Course Details

The Professional Interpreter in Education Certificate Program provides a comprehensive overview of the field of interpretation as it applies to the American school system. This course teaches the Interpreter’s Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics, educational terminology, interpreter roles, translation modes, cultural competence, and interpretation skills with special populations and situations.

This synchronous online course, through its learning content, which includes videos and lesson presentations, discussions, written assignments, and weekly online live meetings, provides the foundation and principles required for a bilingual individual to serve as an interpreter in an education setting.

Learning Objectives

Module 1: Introduction to the Field of School Interpretation
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Describe and understand the background of language access in the educational setting.
• Recognize the specific roles of school system personnel and the policies and procedures that educational interpreter must follow.
• Differentiate between the interpretation and translation processes.
• Recognize the importance of colloquialism, slang, idioms and jargon pertinent to the educational field.

Module 2: Interpreter Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics:
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Demonstrate knowledge of the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.
• Discuss and define the appropriate application of the Code of Ethics to case scenarios.

Module 3: Interpreter Roles
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Apply the conduit, clarifier, and cultural advisor and advocate roles to case scenarios.

Module 4: Interpreter Modes
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Compare and contrast the consecutive, simultaneous, sight translation and summarization interpretation modes.
• Recognize ways to improve and enhance memory skills.

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Module 5: Developing Cultural Competence
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Illustrate the impact of culture in the flow of communication.
• Identify cultural barriers that the interpreter may encounter in the education setting.
• Recognize school/education perspectives from other countries.

Module 6: Special Education Overview
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Understand the special education eligibility process.
• Define the components of an eligibility and individualized education plan.
• Describe reasonable accommodations and special services that students can receive through the special education program.

Module 7: Special Populations and the Interpreter
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Define the role of the interpreter when working with preschool children, at-risk students and special education high school students.
• Review alternative school settings that students can be placed in based on behavioral or discipline needs.
• Analyze the interpreter’s role and mode of interpretation during a disciplinary hearing.

Module 8: Educational Terminology, Course Wrap-up and Post-test
Upon completion of this module, you should be able to:
• Expand your resources and build school terminology in your native language.
• Review your knowledge of interpretation in the school setting and assess your learning throughout the course.

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