**Deaf Experience ProjectASL 1**

**Goal:** This project is designed to help hearing people not only understand the issues that Deaf people face, but also to begin to understand what life is like as a person who is hard of hearing living in a hearing world. The experiences themselves can be done as a group or individually. You will then come together and work as a group to develop the poster based on all of your experiences. **Part 1 – TV Experience**

You will watch a thirty-minute TV show you **have not yet seen** without any sound while recording it. You may also watch the first 30 minutes of a movie on VHS or DVD as long as you able to watch the same thirty minutes again. This is the way many Deaf people experience TV. Make notes on how you felt, what you experienced as well as what you thought the show was about. Then re-watch the same show (30 minutes) with captioning part of the time (if captioning is available for the show and for your TV). Finally watch it with sound and again make notes about what you experienced with the captioning and compare what you thought the show was about to what it actually was about.

It may be helpful to take notes while you are watching. If this was the only way you could watch TV would you watch it as much as you do now? Did you realize anything from this part of the assignment? Answer these questions and include your feelings, details about your experience and any other information on your poster.**Part 2 – Ear Plugs and No Talking Experience**In order to conduct this exercise you must all wear earplugs and conduct a means of communication except your voice. You may choose the length of time depending on your comfort level but I would advise at least 2 hours interacting with others in some way. I would also suggest that you interact with people that are part of your daily activities (shopping, dining, classes, etc.) rather than planning an event out of the ordinary.

Buy one set of earplugs and wear them for as long as you are comfortable. Wear one in each ear until you are almost finished then take one out and leave one in. This will allow you to see the effects of having hearing in only one ear. **Do not use earplugs while driving!!! This is illegal and can be dangerous when you are used to hearing environmental noises to help you with driving. Also it is stressed you wear earplugs inside a building and not outside because of safety reasons such as walking across street and not being able to hear cars coming.**Challenge yourself, see if you can go the full day without speaking, and see if you can handle awkward or difficult situations. Please try to address the following questions on your group poster, but feel free to modify the questions and make the poster relevant to your group’s experience. *Questions in think about:*

How did you feel with one earplug versus two?Did you keep your earplugs in longer than you thought you would? Why or why not?How did other people react to you?Give an example of frustrating situation.Did you have difficulty communicating with others? Why or why not?What surprised you?What advantages or disadvantage did you have?Did participating in this project enhance your awareness? Why or why not?How did you feel with earplugs in versus having no earplugs at all?How did your behavior change from the first hour to the last?Would you want to do this project again? Why or why not?Other comments

You will create your poster with your group, but you are allowed to do the activities separately if you are not able to coordinate times together. You must then work together as a group discussing your experiences and developing the poster.

**Poster requirements:**

Size: At least 30” X 24” (If not exact, large enough to be poster sized.)Colorful designBe creativeInclude drawing or picturesExtra credit will be given for those posters that do not use any words (written/typed)Poster should include all group members and activities.

**Poster walk:**Your posters will be displayed in class. Groups will then view all posters and write two questions and two comments for each.