

DEAF CULTURE AND DEAF HISTORY COURSE FOR DEAF YOUTH MINNA & THOMAS

Ole gave us one task for this project. We were split in 4 groups. I and Thomas worked together. We had to design a week program for students in Deaf schools. Thomas and I picked young people aged between 12 and 17 for this program.

SCHEDULE OF THE DEAF CULTURE AND HISTORY COURSE FOR DEAF YOUTH (13-17)

I tell some examples about our plan- Monday: Introduction to the course and the themes, Deaf Culture introduction, creative workshops etc. Tuesday: Quick evaluation from yesterday and introduction to Deaf Education, History of Deaf Education. Wednesday: Sign Language Thursday: Deaf Identity etc. Friday: Deaf organizations EUDY and WDFYS, evaluation and summaries of Deaf Culture, Deaf Identity, Sign Language and History of the Education. We also made materials for this course, made questions for student, homework themes, workshops etc. In this summary we will present some examples of the questions according Deaf Culture, Deaf History, etc.

The aim of the course is to give the Deaf students a better knowledge of their background, the history and much more. Unfortunately there are many students who do not receive proper education in their own history and background because the majority of the teachers are hearing. Hearing people have a limited knowledge of Deaf History. We want to provide a good opportunity to let the Deaf students learn these important things during an intensive week-course covering the most important things a Deaf person have to know.

Schedule of the Deaf Culture and History Course for Deaf Youth

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00	Introduction to the course and the themes	Quick evaluation from yesterday and introduction to Deaf Education	Quick evaluation from yesterday, discussion on the homework.	Quick evaluation from yesterday and introduction to Deaf Identity	Quick evaluation from yesterday and introduction to Deaf Organisations
9:45 - 10:30	Deaf Culture introduction	Workshops on the history of Deaf Education	Introduction to Sign Language	Deaf Identity	Presentation of EUDY and WFDYS
10:30- 11:15	Creative workshops	Workshops continued	Sign Language continued	Discussion on Deaf Identity	Presentation continued

12:45-13:30	Workshops on Deaf Culture	Workshops continued	Workshops on SL	Workshops on Deaf Identity	Organisations in practice
13:30-14:15	Presentations and discussion	Workshops continued	Workshops continued	Workshops on Deaf Identity	Organisations in practice
14:15-15:00	Summary and home work	Presentation and summary. Introduction to homework	Presentations and summary Introduction to homework	Presentations and summary Introduction to homework	Evaluation and summary



Workshops on Deaf culture:

Try to find examples on specific things that characterise Deaf culture, for example:

- Languages
- Behaviour
- Are you aware of belonging a special culture such as the Deaf culture?
- Try to explain the Deaf culture and the Deaf community
- When are people aware of belonging to the Deaf culture?

Creative workshops:

- Create a collage using clips from magazines, newspapers, paintings, different materials characterising the Deaf culture, Deaf community and the hearing community. How do they interact and how does the flow look like between these?
- You are also welcome to create a short signed poem on being Deaf among a hearing majority.



Deaf Identity

- Big or small D?
 - Do you feel difference between big or small D?

- Workshop on Deaf Identity
 - Share your views on Deaf Identity
 - Discuss the texts on Deaf Identity
 - Can hearing people have a Deaf Identity?

After workshops, make a short presentation of your group discussions, about 5 minutes.

- Homework - Your Identities
 - *How about you?*
 - *Which of your many identities are important to you?*
 - *Which are not?*

Try to do some research on the internet. Try search on Google for Deaf Identity, look up pictures and documents.



SIGN LANGUAGE

Sign Language is an integral part and an identifying feature of membership in the Deaf culture.

Sign Language has its own grammatical structure independent of any spoken/written language, e.g. English, Danish, and Finnish, etc.

Sign Language is the first language of the majority of Deaf.

As contrary to common assumption, a sign language is not universal. Like spoken languages, there are unique sign languages around the world

QUESTIONS:

- ✓ WHAT IS International Sign Language?
- ✓ Have you ever met a hearing person you thought was Deaf?
- ✓ Can you speak different Sign Languages?
- ✓ Do you want to learn different Sign Languages?
- ✓ What do you prefer - finger spelling or signs?
- ✓ Have you ever created your own signs?

