

SPI 114
ANALYTICAL SKILLS IN SPANISH INTERPRETING

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: ENG 090 and RED 090 or DRE 098; or satisfactory score on 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 non-technical, interactive messages between Spanish and English. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3. Semester Hours Credit, 3.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will display proficiency by demonstrating the following competencies:

- a. apply the basic principles of note taking techniques
- b. apply consecutive and sight translation techniques to a variety of community settings
- c. demonstrate public speaking and presentation skills in his/her native and non-native languages
- d. complete volunteer/service learning assignments (at least 10 hrs) at a local agency/agencies as part of graduation requirements.

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 TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS:

Training Manual for Community Interpreters LEVEL I – Marianela Mañana

The Oxford Spanish Dictionary/ Spanish-English, English-Spanish. Oxford, New York, Madrid: Oxford University Press, Third Edition, 2003 (or more recent version, including PDA version)

Good English Dictionary

Good Spanish Dictionary

USB FLASH DRIVE

USB COMPUTER HEADSET WITH MICROPHONE

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.