

Beginning American Sign Language (ASL) Level II

with Franklin Smith

For adults ages 18+ of all abilities



American Sign Language is a beautiful, visual language. With signing, the brain processes linguistic information through the eyes, and facial expressions and body movements play an important part in conveying information. Remember, sign language is not a universal language. Each country has its own sign language much like the many languages spoken all over the world. Like any spoken language, ASL is a language with its own unique rules of grammar and syntax.

This Beginning ASL level 2 class will present the fundamentals of American Sign Language (ASL) whereby students develop expressive and receptive language skills through the learning of basic vocabulary, grammatical structures, and cultural awareness. This one-day weekly class will cover the following topics:

1. Noun and Verb Pairs
2. School Subjects, Majors, and Courses
3. Animals and Foods
4. No, None, Nothing - Negative Responds
5. Ranking and List
6. Translating Sentences with the word "Have", "Have to", "Haven't", "Don't Have".



Meet Your Instructor: Franklin Smith is a West Virginia native who lost his hearing (severely Deaf) at the age of 2. From a young age, he communicated mostly through lip-reading and fingerspelling. It wasn't until his college years that he became immersed in the Deaf world and fluent in American Sign Language. It was then that he found his identity and joined the Deaf community. Franklin is a dynamic professional with a unique background of more than 10 years teaching ASL and working with Deaf students providing mentoring, advocating, coaching, career development training and job readiness among other skills. Franklin is currently an ASL Adjunct Professor and full-time ASL Lab Manager at the St Petersburg College. He is a people person who loves baking, bowling, arts and crafts, and making a difference in his community.

Dates: Tuesdays May 3rd - June 7th from 6 - 7pm

Location: Zoom

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