

COMD 4780/6780

CONTACT INFORMATION:

PROFESSOR: Dr. Curt L Radford

OFFICE HOURS: Email

OFFICE/ BLDG. Lillywhite Building, No. 034 PHONE: 435-216-9731

E-MAIL: curt.radford@usu.edu

DEPT. WEB: <http://comd.usu.edu/>

PREREQUISITES—None.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to present an overview of the various educational, socio-cultural, and psychological perspectives that have been assigned to the Deaf and how these perspectives impact the Deaf community. The course is designed to lead the students into an investigation and understanding of the culture of the Deaf Community: their language(s), culture, and identity.

COURSE GOALS

Overall goals of this course are for students to:

- Have an understanding of Deaf community demographics.
- Have an understanding of the impact of deafness on the socialization of deaf children and Deaf adults.
- Have an understanding of the impact of deafness on the family in modern society.
- Have an understanding of the socio-cultural and the pathological models of deafness.

Assessment Tools

- Quizzes, Discussions, Final Exam, and Research Paper.

COURSE RESOURCES:

Internet Resources

- ASL Dictionary www.masterstech-home/ASL Dict.html,
- Deaf Library www.deaflibrary.org/asl.html,
- Deaf TV www.deaf.tv
- Utah Association for the Deaf (UAD) events: www.uad.org
- National Association of the Deaf www.nad.org
- Gallaudet University (Information on Deafness) www.clerccenter.gallaudet.edu

Course Technology Requirements

Canvas is the where course content, grades, and communication will reside for this course.

- <http://online.usu.edu>
 - Your **username** is your **A#**, and your **password** is your global password (the same one you use for Banner or Aggiemail).
- For [Canvas](#), [Passwords](#), or any other computer-related technical support contact the [IT Service Desk](#).
 - 435 797-4357 (797-HELP)
 - 877 878-8325
 - <http://it.usu.edu>
 - servicedesk@usu.edu

Required Textbook

Lane, H., Hoffmeister, R. and Bahan, B. (1996). *A Journey into the Deaf World*. Dawn Sign Press; San Diego, California.

You may purchase this book at the [USU bookstore](#) or online.

Additional Readings

Readings will be taken from peer-reviewed journals and education magazines. Most readings will be available in Canvas in PDF format. Other readings will be available online, with a hyperlink provided in Canvas.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Readings

There will be assigned readings. You will be accountable for reading materials and assessed for comprehension through assignments, discussions, and quizzes.

Quizzes

Your quizzes will consist of answering essay questions related to your course readings and discussions. The quizzes will also include T/F, and multiple choice questions. Your essay questions may either be a typed response using English or a video response using ASL. **You are expected to complete all readings and discussions before you take the quiz.**

Discussions

In order to earn the discussion points, **you must respond to the questions and respond to at least three of your classmates' replies (where you reply to someone else's message).**

Final Exam

Your final exam will be comprehensive. The exam will include essay questions, T/F, and multiple choice questions from chapter 1-16, as well as questions from articles, and discussions.

Research Paper

You will write a 15-20 page research proposal following APA style. Your topic could be anything related to the course readings, and discussion board. Your topic must be approved prior to writing your paper. You must have at least 5 references. You will be graded using a rubric which is posted in Canvas.

FORMATTING:

1. APA Style; Font/size: Times New Roman/12 point.
2. Double Spaced
3. Include your name, date, page numbers, and title of your paper in the header of each page.

TOPIC IDEAS - These are only ideas. You may create your own topic related to Deaf Culture.

1. Mainstreaming VS Residential Schools
2. Deaf Families
3. Cochlear Implants VS ASL
4. Deaf Identity
5. Oppression Among Deaf people
6. The Least Restrictive Environment
7. Legal issues that impact the Deaf community
8. Other?

Assignments

There will be six assignments for this course:

- Reading; Textbook, and Deaf Culture related articles
- Respond to reflective questions in the discussion board.
- Quizzes (3)
- Research Paper (15-20 pages); see rubric.
- Final Exam (comprehensive)

Complete information on these activities is available on Canvas. Please refer to the “Syllabus” in Canvas section for the Assignment point values.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

COURSE GRADING:

Your grade is based on performance of course components and possible points.

