a "no show," you will be financially responsible for the class and a "W" will appear on your transcript for the course.

No-Show Reporting Periods	
Full	(Add/Drop Ends September 4) ... September 5 - 14, 2012

Important Dates

Conferences and professional development opportunities can be an important part of your learning experience. If you are planning on attending any of these events, please manage your time accordingly and submit your assignments early.

Conference of Interpreter Trainers:	October 17-20, Charlotte, NC
Florida Foreign Language Association:	October 17-20, St Augustine, FL
Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf:	October 17-20, Jacksonville, FL

College Closed (Credit Classes Do Not Meet)	
Dates	Labor Day: September 3 Thanksgiving: November 21-25

Course Assignments

The final grade for this course will be based on the following:

Assignments

Vlogs (10 @ 20 points each; 2 best ASL vlogs @ 50 points each)

Discussions (10 @ 20 points each)

Capstone Final Project (100 points for Draft; 200 points for Final)

Exams (2 @ 100 points each)

Total Points: 1000 points

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Vlog:

20% -- The learner will create, post, and upload a minimum of 10 short ASL video logs, aka vlog, (3-5 minutes) responding to specific questions from the learning activities of the current week. Use your best ASL. You may include a brief English synopsis, but the bulk of the post must be in ASL. Read all submissions by other learners and, whenever possible, ask at least one question of at least 3 other learners (in either ASL or English, you pick).

10% -- The learner will select their 2 best ASL vlogs (1 before midterm; 1 after midterm) and submit them for grading. These will be evaluated based on their ASL linguistic content.

Written Assignments:

20%-- Discussion Posts (English w/ ASL support as needed) – Each learner will select a minimum of 10 unique topics and write a short (300-500 word) response. Must post one original composition (in either ASL or English, you pick), read all submissions, and, whenever possible, answer or ask at least one question of at least 3 other learners. These are academic discussions, you must have sources, cite sources, and check grammar and spelling.

Capstone Final Project:

30%-- Draft, due at midterm; final project, due 3 weeks before finals
The learner will select a unique topic, select 1 of 3 tracks (i.e. educator, interpreter, etc.), summarize, analyze, and prepare a bilingual project (explanation of the use of the material must be in both ASL & English; all other materials may be in either ASL or English).

Exams:

20% -- Midterm & Final – Each exam consists of a series of short essay questions (similar to “blue books” found in traditional finals). The learner may elect to complete the exams in ASL or English.

Grading scale:

This course uses flat grading. It does not use plus or minus grading.

A = 90 – 100%	(900+ points)
B = 80 – 89%	(800-899 points)
C = 70 – 79%	(700-799 points)
D = 60 – 69%	(600-699 points)
F = Below 60%	(less than 600 points)

Makeup Policy for Examinations and All Other Assignments

All tests must be taken on or before dates assigned. The final examination must be taken on the date published for final examination, if not this will result in a grade of “F” for the semester. No makeup tests are available without the explicit consent of the instructor, which will only be granted in cases of documented emergencies per Valencia College Policy (i.e. jury duty and military service).

There is no make-up for missed assignments. Work ahead.

Extra credit:

A small amount of extra credit work has been provided within the course assignments. These extra credit opportunities must be completed in conjunction with any related assignments and cannot be done “after the fact”.

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Attending sanctioned professional development activity such as the conferences mentioned under “Important Dates” may provide a small amount of extra credit as well, but they will require written consent of the instructor and proof of attendance.

No other extra credit options are available.

Expected Student Conduct

Valencia College is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct. By enrolling at Valencia College, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the faculty. Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the faculty to leave the class. Violation of any classroom or Valencia’s rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

If you have any questions, please refer to Valencia’s Student Code of Conduct Policy:
<http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policydetail.cfm?RecordID=180>

Academic Dishonesty

All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, acts or attempted acts of plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, facilitating academic dishonesty, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.

If you have any questions, please refer to Valencia’s Academic Dishonesty Policy:
<http://www.valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policydetail.cfm?RecordID=193> .

