

SPI 114 Analytical Skills Spanish Interpreting

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; SPI 113; or, permission of program director

Corequisites: None

This course is designed to improve cognitive processes associated with interpreting, listening, short-term memory, semantic equivalence, visual/auditory processing, thought organization, and logic. Emphasis is on developing skills necessary to generate equivalent messages between Spanish and English. Upon completion, students should be able to consecutively interpret nontechnical, interactive messages between Spanish and English.

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. Apply the basic principles of note-taking techniques.
2. Apply consecutive and sight translation techniques to a variety of community settings.
3. Demonstrate public speaking and presentation skills in his/her native and non-native languages.

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Note-taking Techniques
 - A. Drawings
 - B. Symbols
 - C. Diagonalization
 - D. The Golden Rule (i.e. stop writing when you don't understand)
- II. Component Skills in Consecutive Interpreting
 - A. Accuracy: in order to interpret accurately, the interpreter has to be aware of subtleties in word choice, ambiguity, register, and paralinguistic elements
 - B. Memory
 - C. Note-taking
 - D. Situational control
 - E. Good public speaking skills
 - F. Knowledge of code of ethics
 - G. Good judgment on the part of the Interpreter
- III. Loftus Model
 - A. Visual memory versus auditory memory
 - B. Processing of concrete information versus abstract information
 - C. Language dominance as another aspect that affects the interpreter's ability to retain information

D. Retention of meaningful information

IV. Basic Principles of Note-taking Techniques

- A. Note-taking as a visual process
- B. A-lingual notes: oriented to concepts rather than words.
- C. Notes as an “aid” to your memory
- D. “Vertical” notes (concepts written up and down, one idea per line)
- E. Identification of different thoughts contained in the message
- F. Use of symbols and math signs in note-taking
- G. Use of abbreviations in note-taking

V. Public Speaking Skills and Presentation

- A. Looking professional
- B. Convincing the audience
- C. Maintaining attention

VI. Learn How to Interpret in Community Settings

- A. Sight translation of a myriad of medical texts, ranging from patient information forms to accident reports
- B. Consecutive interpretation situations in community settings

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

Textbooks to be chosen by the instructor and listed on the syllabus.

USB headset with microphone

USB camera