

SPI 111 Cultural & Ethical Issues in Medical Interpretation

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: DRE 097, ENG 002, or EFL 074 and EFL 094; or satisfactory score on English placement test; and SPA 212 or satisfactory score on Spanish placement test, or permission of program director

Corequisites: None

This course provides cultural sensitivity instruction, as well as an 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 completing requirements for this course, the student 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. Code of ethics for interpreters in healthcare - IMIA
 - C. The National Council on Interpreting in Healthcare
- III. Legal Framework for Language Access in Healthcare
 - A. Legal Framework for Language Access in Healthcare Settings
 - B. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - C. Executive Order 13166
 - D. Office of Civil Rights Policy Guidance
 - E. Reimbursement for language services from Medicaid
- IV. Role of the Medical Interpreters
 - 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 – definitions and concepts
- 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/Latino populations in the United 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 communities in the United States

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

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

Material will be provided by the instructor.