SPI 111
CULTURAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN MEDICAL INTERPRETATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

This course provides cultural sensitivity instruction, as well as in-depth focus on professional ethics for the interpreter. Emphasis is placed on researching the fundamentals of professional ethics, creating ethical guidelines for interpreters and learning about Hispanic cultural issues. Upon completion, students should be able to apply professional ethics and an understanding of the Hispanic culture in the interpreting field. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course the students will be able to:

1. Understand various cultures and the relationship between language, culture and power.
2. Improve cultural self-awareness and understanding of their own culture in the global context.
3. Apply the Code of Ethics for Interpreters in Healthcare, complying with the standards of the profession in diverse environments with a variety of people.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

I. Ethics
   a. Introduction
   b. Ethics, Judgments, Principles and Values
   c. Basic ethical principles

II. Code of Ethics for Interpreters in Healthcare
   a. Codes of Ethics and Professionalism
   b. Codes of Ethics for Interpreters in Healthcare
   c. American Sign Language (ASL)
      IMIA
   d. The National Council on Interpreting in Health Care

III. Legal Framework for Language access in Healthcare
   a. The Legal Framework for Language access in Healthcare Settings
   b. Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights
   c. Executive Order 13166
   d. The OCR (Office of the Civil Rights) Policy Guidance
   e. Reimbursement for language Services for Medicaid

IV. The Role of the Medical Interpreter
   a. Choosing a role
b. Definitions of: conduit, clarifier, cultural broker, advocate, ad-hoc interpreter, volunteer, trained, certified interpreter.

c. Certification of Healthcare Interpreters

V. Culture
   a. Culture- concept
   b. Origin and history of the term “Latino”
   c. Complexity of identity in the Hispanic population
   d. Demographics within the United States
   e. Historical Perspectives
   f. Positive Cultural Contributions of Hispanic or Latino (a)s in the Unites States
   g. Cultural considerations (family, gender roles, general cultural characteristics, foods, music, dance, Hispanic/Latino holidays and traditional events, on verbal communication)
   h. Contemporary Issues affecting the Hispanic/Latino community in the United States (bilingualism and the English-only debate, education, health care)

VI. Hispanic/ Latino Health Belief System
   a. Health and Illness in the Hispanic Population
   b. Hispanic Latino Health Belief System
   c. General Folk Beliefs
   d. Traditional Religious Practice and Medical Views
   e. Research Project
   f. Case studies
   g. An Interview with Elena Avila R.N.,MSN, Curandera

VII. Multicultural Interpreter
   a. Multicultural Interpreter
   b. Multicultural Interpreting assignment
   c. Multicultural Interpreter Issues from the Multicultural Interpreters perspective

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:

Material will be provided by the instructor

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students who require academic accommodations due to any physical, psychological, or learning disability are encouraged to request assistance from a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Likewise, students who potentially require emergency medical attention due to any chronic health condition are encouraged to disclose this information to a disability services counselor within the first two weeks of class. Counselors can be contacted by calling 919-536-7207, ext. 1413 or by visiting the Student Development Office in the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, room 1209.