

# YOUR TEACHER:

*Welcome to American Sign Language level 1. My name is Manuel Martin.*

*I learned my first sign in 1984 when my wife Linda and I accepted a deaf foster son, Jeffrey. He changed our lives. He was with us for one year, but he is forever our son. I went on to become fluent and eventually became an interpreter and then a teacher of ASL.*

*I currently teach for C.O.D.A. at Harvard University, at the University of RI and Roger Williams University. I also teach adult education classes, secondary and elementary age students, pre-school students, homeschooled students and private classes with families. I am an ASL consultant for several towns. I have been used in court as an expert witness on the effects language deprivation has on children.*

*I travel to Viet Nam each year and work with deaf students and adults, and their families. I am semi-fluent in the signed language used in Da Nang, in central Viet Nam.*

*I taught ASL at RI School for the Deaf starting in 1994 and subsequently became the director for the American Sign Language program there from 2001 – 2009. I am the founder and director of the ASL Academy in Pawtucket, RI. (2009 - present).*

*This introductory level will give you a solid foundation in this new and exciting language! We hope you will be motivated to continue to level 2.*

*Manuel D. Martin*

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