

Policies

Revised 3/24/23

Symptom/Screening/Exposure

CSDHH requires that students who experience any [symptoms of COVID-19](#), who have had a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19, or who have tested positive themselves do not attend class in-person. When in doubt, stay home; there are alternative resources students can use to stay up-to-date. Do not risk your fellow students, CSDHH staff, and instructors by attending class.

We will not administer any arrival screening for students during classes. We are expecting students to follow our requirements and expectations on their own. If we learn that a student has arrived to class after experiencing symptoms, having had an exposure, or after testing positive, **that student will be required to leave immediately**. If we learn of any potential exposure to other students, such as if someone learns after attending class that they tested positive and may have had COVID-19 when they were in class, we will inform all students in an anonymous manner.

By signing up for in-person classes, students acknowledge that they will be in a room with more than a dozen other people and that there is a risk of exposure inherent to in-person classes.

Cleaning

CSDHH will ensure that alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available at the entrance to our office and/or the entrance to the classroom, and we encourage folks to wash their hands before entering the office; wash their hands after coughing, sneezing, or touching their mouth or nose; and use hand sanitizer as well throughout the class session whenever needed.

Additionally, weekly between each class session CSDHH will sanitize high-touch areas, including door knobs, tables and chairs, light switches, and other areas.

Masking

CSDHH will follow all applicable local and statewide ordinances and mandates. Currently, according to the Guilford County Health Department, NC DHHS, and the CDC, masks are **not required** to be worn indoors, but are recommended for unvaccinated folks, and when Guilford County's Community Level is High (or when it's Medium for folks at increased risk for severe illness or who spend time or live with folks at higher risk).

Students should know that ASL incorporates facial expressions, eyebrow grammar, mouth morphemes, and other Non-Manual Signals (NMS) on the face; therefore, opaque or reflective face masks can impede students' ability to fully learn the language and teachers' ability to provide appropriate corrective feedback and coaching. We also understand that students may feel more comfortable wearing a mask since they'll be in a room with up to 12 other folks.

CSDHH encourages each student to make the best decision for themselves, knowing the environment, their level of risk and comfort, and the demands of classes. Students should note that each student may make their own decision regarding masking, and that students should not expect other students to change their behavior based on your preferences. We will work to ensure folks are able to learn effectively whether they or their classmates mask in class or not; we don't want anyone to feel they have to choose between their own safety or their ability to learn the content.

We are planning for the instructor in class to be mask-off, so that students are able to fully learn ASL, including the NMS mentioned above. If local ordinances or mandates regarding indoor masking change, we will assess how to adapt classes at that point.

Vaccines

CSDHH will follow all applicable local and statewide ordinances and mandates. Currently, according to the Guilford County Public Health, NC DHHS, and the CDC, vaccines are recommended for [all who are eligible](#). CSDHH endorses that recommendation; while vaccination is not required to attend classes and we will not be collecting or verifying vaccination status, we encourage anyone planning to attend in-person classes to be up-to-date on vaccines and boosters.

CSDHH encourages each student to consult Health Department, NC DHHS, and CDC guidelines, as well as guidance from their healthcare provider, to make the best decision for themselves. If local ordinances or mandates regarding vaccination change, we will assess how to adapt classes at that point.

Classroom Specs and Info

Classes will take place in the CSDHH Conference Room. Our office is in the Revolution Mill building, an old converted textile mill which now contains commercial, retail, and residential space. Our office consists of several individual offices, as well as a few common areas, including a lobby, kitchen, hallway, and conference room (which is where class will take place).

Our conference room measures approximately 27' x 18'9", with one corner truncated at roughly a 45-degree angle to accommodate the entrance door. The walls are ~10' feet high, and **there is no ceiling in the room**; above the 10' walls is open air up to the ceilings of our office, which are likely at least 20' high. Air circulates throughout and above the several shared spaces in the office and the two offices which do not have floor-to-ceiling walls.

See pictures here:

Under normal circumstances, class has accommodated up to 18 students each. As we return to offering in-person classes, we are making the decision to **limit the capacity to 12 students**. Students should expect to be close to each other **without** a 6ft distance separating them from their classmates. There will be six 2ft x 5ft tables arranged in U, with two students per table.

Disclaimer

CSDHH acknowledges that we cannot require or enforce some of the health and safety guidelines that students may be concerned about, and in the interest of allowing students to make an informed decision before registering for class, we want to make explicit our policies, procedures, and other logistical information regarding classes.

CSDHH has and will continue to make our best effort to ensure that in-person classes are provided in as safe a manner as possible. Knowing that any in-person gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic brings with it a risk of exposure and illness, we are responding to the high demand for in-person classes while ensuring that students are receiving a quality, effective learning experience.

CSDHH has clear and published Policies and Procedures regarding [masking](#), [vaccinations](#), [cleaning](#), and [screenings, symptoms, and exposure](#). Students registering for in-person classes must read and be familiar with those Policies, and

by registering for class agree that they are familiar with our Policies, Procedures, and protocols, as well as the expectations and requirements of students. Students also should familiarize themselves with information on the [classroom](#) that classes will occur in.

By registering for classes, students are acknowledging that they are deciding to accept the risk inherent with in-person classes; that they are attending with other students who may or may not follow these guidelines; and that, while CSDHH will do its best to ensure a safe environment as outlined, ultimately students accept responsibility and liability for attending in-person classes.

Should local, regional, statewide, or other ordinances, mandates, or requirements change, we'll inform students as quickly as possible how those changes will affect ASL classes offered by CSDHH, and will make changes to meet new requirements and guidelines in a way that ensures the best-possible learning for our students.

Procedures


Screening/Symptoms/Exposures

- If any student has, or seems to have, apparent symptoms of COVID-19; mentions symptoms, exposure, or a positive test; or otherwise seems to be a risk and to be disregarding our Policy as outlined, please ask them to immediately leave class. Reach out to CSDHH for support as needed.
 - Encourage students to take advantage of support resources to stay caught up on the content: review supplemental materials outside of class, join a Study Hall virtually, browse online resources, and reach out to CSDHH with any specific questions.

Cleaning

Procedures

- Ensure signage is on office entrance door
- Ensure hand sanitizer is available at/near the entrance to the conference room
- In between class, use the cleaning wipes to disinfect:
 - Inside and outside knobs of front door, lobby door, and conference room
 - Light switches in lobby, main office, and conference room

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- Chair surfaces and high-touch areas (seat of chair, backrest, upper frame) for each chair in conference room
 - (If applicable) Table surfaces and edges in conference room