

Certificate in

Legal Interpretation (Spanish/English)

PREPARE FOR AN IN DEMAND CAREER

The demand for trained bilingual legal and court interpreters is continuous in Southern California which represents a considerable opportunity for anyone who is fluent in both Spanish and English.

Because of the extensive demands of the job and the specialized skill set, legal and court interpreters require special training. Interpreters must have complete fluency in both English and the language of interpretation, and be able to understand and interpret a wide range of legal terminology in both languages. It is also necessary that they possess excellent memory skills, have a full command of registers in both English and the language of interpretation, and be able to switch back and forth between the two languages with a high level of accuracy and speed.

The Legal Interpretation (Spanish/English) program is comprised of intensive, hands-on classes that teach and develop interpreting skills, legal terminology, and the business and legal practices of this profession. The program helps prepare individuals to take the California state examination to become a certified court interpreter.



Benefits & Outcomes

- Participate in a 45 hour internship with the Orange County Family Law Court and receive hands-on interpreting and mentoring in a courtroom setting
- Practice and develop sight translation, consecutive and simultaneous modes of interpreting in a language laboratory
- Learn from certified court interpreters
- Be able to interpret in a variety of professional settings for administrative, civil and legal proceedings as well as for state and federal government agencies, law offices and diplomatic service
- Be better prepared to take the California Court Interpreter Certification Examination
- Receive a certificate of completion awarding a minimum of 14.1 Continuing Education Units

Eligibility Requirements

The classes in the Legal Interpretation certificate are open to anyone who meets the stated prerequisites for each class. To be eligible to begin the program, students should have completed one of the following:

- Completion of the CSUF credit class Spanish 301 Advanced Grammar and Composition with a grade of C or better, and attend the Program Orientation and pass the bilingual proficiency test;
OR
- Completion of 24 semester units or 36 quarter units of post-secondary education, and attend the Program Orientation and pass the bilingual proficiency test;
OR
- Attend the Program Orientation and pass the bilingual proficiency test to demonstrate bilingual competence in oral and written Spanish and English.

Register today at www.csufextension.org or 657.278.2611

For more information, contact Veronica Martinez: 657.278.3123, vmartinez@fullerton.edu



California State University, Fullerton
University Extended Education
www.csufextension.org

Certificate in Legal Interpretation (Spanish/English)

GETTING STARTED

To be eligible to begin the program, register for the Program Orientation and the Bilingual Proficiency Test which are normally offered on the same day twice per year.

PROGRAM ORIENTATION (2 HOURS)

Prerequisite: none. This orientation will provide an introduction to the interpretation and translation field, as well as employment opportunities in the legal system, health care, and business. A question and answer session will give you an opportunity to speak with experts currently employed in the field. Admission requirements, the placement test and classes in the interpretation and translation certificate programs will also be discussed.

BILINGUAL PROFICIENCY TEST (2 HOURS)

Prerequisite: Program Orientation or approval of the program manager. Individuals are required to take a bilingual proficiency test to determine if additional language enhancement classes are necessary before moving on in the program. The test assesses bilingual skills at a high-intermediate level in grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing and listening comprehension. Students are notified of their test results via email and those who pass the test are eligible to begin the Introduction to Interpretation & Translation class. Students who do not pass the test are required to take additional language enhancement classes before enrolling in skill-based, language specific interpreting or translation classes.

THE CLASSES For detailed class descriptions please go to www.csufextension.org/interpretation

To receive a Certificate in Legal Interpretation (Spanish/English), students must meet the eligibility requirements and complete the required courses and one required elective course totaling a minimum of 141 hours, 14.1 Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

INTRODUCTION TO INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION

(.9 CEUs/9 hours)

Prerequisite: Program Orientation & Passing Score on the Bilingual Proficiency Test or approval of the program manager. This gateway class is a requirement for enrollment in any of the Interpretation and Translation classes as it presents the foundation for understanding and development of translation and interpretation skills necessary for its practice.

THE ROLE OF THE INTERPRETER IN THE CALIFORNIA COURTS

(1.5 CEUs/15 hours)

Prerequisite: none. This class provides an overview of the California courts with an emphasis on California criminal procedure and legal terminology. Individuals will gain an understanding of how the courts work and how cases are processed through the system.

CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING

(2.4 CEUs/24 hours)

Prerequisite: Introduction to Interpretation & Translation, The Role of the Interpreter in the CA Courts or approval of the program manager. The fundamentals of consecutive interpreting are learned and practiced using concentration techniques, memory enhancement, and interpreting skills in the consecutive mode. Usage of the language laboratory is a component of this class.

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETING

(2.4 CEUs/24 hours)

Prerequisite: Introduction to Interpretation & Translation, The Role of the Interpreter in the CA Courts and Consecutive Interpreting, or approval of the program manager. You will get an introduction to the practice of simultaneous interpretation and learn and practice a variety of techniques to develop skills in simultaneous interpretation of administrative civil and legal proceedings. This is a language laboratory class.

SIGHT TRANSLATION

(2.4 CEUs/24 hours)

Prerequisite: Introduction to Interpretation & Translation, The Role of the Interpreter in the CA Courts and Consecutive Interpreting, and Simultaneous Interpreting, or approval of the program manager. This class provides an overview of the concepts and techniques of sight translation. Exercises in speed reading, vocabulary building and oral summaries of written texts from Spanish to English and English to Spanish will be used to further develop sight translation skills.

ADVANCED JUDICIARY INTERPRETING

(2.4 CEUs/24 hours)

Prerequisite: Introduction to Interpretation & Translation, The Role of the Interpreter in the CA Courts and Consecutive Interpreting, Simultaneous Interpreting and Sight Translation, or approval of the program manager. This capstone class taught in the language laboratory will help individuals master the techniques of fluent and accurate interpreting by building on the skills developed in the Simultaneous Interpreting, Consecutive Interpreting and Sight Translation classes.

ELECTIVE – 1 Required

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENT TRANSLATION

(2.1 CEUs/21 hours)

Prerequisite: Translation: Contrastive Analysis of Spanish/English or approval of the program manager. This class provides an overview of legal and administrative document translation and its respective features. This includes the different types of legal systems, and how to research legal terminology in both Spanish and English.

COURT INTERPRETING INTERNSHIP

(4.5 CEUs/45 hours)

Prerequisite: a minimum of a B-grade in the Role of the Interpreter in the CA Courts, Consecutive and Simultaneous Interpreting courses. This internship program offered in collaboration with the Orange County Family Law Court offers student interpreters the valuable opportunity to act as pro bono interpreters in Family Law matters.

WRITTEN AND ORAL EXAM PREPARATION

(2.4 CEUs/24 hours)

Prerequisite: completion of Advanced Judiciary Interpreting or approval of the program manager. In this class, individuals will learn practical test-taking techniques and strategies for both the oral and written sections of the state exam. All practice sessions will be conducted in the language laboratory and the class concludes with a mock examination similar to the state exam.

Register today at www.csufextension.org or 657.278.2611

For more information, contact Veronica Martinez: 657.278.3123, vmartinez@fullerton.edu