

Sample Syllabus for a 3-credit Course

(45 contact hours)

Required Text

Fingerspelled Word Recognition through Rapid Serial Visual Presentation by Carol J. Patrie, Ph.D. and Robert E. Johnson, Ph.D.

Course Description

This one-semester course provides an avenue to improved fingerspelled word recognition by providing theoretical information, practice in specific skills that underlie the fingerspelled word recognition process, and practice in correctly recognizing fingerspelled words in context. The approach used in this course is based on research and experimentation.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate the following outcomes:

1. Discuss the structure and function of fingerspelling in American Sign Language.
2. Describe and identify examples of careful, rapid, and lexicalized fingerspelling.
3. Discuss the dynamic nature of the anxiety surrounding fingerspelled word recognition.
4. Explain the cognitive processes involved in fingerspelled word recognition.
5. Describe the process of template building in fingerspelled word recognition.
6. Complete the exercises in rapid serial visual presentation included on the DVD.
7. Identify and describe the fingerspelling contained in the associated monologues.
8. Summarize the information provided about fingerspelling using examples from the ASL monologues.

Weekly Assignments and Topics

- All reading assignments are in the required text.
- Assignments in RSVP training are on the accompanying CD. There are 43 lessons. Each lesson has 5 lists of 20 words each.
- To maximize RSVP training benefit plan to study the lessons on the CD one chapter at a time rather than completing all of the assigned RSVP training for the week in a single sitting.
- Assignments on template building and recognition of fingerspelled words in context are on the accompanying DVD.

- Week 1**
- Read the Introduction.
- Week 2**
- Read chapter 1 “Historical and Current Impressions of Signed Languages and Fingerspelled Words.”
 - Complete Lessons 1, 2, and 3 on the RSVP CD.
- Week 3**
- Read chapter 2 “Effective Strategies for Fingerspelled Word Recognition.”
 - Complete lessons 4, 5, 6, and 7 on the RSVP CD.
- Week 4**
- Read chapter 3 “What Is Fingerspelling?”
 - Complete lessons 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the RSVP CD.
- Week 5**
- Read chapter 4 “Careful Fingerspelling.”
 - Complete lessons 12, 13, 14, and 15 on the RSVP CD.
- Week 6**
- Read chapter 5 “Rapid Fingerspelling.”
 - Complete lessons 16, 17, 18, and 19 on the RSVP CD.
- Week 7**
- Read chapter 6 “New Signs Derived from Fingerspelling.”
 - Complete lessons 20, 21, 22, and 23 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
 - Study the word list for “An Adventure in the Himalayas” by Alec Naiman on the DVD. There are 24 words to study.
 - Watch the monologue “An Adventure in the Himalayas” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.
- Week 8**
- Read chapter 7 “How Fingerspelling Accesses Meaning.”
 - Complete lessons 24, 25, 26, and 27 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
 - Study the word list for “The Scariest Moment of My Life” by Jo Bienvenu. There are 37 words to study.

- d. Watch the monologue for “The Scariest Moment of My Life” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those word.

Week 9

- a. Read chapter 8 “Cognitive Aspects of Fingerspelled Word Recognition.”
- b. Complete lessons 28, 29, 30, and 31 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
- c. Study the word list for “My Work in the Entertainment Industry” by Susan Jones. There are 51 words to study.
- d. Watch the monologue for “My Work in the Entertainment Industry” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.

Week 10

- a. Read chapter 9 “Anxiety in Fingerspelled Word Recognition.”
- b. Complete lessons 32, 33, 34, and 35 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
- c. Study the word list for “Malibu Vice” by John Maucere. There are 32 words in this list.
- d. Watch the monologues for “Malibu Vice” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.

Week 11

- a. Read chapter 10 “Memory and Processing Factors that Interfere with or Enhance Fingerspelled Word Recognition.”
- b. Complete lessons 36, 37, 38 and 39 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
- c. Study the word list for “Memories of the California School for the Deaf” by Ken Norton. There are 44 words in this list.
- d. Watch the monologues for “Memories of the California School for the Deaf” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.

Week 12

- a. Read chapter 11 “Practical Aspects and Approaches to Improving Fingerspelled Word Recognition.”
- b. Complete lessons 40, and 41 with the distracters turned on.
- c. Study the word list for “My Job at Kodak” by Leslie Greer. There are 75 words in this list.
- d. Watch the monologue for “My Job at Kodak” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.

Week 13

- a. Complete lessons 42 and 43 on the RSVP CD with the distracters turned on.
- b. Study the word list for “Computers” by Steve Long. There are 62 words in this list.
- c. Watch the monologue for “Computers” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words.

Week 14

- a. Study the word list for “VW Engines Made Simple” by Robin Taylor. There are 36 words in this list.
- b. Watch the monologue for “VW Engines Made Simple” and write down the numbers of any fingerspelled words that you did not comprehend in context. Review the word list again to study those words .