Component Points

- Discussions 300
- Quizzes 300
- Final Exam 200
- Research Paper 100

TOTAL POINTS 900

Final grades are calculated using a percentage scale out of 100%.

GRADE PERCENTAGE RANGE POINTS

- **A** 100% - 93%
- **A-** < 93% - 90%
- **B+** < 90% - 87%
- **B** < 87% - 83%
- **B-** < 83% - 80%
- **C+** < 80% - 77%
- **C** < 77% - 73%
- **C-** < 73% - 70%
- **D** < 70% - 60%
- **F** < 60 %

COURSE POLICIES:

Withdrawal Policy and “I” Grade Policy

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes:

- Incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks,
- A death in the immediate family,
- Financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment,
- Change in work schedule as required by an employer,
- Other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.
(<http://www.usu.edu/policies/pdf/Incomplete-Grade.pdf>)

Communication

All communication will be disseminated from Canvas or through email. I will use Announcements in Canvas to communicate high priority and timely information. You must set your notification preferences in Canvas to receive Announcements and Conversation Messages ASAP by and email, cell phone for text messages, or other social networking services of your choice.

- [How to set up notification preferences in Canvas](#)
- [How to use the Inbox for Conversations in Canvas](#)

Instructor Feedback/Communication

I will be reading the Discussion Boards and replying to messages occasionally. You will receive specific feedback on your Assignments in the form of ASL or text comments appended to your electronic submissions.

Student Feedback/Communication

I welcome all feedback on the course. My preferred method of communication with individual students is via email. Please use curt.radford@usu.edu. I will respond to email **within 72 hours** (Monday – Friday). Please communicate with me immediately if you are unable to complete your assignment.

Course Etiquette

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, or demeaning. The instructor has primary responsibility for and control over classroom behavior and maintenance of academic integrity.

Syllabus Changes

This syllabus is subject to change. I will notify the class regarding all changes. In the event of any discrepancy between this syllabus and content found in Canvas, the information in **CANVAS WILL TAKE PRECEDENCE**.

Submitting Electronic Files

All electronic files must be submitted in word(.doc, .docx) or rich text file (.rtf) format, unless otherwise stated. Please name your file in the using the following convention: *Assignmentname_Yourname.doc*.

Course Fees

There are no course fees associated with this course.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Honor Pledge

As stated in The Student Code, "Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to reinforce the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students."

Upon admission to the university, you agreed to abide by this Honor Code by signing the Honor Pledge, which reads: "I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity." Complete academic honesty is expected in this course. Cheating on exams or plagiarism on written assignments will result in a failing grade and may result in further action according to University policy.

Academic Dishonesty

The Instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University's Student Code:

Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Cheating using or attempting to use or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity, including working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually”;
 - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
 - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
 - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
 - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
 - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.
- Falsification: altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
- Plagiarism: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:

- [Student Conduct](#)
- [Student Code](#)
- [Academic Integrity](#)
- [USU Academic Policies and Procedures](#)

Students with Disabilities

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Please contact the DRC prior to or as early in the semester as possible. Alternate formats for course content are available with advanced notice.

Contacting the Disability Resource Center (DRC):

- Location in Room 101 of the University Inn.
- Phone Numbers
- 435-797-2444 voice
- <http://www.usu.edu/drc/>

Disability Related Resources for Current Students

- [DRC Student Handbook](#)
- [Deaf and Hard of Hearing Student Handbook](#)
- [Disability Related Scholarships](#)
- [Campus Resources](#)
- [Documentation Guidelines](#)
- [Online Resources for Students with Disabilities](#)

Diversity Statement

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact

- Moises Diaz, Director of Multicultural Student Services (435) 797-1733 <mailto:moises.diaz@usu.edu>;
- James Morales, Vice President of Student Services (435) 797- 1712 james.morales@usu.edu;
- Ann Austin, Vice Provost for Faculty Development and Diversity, <mailto:ann.austin@usu.edu>;
- Maure Smith, GLBTA Services, <mailto:maure.smith@usu.edu>;
- Steven Russell, Student Advocate (435) 797-1720 <mailto:s.r.@aggiemail.usu.edu>.
- You can learn about your student rights by visiting: <http://www.usu.edu/student-services/studentcode>.

Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code:

<http://www.usu.edu/student-services/pdf/StudentCode.pdf> - page=3

(Article VII. Grievances, pages 27-36).