

# Unit 1: Introduction

Content Area: **Template**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Full Year**  
Length: **Full Year**  
Status: **Published**

## UNIT RATIONALE

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Students will use the target language (American Sign Language-ASL) in the three modes of communication to identify d/Deaf people, Deaf cultural norms, and the ASL alphabet/numbers. This unit will provide the foundational skills that are necessary for students to develop ASL on their way towards fluency. Assessments will be based on students using and interpreting the target language.

### Interpretive:

Students interpret authentic signed/visual productions of American Sign Language that focus on language survival signs & the alphabet/numbers.

### Interpersonal:

Students will engage in unscripted conversations with classmates, the instructor, or the members of the Deaf Community.

### Presentational:

Students will use pre-rehearsed/memorized phrases in the target language as well as use culturally appropriate norms, gestures, and facial expressions.

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

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- How can I use a language when I've just started to learn it?
- What does it mean to be d/Deaf?
- What is the difference between deaf and Deaf?
- How can I navigate conversations in ASL when I don't know everything that was signed?
- What will help my classmates, my teacher, and members of the Deaf Community better understand me?
- How can I respect a culture that has different practices than my own?

## STANDARDS

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## **NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS: CONTENT AREA**

SAVED

### **New Jersey (NJSLS) - World Languages - Interpersonal Mode (2020)**

#### **7.1.NL.IPERS.1**

Respond to a few simple questions on very familiar topics using memorized words and phrases that have been repeatedly practiced.

#### **7.1.NL.IPERS.3**

Tell others a few basic preferences and/or feelings using memorized words and phrases, often supported by gestures or visuals.

#### **7.1.NL.IPERS.4**

React to a few procedural instructions, directions, and commands in classroom situations.

#### **7.1.NL.IPERS.5**

Enact a few culturally authentic gestures when greeting others and during leave takings.

#### **7.1.NL.IPERS.6**

Share with others the names of a few memorized and practiced words and phrases related to climate change in the target culture(s) and in students' own cultures.

### **New Jersey (NJSLS) - World Languages - Interpretive Mode (2020)**

#### **7.1.NL.IPRET.1**

Identify a few memorized and practiced words contained in oral, viewed, and written chunks of language in culturally authentic materials when supported by visual cues such as pictures and gestures and text support such as bolded words, bulleted lists, and/or captions.

#### **7.1.NL.IPRET.2**

Respond with physical actions and/or gestures to simple oral directions, commands, and requests.

#### **7.1.NL.IPRET.3**

Recognize a few common gestures associated with the target culture(s).

#### **7.1.NM.IPRET.2**

Respond with actions and/or gestures to oral and written directions, commands, and requests that relate to familiar and practiced topics.

### **New Jersey (NJSLS) - World Languages - Presentational Mode (2020)**

#### **7.1.NL.PRSNT.1**

Present very familiar personal information using memorized words and phrases that have been repeatedly practiced, often using gestures and visuals to support communication.

#### **7.1.NL.PRSNT.2**

Express a few basic preferences and/or feelings using memorized words and phrases that are supported by gestures or visuals.

#### **7.1.NL.PRSNT.3**

Imitate a few culturally authentic gestures when greeting others and during leave takings.

#### **7.1.NL.PRSNT.4**

State the names of a few memorized and practiced words and phrases related to climate change in the target culture(s) and in students' own cultures.

WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPERS.1	Respond to a few simple questions on very familiar topics using memorized words and phrases that have been repeatedly practiced.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPERS.3	Tell others a few basic preferences and/or feelings using memorized words and phrases, often supported by gestures or visuals.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPERS.4	React to a few procedural instructions, directions, and commands in classroom situations.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPERS.5	Enact a few culturally authentic gestures when greeting others and during leave takings.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPERS.6	Share with others the names of a few memorized and practiced words and phrases related to climate change in the target culture(s) and in students' own cultures.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPRET.1	Identify a few memorized and practiced words contained in oral, viewed, and written chunks of language in culturally authentic materials when supported by visual cues such as pictures and gestures and text support such as bolded words, bulleted lists, and/or captions.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPRET.2	Respond with physical actions and/or gestures to simple oral directions, commands, and requests.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.IPRET.3	Recognize a few common gestures associated with the target culture(s).
WL.NL.7.1.NL.PRSNT.1	Present very familiar personal information using memorized words and phrases that have been repeatedly practiced, often using gestures and visuals to support communication.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.PRSNT.2	Express a few basic preferences and/or feelings using memorized words and phrases that are supported by gestures or visuals.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.PRSNT.3	Imitate a few culturally authentic gestures when greeting others and during leave takings.
WL.NL.7.1.NL.PRSNT.4	State the names of a few memorized and practiced words and phrases related to climate change in the target culture(s) and in students' own cultures.
WL.NM.7.1.NM.IPRET.2	Respond with actions and/or gestures to oral and written directions, commands, and requests that relate to familiar and practiced topics.

