# Unit 1: Deaf History, Deaf Culture, and Multiple Manual Communication Modalities

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**
Course(s):
Time Period: **September**
Length: **3-5 blocks**
Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understandings

- The history of ASL is important to understanding how and why it is used in the United States.
- Deaf culture is rich, deep and detailed.
- Deaf Pride is valid and meaningful.
- ASL is one of many modes of manual communication.
- ASL is influenced by nuances from other manual communication modes.
- Understanding the basic foundations of ASL will help build a personal capacity for the vastness and richness of the langauge.

## Essential Questions

- Why is ASL such a unique langauge?
- How did ASL originate and become a recognized and accepted form of manual communication in the United States?
- How is Deaf culture unique?
- Why do poeple who are Deaf have their own culture?
- How do I embrace Deaf culture?

## Content

- History of ASL
- Deaf Culture and rules in Deaf culture
- ASL v. Signed English v. Pidgin
- Manual alphabet
- Numbers 1-10

## Skills

- Students will research various topics concerning ASL and other similar modalities using the internet and other in-class resources.
- Students will synthesize the breadth of information concerning Deaf history, Deaf culture, and the

various modalities of signed language.
- Students will present information concerning Deaf history, Deaf culture, and the various modalities of signed language.

## Resources

- National ASL Standards
- ASL Online Dictionary
- ASL I Lessons
- http://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/info-to-go/deaf-culture/american-deaf-culture.html
- http://www.ead.ee/foreign_deaf_history
- https://www.gallaudet.edu/about/history-and-traditions/historical-timeline
- https://abcnews.go.com/Health/story?id=2719254&page=1

## Standards

National ASL Standards

- Standard 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of American Deaf culture.
- Standard 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of American Deaf culture.
- Standard 3.2 Students acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through American Sign Language and Deaf culture.
- Standard 4.1 Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparisons of American Sign Language and their own languages.
- Standard 4.2 Students demonstrate understanding of the nature of culture through comparisons of American Deaf culture and their own.