This is a basic course in fingerspelling and the language of signs. The historical and philosophical aspects of manual communication will be discussed relative to the major types of manual communication. Special emphasis will be placed on the expressive and receptive use of sign. This course meets the American Humanics professional development competency for communications and public relations.

Required Text:  *Signing Exact English*. Modern Signs Press, Inc., Los Alamitos, CA

**Student Classroom Decorum Expectations**

*All cell phones must be turned off before entering class. Students are expected to be in class on time.*

To enhance the learning atmosphere of the classroom, students are expected to dress and behave in a fashion conducive to learning in the classroom. More specifically, students will refrain from disruptive classroom behavior (i.e., talking to classmates, disrespectful responses to teacher instructions; swearing; wearing clothes that impede academic learning such as but not limited to, wearing body-revealing clothing and excessively baggy pants; hats/caps, and/or headdress. Students will turn off telephones prior to entering the classroom. Students who exhibit the behaviors described above, or similar behaviors will be immediately dismissed from class at the third documented offense. The student will be readmitted to class only following a decision by the department chair. The student may appeal the decision of the department chair to the Dean of the College offering the course, and, subsequently, to the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and then to the President of Shaw University. The decision of the President will be final. Failure to follow the procedures herein outlined will result in termination of the appeal, and revert to the decision of the department chair. Each behavior construed by the teacher/professor as noncontributive to learning will be recorded, properly documented, and appropriately reported to the student and to the chair of the academic department offering the course. The report will be in written form with a copy provided to both the student and the department chair. The faculty member should retain a copy for his/her own records. Additional student behavior codes may be found in Student Affairs. Professional ethics in regards to accurate interpreting will be discussed.

**Course Objectives:**
The student will be able to:
1. Explain the basic tenants of manual communication.
2. Interpret for the hearing as well as the hearing impaired.
3. Increase sign vocabulary by 200 words (minimum)

**Course Outline**
I. Review the Historical Perspectives/Philosophy of Sign Language
II. Review of previous vocabulary
III. Introduction of new signs
IV. Conversational Speech with Signs
V. Professional ethics

**Evaluation**
1. Midterm Examination........................................15%
2. Final Examination........................................20%
3. Quizzes...................................................10%
4. "Signing Bee"............(each Friday)*....................20%
   *(No make-up will be given)*
5. Mid Semester Project........................................15%
6. Finale Presentation* (Song)... .........................15%
   *(Failure to complete results in automatic failure of course)*
7. Class participation/attendance.........................5%

**Grading Scale**
A = 90 - 100           D = 60 - 69
B = 80 - 89            F = 59 and below
C = 70 - 79