## **NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS: CAREER READINESS, LIFE LITERACIES AND KEY SKILLS**

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Developed by the American Council on the Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and P21, the attached map reflects the collective effort of World Language teachers in the United States and illustrates the integration of World Languages and 21st Century Skills. This map provides educators, administrators, and policymakers with concrete examples of how 21st Century Skills can be integrated into core subjects.

[21st Century Skills Map-World Languages.pdf](#)

PFL.9.1.5.CR.1	Compare various ways to give back and relate them to your strengths, interests, and other personal factors.
TECH.9.4.5.CI.3	Participate in a brainstorming session with individuals with diverse perspectives to expand one's thinking about a topic of curiosity (e.g., 8.2.5.ED.2, 1.5.5.CR1a).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.2	Identify a problem and list the types of individuals and resources (e.g., school, community agencies, governmental, online) that can aid in solving the problem (e.g., 2.1.5.CHSS.1, 4-

	ESS3-1).
TECH.9.4.5.CT.3	Describe how digital tools and technology may be used to solve problems.
TECH.9.4.5.CT.4	Apply critical thinking and problem-solving strategies to different types of problems such as personal, academic, community and global (e.g., 6.1.5.CivicsCM.3).
TECH.9.4.5.IML.2	Create a visual representation to organize information about a problem or issue (e.g., 4.MD.B.4, 8.1.5.DA.3).
TECH.9.4.5.IML.7	Evaluate the degree to which information meets a need including social emotional learning, academic, and social (e.g., 2.2.5. PF.5).

## NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS: COMPUTER SCIENCE AND DESIGN THINKING

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### Resources & Technology

- Smart Board
- Google Slides
- YouTube Videos
- Video Recording Apps (for student work & assessment)

TECH.8.1.5.A.3	Use a graphic organizer to organize information about problem or issue.
TECH.8.1.5.C.1	Engage in online discussions with learners of other cultures to investigate a worldwide issue from multiple perspectives and sources, evaluate findings and present possible solutions, using digital tools and online resources for all steps.

### PRE-ASSESSMENTS

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Students will discuss their knowledge on what basic information is needed in order to learn a language. Students will discuss how languages assist in communication and different ways to communicate beyond spoken language (ex: gesturing, writing things down, pictures, etc.). Students will build on these skills throughout the unit as well as incorporate them into their ASL production.

### INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

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### MODULE 1

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**Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT:**  
(We are learning to...)

- We are learning ASL "survival" signs.
- We are learning what the term "d/Deaf" means."

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are learning to identify people in the room by role and indexing.</li> <li>• We are learning to communicate information using facial expressions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Student Learning Strategies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to use the targeted vocabulary.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Success Criteria</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I can orally explain what the term d/Deaf means.</li> <li>• I can use indexing to identify people in the room.</li> <li>• I can use facial expressions to communicate a message.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities and Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Warm Up:</b></li> </ul>

	<p>Intro to ASL, Deaf Culture, &amp; Instructor</p> <p><b>Whole Group:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survival Signs (yes, no, bathroom, sign, teacher, good morning/afternoon)</li> <li>• Facial Expressions</li> </ul> <p><b>Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Happy Salmon Gesture Game</li> </ul>
<p><b>Suggested Modifications</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a></p>

## MODULE 2

<p><b>Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)</b></p>	<p>We are learning to use and describe ASL conversation regulators and deaf cultural behaviors surrounding communication.</p>
<p><b>Student Learning Strategies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to use the targeted vocabulary.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Success Criteria</b></p>	<p>I can have a conversation in ASL with a peer using targeted vocabulary and facial expressions.</p>
<p><b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do Now- What does ASL stand for?</li> <li>• Discussion- Who uses sign language?</li> <li>• The 5 Parameters of ASL</li> <li>• Vocabulary Direct Instruction- Survival Signs</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested Modifications</b>	<a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a>

## MODULE 3

<b>Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)</b>	We are learning the ASL alphabet.
<b>Student Learning Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to use the targeted vocabulary.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Success Criteria</b>	I can use the ASL alphabet to spell my name and objects around me.

