

University of Victoria.
American Sign Language I: ASL 100A A02.
Spring 2026 (202601).

American Sign Language I

We acknowledge and respect the Lək'wəḡən (Songhees and Xwsep̓səm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Lək'wəḡən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Course Information.

Section:	A02.	CRN Number:	20164.
Unit Value:	1.5 units.	Prerequisites:	None.
Contact Days:	Mondays & Wednesdays.	Contact Hours:	2:30 pm to 4:20 pm.
Delivery Method:	Synchronous Face-to-face.	Classroom:	CLE A313.

Important.

You must express your intention to participate in this section of 100A by ensuring you attend the first two classes: **January 5th and 7th**. If you do not attend these classes (or are not excused from these classes by the instructor), you may be automatically de-registered from the course as a No-Show student. This policy ensures that (A.) all students receive appropriate guidance at the start of a course that will help them to meet course requirements and (B.) waitlisted students have a chance to register in a course in lieu of any non-participating students (see [ASL Program Waitlist Policy](#)).

Course Content.

Introduction to language used by Deaf community throughout North America; no prior knowledge required. This introductory course covers the essentials and fundamentals of American Sign Language, including structure and its features such as grammar. It promotes the means to achieve culturally and linguistically appropriate everyday interaction. Additionally, the course provides an insight into the Deaf community and Deaf culture in Canada, as well as in the United States. Importantly, it is conducted entirely in American Sign Language (ASL) from the very first day and throughout the course. Being immersed in the use of ASL for 4 hours a week promotes and maximises language acquisition and comprehension. Some insights of Deaf communities and culture in Canada, United States and around the world will be offered. A variety of materials such as gestures, signs, drawings and role-play situations will be utilised. NOTE: The ASL program does not permit course challenges.

Required Materials.

1. Access Code: *Signing Naturally*: Units 1-6 *Interactive Online Student Materials* (IOSM). DawnSignPress. ISBN: 9781581212730. Note: A paper copy of the text is not acceptable.
2. Minimum technology requirements for students (see [UVic Requirements](#)). These apply as this course requires online participation.

Instructor Information.

Name:	Nigel Howard (he/him).	Office:	Clearihue D371.
Preferred Contact:	Email: nhoward@uvic.ca .	Telephone:	250-721-7363 (Message only).
Office Hours:	Mondays & Wednesdays. by appointment (1:30 to 2:20 pm).	Method:	Face-to-face or Zoom.
Zoom Office Hours URL:	TBD.		



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School of Languages,
Linguistics and Cultures