Interpreter Preparation (IPP)

IPP 101 ASL/Non-IPP Majors

4 Hours

Prerequisites: None

4 hours weekly (3-1)

This course is designed for students who have no knowledge of American Sign Language. The focus of this course will be on developing both expressive and receptive skills in basic ASL to allow students to function comfortably in a variety of communication situations. The course introduces conversational ASL vocabulary, grammatical principles and syntax. Fingerspelling and Deaf culture are also introduced.

IPP 102 ASL/Non-IPP Majors

4 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 101 with a grade of “C” or higher

3 hours weekly (3-1)

This course is a continuation of American Sign Language 101. The focus of this course is to further develop both expressive and receptive skills in basic ASL. New ASL vocabulary, grammatical principles, and syntax will be introduced. Deaf culture will continue to be studied in this course.

IPP 111 Nonverbal Language

3 Hours

Prerequisites: None

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course examines the profound and overlooked contribution of nonverbal behavior to the communication processes, particularly in American Sign Language. It compares and contrasts actions rather than speech and signs.

Nonverbal language is inseparable from the feelings that we knowingly or inadvertently project in our everyday social interaction and determines the effectiveness and well-being of our intimate, social, and working relationships. Facial expressions, postures, movements, and gestures are so important that when our words/signs contradict the silent messages contained within them, others mistrust what we say, for they rely almost completely on what we do. Additionally, this course lays the foundation for learning American Sign Language by concentrating on body language, natural gestures, and facial expressions.

IPP 141-- SEE ASL 141 American Sign Language (ASL I)

IPP 142- SEE ASL 142 American Sign Language (ASL II)

IPP 143- SEE ASL 143 American Sign Language (ASL III)

IPP 244- SEE ASL IV – Survey of ASL Literature


IPP 144 ASL Classifiers

3 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 141

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course will provide the opportunity for students to enhance their use of classifiers. Classifiers, not used in the English language, are one of the most difficult parts of the American Sign Language for students to learn. Content will be explored using games and activities and a CD text.
IPP 151 Deaf Studies/Culture
3 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 111, 141
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This course is designed to provide students with awareness and in-depth information on the history of the deaf world/deaf community with its embedded cultural traditions from a sociological and humanistic viewpoint on deafness.

IPP 201 Introduction to Interpreting
4 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 111, 141 with a grade of “C” or higher
5 hours weekly (3-2)
This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts and vocabulary in the field of interpreting. We will focus on the psychological impact of having interpreters involved in the communication event. Students will participate in a cultural role play to begin to understand the feelings of people on every side of the communication. Students will also be exposed to working interpreters through structured observations.

IPP 211 ASL Linguistics I
3 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 142
3 hours weekly (3-0)
This course will introduce students to the basic linguistic principles behind ASL in an effort to continue their development of sign language skills. The students will develop knowledge of the structure of the language to complement their proficiency in language use. The phonological rules of ASL and English will also be studied. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to second-year classes.

IPP 212 ASL Linguistics II
3 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 211
3 hours weekly (3-0)
A continuation of the first semester course in ASL Linguistics, this course is also designed to reinforce the students’ acquisition of language skills in ASL by providing the knowledge competency component. This course focuses on the morphology, syntax and use of ASL. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to the second-year classes.

IPP 222 Interpreting ASL to English
4 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 201
6 hours weekly (2-4)
This course explores the theory and skills necessary to interpret from an American Sign Language text to appropriate spoken English. This course will explore the concepts of register, processing time, and the interpretation process. Course materials will be sequenced from paraphrasing, translation, consecutive interpretation, and simultaneous interpretation. Emphasis will be placed on message equivalence and appropriate vocabulary choices. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to second-year classes.
IPP 223 Introduction to Transliterating
3 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 143, 211, 231
6 hours weekly (2-4)
This course explores the theory and skills necessary to transliterate and shows in which contexts transliteration is used. In class, students will practice transliterating in conceptually accurate ASL signs and principles executed in English word order. Course materials will be sequenced from preschool to adult-level material and from non-technical to technical use of vocabulary. Emphasis will be placed on speed, conceptual accuracy, fingerspelling, and appropriate vocabulary. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to second-year classes.