<b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do Now- Discovery of ASL alphabet sheet</li> <li>• Video- Jack Hartman "See It, Say It, Sign It"</li> <li>• Video- Super Simple Songs "ABC Chant"</li> <li>• Direct Instruction on each letter of the ABCs</li> <li>• Student practice time to fingerspell their name</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested Modifications</b>	<a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a>

## MODULE 4

<b>Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)</b>	<p>We are learning to count from 1 to 20 in American Sign Language.</p>
<b>Student Learning Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to use the targeted vocabulary.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>

<b>Success Criteria</b>	I can use the numbers 1-20 to answer basic problems.
<b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do Now- Student discovery of ASL numbers- What are some things that you notice/surprise you? Can you make a connection to things you have already learned?</li> <li>• Video- Jack Hartmann "Count to 20 &amp; Work Out"</li> <li>• Video- "ASL Numbers Song"</li> <li>• Numbers &amp; Math Vocabulary</li> <li>• Balloon Math</li> <li>• Telephone Game</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested Modifications</b>	<a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a>

## MODULE 5

<b>Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)</b>	We are learning to have a basic conversation in ASL.
<b>Student Learning Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to</li> </ul>

	<p>use the targeted vocabulary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Success Criteria</b>	I can use my knowledge of Unit 1 to have a conversation with a peer.
<b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do Now- ASL ABC Challenge</li> <li>• Partner Chat</li> <li>• Review of numbers and math.</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested Modifications</b>	<a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a>

## MODULE 6

<b>Student Learning Intentions (SLI) WALT: (We are learning to...)</b>	We are learning to introduce ourselves in ASL.
<b>Student Learning Strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using Total Physical Response (TPR) students will learn vocabulary in the targeted language through physical movement.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will work in small groups/partners to use the targeted vocabulary.</li> <li>• Students will demonstrate understanding of vocabulary learned through TPR, presentation, and games.</li> <li>• Students will use basic vocabulary to answer questions.</li> </ul>
<b>Success Criteria</b>	I can introduce myself to a partner using ASL.
<b>Formative Assessment (drives instructional decisions)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily Observations</li> <li>• Participation in class</li> <li>• TPR responsiveness &amp; readiness</li> <li>• Presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive group activities.</li> <li>• Student feedback based on learning intentions.</li> </ul>
<b>Activities and Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do Now- Review of ABCs using videos (either "See It, Say It, Sign It" or "ABC Chant")</li> <li>• Name fingerspelling practice</li> <li>• Vocabulary Instruction on greetings</li> <li>• Making Introductions grammar structure.</li> </ul>
<b>Suggested Modifications</b>	<a href="#">Click Here for Suggested Modifications</a>

## **REFLECTIONS**

For future lessons, introduce vocabulary more slowly and give students more time to engage with the vocabulary and use it. Foundational vocabulary will be very relevant to the students throughout their time using ASL, so it is worthwhile to spend the additional time teaching them the signs that will be more important to them.

K-2 & 3-5 do not necessarily need to learn the same vocabulary each week. K-2 should be learning fewer, but relevant vocabulary, while 3-5 (in the future) can begin to build off of the basic vocabulary that they have already

learned.

## **INTERDISCIPLINARY CONNECTIONS: NEW JERSEY STUDENT LEARNING STANDARDS FOR ELA, SOCIAL STUDIES, SCIENCE AND/OR MATHEMATICS**

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Student learning across various content areas (ELA, Social Studies, Math, and Science) will be reinforced through learning American Sign Language.

**ELA-** Students will be able to start making English to ASL language connections starting with learning their letters. ASL will give students a kinesthetic way to think about language.

**Social Studies-** Throughout the unit, students will start learning about Deaf Culture and Deaf Cultural norms.

**Math-** Students will learn numbers in this unit and basic math concepts can be reinforced (counting, addition, subtraction, etc.)

MA.4.OA	Operations and Algebraic Thinking
MA.4.OA.A	Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems.
SOC.6.1.5.CivicsPI.1	Describe ways in which people benefit from and are challenged by working together, including through government, workplaces, voluntary organizations, and families.
MA.4.OA.B	Gain familiarity with factors and multiples.
MA.4.NBT	Number and Operations in Base Ten
SOC.6.1.5.CivicsPI.8	Describe how the United States Constitution defines and limits the power of government.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL1	Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.SL2	Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
SOC.6.1.5.CivicsCM.3	Identify the types of behaviors that promote collaboration and problem solving with others who have different perspectives.
SOC.6.1.5.CivicsCM.5	Investigate the lives of New Jersey individuals with diverse experiences who have contributed to the improvement of society.
LA.L.4.1.A	Use relative pronouns (who, whose, whom, which, that) and relative adverbs (where, when, why).
LA.L.4.1.B	Form and use the progressive (e.g., I was walking; I am walking; I will be walking) verb tenses.
LA.L.4.2.D	Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.
LA.L.4.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