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a notification from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the instructor, preferably during the first two weeks of class. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities. The East Campus Office is located in Building 5, Room 216.

Valencia ID cards

Valencia ID cards are required for the Library, Testing Center, and IMC usage. No other form of ID at those locations will be accepted. Possession and utilization of a Valencia ID is mandatory to obtain these services.

Disclaimer Statement

This syllabus may be altered, at the instructor’s discretion, during the course of the term. It is the responsibility of the student to make any adjustments as announced.

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Weekly Schedule of Readings and Assignments

ASL 2701 / ASL Literature
 Fall 2012
 August 27 – December 16 (Full-Term)
 CRN 14368
 Online

NOTE: All original posts requiring a response must be posted by Friday; response posts by Sunday.

Week	Starts on Mondays	Chapter Readings/Topics/ FINISH READINGS BEFORE WEEK STARTS	Assignments Due at MIDNIGHT on Sunday!
01	27-AUG	Online: Course Overview & Explore course website Bauman, Timeline 241-250	Vlog-01: Introduction / Biography TOUCH+FINISH YOU WHAT-whq?
02	3-SEP	Online: Words in Any Language Rutherford: Intro 1-13 & 141-144 Bauman: Preface, xv-xxii User's Guide, xxvii – xxviii Intro, 1-15	VLOG-02=CK: What is Literature? Words in Any Language (Print-based)
03	10-SEP	Online: De'VIA Rutherford: Cultural Mirror, 15-25 Rutherford: Folklore Fun, 27-69	VLOG-03=CK: What is Deaf Literature? De'VIA & Other Forms of Artistic Expression
04	17-SEP	Online: Deaf-lore Rutherford: Education & Folklore, 71-89 Folklore & Identity, 91-140	VLOG-04=CK: Origin & Future of Deaf Literature Deaf-lore: Folklore, Fables, Jokes, & Tall Tales
05	24-SEP	Online: Eyeth EYETH	VLOG-05=CK: Who has the right to create Deaf Literature? Optional: Eyeth Questions
06	1-OCT	Online: Narratives Bauman: Chpt 2, Framing, 21-45 Chpt 3, Camera, 51-69 Chpt 4, Theater, 71-90 Chpt 5, Out of time, 95-115 Chpt 6, Bodies, 118-128 Chpt 7, Poet, 130-144 Chpt 8, ASL ... Age, 147-165	VLOG-06=CK: Can culture, language, and literature be separated? Narratives of All Kinds

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Week	Starts on Mondays	Chapter Readings/Topics/ FINISH READINGS BEFORE WEEK STARTS	Assignments Due at MIDNIGHT on Sunday!
07	8-OCT	Midterm Week	Capstone Project Draft Submit Best ASL Vlog #1 Midterm
08	15-OCT	Online: Performance: Plays & Theater	Plays & Other Theatrical Performances (live)
09	22-OCT	Online: Film & Television Bauman, Chpt 9, Epics 169-193 Chpt 10, Screaming, 195-213 Chpt 11, Hearing Things, 215-232 Golden Legacy	VLOG-07=CK: Why do we assign value to literature? Film & Television (recorded)
10	29-OCT	Online: ASL Poetry Valli: ASL Poetry	VLOG-08=CK: What drives Deaf Literature? What is ASL / Deaf Poetry?
11	5-NOV	Valli: ASL Poetry	VLOG-09=CK: Student Selected Poems Analyzing ASL / Deaf Poetry
12	12-NOV	Valli: ASL Poetry	VLOG-10=CK: Poetry as Social Protest Impact of ASL Poetry
13	19-NOV	Capstone / Final Project	Capstone / Final Project
14	26-NOV	Online: Explore contemporary Deaf-friendly technologies	You Tube, Vlogs, & Social Media Capstone Reflection (opt)
15	3-DEC	Review Bauman, Afterword, 235-240	Submit Best ASL Vlog #2 Permission (opt)
16	10-DEC	Final Exam	Final Exam Closes MONDAY, NOON, 10-DEC

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