

# Classes by Leisa Gustafson

"Establish thou the work of our hands upon us." -Psalm 90: 17

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## Personal History

I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior as a young child and have watched in amazement His sovereign hand leading me. After graduating from Michigan State University with a degree in Special Education for the Deaf, I taught the Deaf for several years in Lansing Schools. After moving to Grand Rapids and starting a family, I decided to stay home and raise my children based on biblical principles. I home school my eight children, interpret for the Deaf at my church, and have tutored ASL and history at Teenworks for fourteen years and currently tutor at the PTC.

## 5/6 Early American History

History is the record of God's relationship to man. It tells us the reason we are here and our purpose as individuals and as nations. Geography is the study of both the God-made and man-made divisions of the Earth. It is the stage where His-story occurs. We will study early American History from our country's birth, through its growth and westward movement to post-Civil War reconstruction. Many hands on projects are included in this class including state and president notebooks.

### **Resources needed:**

The following is a tentative list of books needed for Class. A \$12.00 copy fee, payable to the tutor on the first day of class, is required

- \* *The Vikings*-Elizabeth Janeway
- \* *The Landing of the Pilgrims*-James Daugherty
- \* *George Washington*-Ingri and Edgar Paren D' Aulaire
- \* *Paul Revere*-----Esther Forbes
- \* *Lewis and Clark Expedition*-Sanna Porte Kiesling
- \* *Walking the Road to Freedom* -Jeri Ferris
- \* *Across Five Aprils*-Irene Hunt

Each student needs a 2 1/2 -3 inch binder, tabbed dividers and access to various materials: clay, poster board and colored pencils. Library research is essential to this class.

## 7th/8th Grade History

### Medieval History and Geography

Castles, knights, lords, ladies, and chivalry paint a false rosy image of this era long ago. Truly, during the Dark Ages freedom and liberty were almost unknown, and the light of truth and knowledge was nearly snuffed out. To these strong characters who struggled to preserve and nurture this liberty we owe a debt of gratitude. Come back to the time of loyalty, myths, and castles and watch the seed of our liberty sprout and grow. All books available from Beautiful Feet Publishers, Sandwich, Massachusetts.

#### **Resources needed:** (Tentative list)

Regular trips to your local library are essential to this class.

*The Story of Liberty*, by Charles Coffi.

*The Magna Charta*, by James Daugherty.

*Otto of the Silver hand*, by Howard Pyle

*Adam of the Road*, by Elizabeth Gray.

*The Door in the Wall*, by Marguerite DeAngeli.

*The Morning Star of the Reformation*, by Andy Thompson.

*Fine Print*, by Joann Burch.

*The Hawk that Dare not Hunt by Day*, by Scott O'Dell.

## American Sign Language I & II

### 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

#### **Introduction**

In Matthew 28: 19-20 we are given the Great Commission. This is an awesome responsibility considering our worlds, diverse languages, customs, and histories. Students will become equipped to carry the Good News of our Savior Jesus Christ to one people group in our diverse world-the Deaf They will learn the language, customs, and biblical history associated with this unique group. Only eternity will reveal how God has established the work of our hands in our community.

#### **American Sign Language I (9th - 12th)**

Students will gain an understanding of ASL, its vocabulary, grammar, Christian heritage, physiology and culture. Students will be required to give their personal testimony in ASL by the year's end.

**Text:** *A Basic Course in American Sign Language*. Copy fee: \$8.00 first semester.

#### **American Sign Language II (9th - 12th)**

**Prerequisite:** ASL I or equivalent.

Students will build on their knowledge of ASL and increase their understanding of hearing losses, Deaf culture, and occupations for interpreters for the Deaf Students will be adept at translating Bible stories by year's end.

**Texts:** *A Basic course in American Sign Language* (same text as ASL I).

*Deaf Heritage: A Narrative History of Deaf America* Copy fee: \$8.00 first semester.

## Philosophy: A Christian Worldview (9-12<sup>th</sup>)

Many children from Christian homes enter college with no preparation for the challenges to their faith and when confronted by a professor or student they fumble and realize they don't know why they believe what they believe.

“Every individual bases his or her thoughts, decisions and actions on a worldview. A person may not be able to identify this worldview, and it may lack consistency, but the most basic assumptions about the origin of life, purpose, and the future guarantee adherence to some system of thought.

Because worldviews are pertinent to every person's life-the way we think and act-and because virtually all worldviews promise some sort of salvation or utopia, the study of worldviews is of critical importance.”  
(Thinking like a Christian)

In this half semester class we will study worldviews through workbook assignments, projects and research that highlight the following 10 disciplines:

1. Theology Is there a God?
2. Philosophy What is real, what is true?
3. Biology What is the origin of life?
4. Psychology What is the basic nature of mankind?
5. Ethics. What is right?
6. Sociology How should society be structured?
7. Law What is the basis for law?
8. Politics What is the purpose of government?
9. Economics What produces a sound government?
10. History How should we interpret human events?

**Text:** *Thinking like a Christian; Understanding and Living a Biblical Worldview,*  
(student journal) ISBN # 080543896-3  
*author:* David Noebel and Chuck Edwards

**Copy fee:** \$5:00