ASL/English Interpreting

Program Mission Statement

The mission of the ASL/English Interpreting Program is to prepare entry-level practitioners who are capable of managing the intercultural demands and complex cognitive tasks for conveying dynamically equivalent messages between American Sign Language and English. The program strives to provide an evidence-based curriculum that instills strong communication skills in English (written and spoken) and American Sign Language (receptive and expressive). The program is based on core values of ethical reasoning and decision-making, critical thinking, and Deaf community alliance. In addition, we aspire to graduate students who consistently demonstrate interpersonal skills that reflect unconditional positive regard for all participants in the interpreting process and professional dispositions that embrace diversity, respect, equity, and equality of opportunity among the diverse language and cultural groups of the community. Program faculty members are committed to conducting and incorporating research in interpreting and interpreter education, receiving ongoing training on best practices in distance learning, and infusing the standards outlined by the Commission on Collegiate Interpreter Education.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills

• Apply theories of interpretation and translation and cognitive processing models to translating and interpreting practice.
• Infuse cultural competency and mediation skills in a range of diverse simultaneous and consecutive translating and interpreting contexts.
• Synthesize interpreting and translation studies literature during the investigation of problems and sub-cultures for the purpose of becoming evidence-based practitioners.
• Demonstrate advanced comprehension of and expression in academic ASL and English (written and spoken) in educational, medical, vocational rehabilitation, and social service environments.
• Simultaneously and consecutively transfer a message from a source language into a target language with appropriate regard for culture, ethics, and fidelity to meaning.

Communication Skills

• Demonstrate culturally appropriate behaviors, professional dispositions, respectful demeanor, and unconditional positive regard when communicating with consumers, hiring agencies, colleagues, and other stakeholders of interpreting services.

Critical Thinking Skills

• Evaluate personal interpreting performance and prioritize goals for improving message fidelity and remediating deficiencies while in the program and upon graduation
• Apply critical thinking and reflection skills to ethical decision-making and situational analysis in interpreter service provision.

Assessment Approaches

UNF graduates of the ASL/English Interpreting Program will demonstrate competence in interpreting theory and knowledge, human relations and professionalism, multiculturalism and diversity, professional practice, application of research to practice, language comprehension and expression, meaning transfer, self-assessment of process and product, decision-making and situational assessment as evidenced in the following assessment approaches:
1. Academic ASL Assignment
2. Academic English Assignment
3. Think Aloud Protocol
4. Interpreting Performance Video
5. Examination
6. Mind Map
7. Skill Plan
8. Portfolio
9. Translation
10. Asset Map