IPP 226 Seminar in Interpreting
3 Hours
Prerequisites: Completion or near completion of an interpreting program and/or work experience as a sign language interpreter
3 hours weekly (3-0)
Seminar in Interpreting provides a forum for professional development for working interpreters. Participants generate the topics for discussion, research those topics, and present an online paper about their chosen topic. These topics are then discussed by the class online, with the author of the paper as discussion leader.

IPP 231 Interpreting I
4 Hours
Prerequisites: IPP 141, 142, 201
6 hours weekly (2-4)
This course focuses on the acquisition of the interpreting process. Students develop processing skills by paraphrasing, translating, consecutive interpreting, and finally simultaneously interpreting spoken and signed messages. Ethical decision making will be reinforced. Diagnostic observation of working interpreters will also be a focus of this course. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to second-year classes.

IPP 240 – Fingerspelling and Numbers I
1 Hour
Prerequisites: IPP 142
2 hours weekly (0-2)
Interpreters must understand and be able to produce fingerspelled words and numbers. This course is intended to give students the tools and vocabulary needed to improve their reading and production of fingerspelling and numbers used discreetly or in monologues or dialogues.

IPP 241 – Fingerspelling and Numbers II
1 Hour
Prerequisites: IPP 240
2 hours weekly (0-2)
Interpreters must understand and be able to produce fingerspelled words and numbers. This course is intended to give students the tools and vocabulary needed to improve their reading and production of fingerspelling and numbers used discreetly or in monologues or dialogues. This course is a continuation of Fingerspelling and Numbers I.
IPP 249 Field Experience

3 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 143-Minimum Grade of “C”
IPP 211-Minimum Grade of “C”
IPP 231--Minimum Grade of “C”

7 hours weekly (2-5)

This practicum will expose students to business practices in the field of interpreting, such as taxes, invoicing and insurance. This course will also provide interpreting experiences, continued observation of working interpreters, exploration of the RID Code of Professional Conduct, and continued interaction with deaf and hard-of-hearing people. The students will participate in a two-hour seminar session per week and five hours of practicum per week.

IPP 250 Field Experience I

3 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 143-Minimum Grade of “C”
IPP 211-Minimum Grade of “C”
IPP 231--Minimum Grade of “C”

11 hours weekly (1-10)

This practicum will expose students to interpreting experiences, continued observation of working interpreters, and continued interaction with deaf and hard-of-hearing people. The students will meet with the instructor one hour per week to submit invoiced work hours and discuss any concerns or challenges experienced in the field. Students will also complete ten hours of practicum per week (160 hours).

IPP 251 Interpreting II

4 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 231

6 hours weekly (2-4)

This course is a continuation of Interpreting I. The students will simultaneously interpret various spoken and signed texts and participate in role plays related to settings in which interpreters work. Vocabulary development will also be an emphasis and discussions of the application of ethical principles to various situations. A grade of “C” or higher in IPP 141 and 142 must be achieved to advance to second-year classes.

IPP 275 Evaluation Preparation

3 Hours

Prerequisites: For students nearing completion of their interpreter program, and working interpreters preparing to take interpreter evaluations.

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course is intended to provide useful information for sign language interpreters preparing to take written or performance evaluations. In this course we will explore evaluations, what to expect and relaxation techniques to help interpreters do their best in the “hot seat”.

IPP 277 Interpreting for Deaf-Blind Persons

3 Hours

Prerequisites: Interpreting skill, interest for deaf-blind individuals.

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course explores interpreting for deaf-blind individuals. It is somewhat self-paced, with assessments at various points in the course.
IPP 278 ASL Vocabulary Building I

3 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 142 with a grade of “C” or higher. Students in the Educational Interpreting Professional Program are working interpreters and qualify for admission to this course.

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course is intended to supplement American Sign Language vocabulary development. Vocabulary is presented through weekly, themed activities using individual assignments and group discussions. Emphasis is placed on developing a conceptual understanding and application of concepts rather than a word-for-sign exchange.

IPP 279 ASL Vocabulary Building II

3 Hours

Prerequisites: IPP 278 with a grade of “C” or higher.

3 hours weekly (3-0)

This course is intended to supplement an American Sign Language class and provide additional language development. The structure includes individual lessons with targeted vocabulary presented via short video clips. Each lesson has an online quiz testing receptive knowledge of the previously presented ASL signs.