

Area: Health & Education
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Certificate: Healthcare Interpreting

Healthcare Interpreting Certificate

Major Code: 011538C01

The Healthcare Interpreter certificate program is designed to prepare bilingual individuals for effective language interpretation and cultural brokering in the healthcare setting. It emphasizes roles and responsibilities of the healthcare interpreter; the development of cultural competence in the community and workplace; insight into language and cultural nuances for specific communities; standards and legal requirements for culturally and linguistically appropriate services; ethical decision-making, advocacy and power dynamics in healthcare settings; and career preparation to become an integral member of the health care team. Coursework covers modes and models of interpretation; development of the technical aspects of interpretation; techniques for facilitating and managing the flow of communication; medical terminology and related vocabulary development in language of service; and common medical conditions and associated treatments/procedures in both basic and specialized health care service areas. Language coaches are provided to facilitate skills acquisition, and precepted fieldwork experiences are required.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- manage all facets of the interpreter role including the flow of the session, cross-cultural communication, conflict management, and the technical aspects of interpretation while conducting patient-provider encounters and pre and post sessions.
- incorporate and apply the profession's codified ethical behaviors related to confidentiality and privacy, completeness and accuracy, professional integrity and professional distance, professional development and cultural competence, and the role of advocacy when patient wellbeing or dignity is at risk.
- integrate culturally sensitive strategies and approaches in working with diverse cultures, subcultures, and special populations.
- analyze career opportunities in health care interpreting, the interpreter's role and scope of practice relative to other healthcare professionals, and the value of ongoing professional development

Career Opportunities

Healthcare interpreting job opportunities are available through in-house hospital interpreter services, private vendors who contract with healthcare agencies, or small-business entrepreneurialism and self-employment, both full time or per diem. Venues may include face-to-face, video conferencing, or language phone services with local or at-a-distance connection and contracts.

See losrios.edu/gainful-emp-info/gedt.php?major=011538C01 for Gainful Employment Disclosure.

Enrollment Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Complete required introductory course, HCI 300, with grade of C or better.
- Demonstrate bilingual proficiency or competence in English and language of service (hearing/speaking and reading/writing) as certified by accepted state or proprietary bilingual exam, or as documented by a standardized interview/essay rubric with program staff, as designated in current application materials.

Enrollment Process

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Receive application materials through participation in HCI 300.
- Submit completed application by deadline, including HCI 300 transcript or proof of completion and documentation of language competency as designated.
- Applicant selection in any given semester is contingent upon a minimum number of students in the cohort for a given language, and community need for the given language, as well as individual applicant qualifications.

Requirements for Certificate

22.5-28.5 Units

Pre-HCI Semester:

HCI 300 Introduction to Healthcare Interpreting..... 0.5

1st Semester:

AH 110 Medical Language for Health-Care Providers.....3
 [BIOL 102 Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology (4)4-10
 or [BIOL 115 Basic Anatomy and Physiology (3)
 and BIOL 116 Basic Anatomy and Physiology (3)]
 or [BIOL 430 Anatomy and Physiology (5)
 and BIOL 431 Anatomy and Physiology (5)]]
 HCI 310 Healthcare Interpreting I.....3

2nd Semester:

HCI 320 Healthcare Interpreting II.....3
 HCI 330 Healthcare Interpreting III.....3

3rd Semester:

HCI 340 Healthcare Interpreting IV.....3
 HCI 350 Healthcare Interpreting Fieldwork.....3

Healthcare Interpreting

HCI 300 Introduction to Healthcare Interpreting .5 Units

Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 9 hours LEC

This course is designed for bilingual/bicultural individuals interested in exploring the career choice of healthcare interpreter by developing an awareness of the roles and responsibilities of the interpreter in healthcare settings. It addresses required skills related to both language interpretation and cultural brokering and allows consideration of personal interests and aptitudes.

HCI 310 Healthcare Interpreting I 3 Units

Prerequisite: HCI 300 with a grade of "C" or better
Corequisite: AH 110 and BIOL 102; or BIOL 115 & 116 or BIOL 430 & 431

Advisory: SPEECH 301
Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 48 hours LEC; 18 hours LAB

This course is designed for bilingual individuals interested in developing the awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary for effective language interpretation in healthcare settings. It emphasizes the roles and responsibilities of a healthcare interpreter and basic knowledge of common medical conditions, treatments, and procedures in the areas of diagnostics, cardiovascular, renal, ophthalmic, and gastrointestinal specialties. It focuses on insight into language and cultural nuances for specific communities necessary in the art of interpretation.

HCI 320 Healthcare Interpreting II 3 Units

Prerequisite: HCI 310 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: SPEECH 301

Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 48 hours LEC; 18 hours LAB

This course is designed for bilingual individuals. It further develops the awareness, knowledge, and skills necessary for effective language interpretation in healthcare settings covered in HCI 310. It emphasizes the roles and responsibilities of a healthcare interpreter and basic knowledge of common medical conditions, treatments, and procedures in musculoskeletal, respiratory, immunologic, and obstetric specialties. It focuses on insight into language and cultural nuances for specific communities necessary in the art of interpretation.

HCI 330 Healthcare Interpreting III 3 Units

Prerequisite: HCI 320 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: SPEECH 301

Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 48 hours LEC; 18 hours LAB

This course is designed for bilingual individuals preparing to become an integral member of the health care team, bridging the language and cultural gap between clients and providers. It further develops interpreting skills covered in HCI 320. Topics include specialized health care service areas, such as genetics, pediatrics, and endocrinology. It also emphasizes the development of cultural competency in the community and workplace.

HCI 340 Healthcare Interpreting IV 3 Units

Prerequisite: HCI 330 with a grade of "C" or better
Advisory: SPEECH 301

Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 48 hours LEC; 18 hours LAB

This course is designed for bilingual individuals completing their preparation to become an integral member of the healthcare team, bridging the language and cultural gap between clients and providers. It further enhances interpreting skills covered in HCI 330. Topics include specialized health care service areas such as men's and women's health, mental health, neonatal intensive care, and death and dying. The course also focuses on careers in interpreting and career preparation.

HCI 350 Healthcare Interpreting Fieldwork 3 Units

Prerequisite: HCI 330 with a grade of "C" or better
Corequisite: HCI 340

Advisory: SPEECH 301
Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 18 hours LEC; 108 hours LAB

This course is designed for interpreters-in-training to facilitate linguistic and cultural communication between healthcare clients and providers. It provides fieldwork experience applying technical interpreting skills covered in HCI 310, 320, 330, and 340. A portion of this course may be offered in a TBA component of 50 - 60 hours which may include directed practice in precepted clinical settings and fieldwork or workplace experience.