

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA LAS VEGAS

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

SPAN 413/613 – Advanced Interpretation Sample Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course *Advanced Interpretation* (SPAN 413/613) provides training to develop an advanced knowledge of the rules and techniques of interpretation (consecutive interpreting and sight translation) and an intermediate knowledge of simultaneous interpreting. There will be introductory activities for each mode of interpreting, but the course encourages an intensive and actual practice of court interpreting (Criminal and Civil Proceedings) from English to Spanish and from Spanish to English.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

General Objectives

1. Provide students with the advanced techniques needed in Criminal and Civil Matters, with a special emphasis on Immigration Court.
2. Provide students with interpreting practice and skillbuilding exercises.
3. Provide an advanced vision of court interpreting as a profession, its future, challenges and responsibilities.
4. Explain standard practices, employment trends, compensation, and professional business practices in the current job market.
5. List and explain the tenets of several Codes of Professional Conduct and the Standards of Ethical Behavior and apply them to situational decision-making.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze speeches intended for interpretation (in terms of meaning, style, register, tone).
2. Apply the linguistic and cultural translatability / equivalency concepts.
3. Perform professional court interpreting in a variety of modes (consecutive, simultaneous and sight translation).
4. Implement performance improvements based on peer-evaluation of practical interpreting exercises.

PREREQUISITE

Instructor's Permission.

REQUIRED TEXT AND READINGS

Mikkelson, Holly (2006) *Edge 21: An Interpreter's Edge for the 21st Century*. ACEBO. (Students will have to purchase the three books: Consecutive Interpreting, Simultaneous Interpreting and Sight Translation)

Articles and other information that will be posted on Webcampus.

STUDENTS MUST BRING THESE MATERIALS TO EVERY CLASS

WEBCAMPUS RESOURCES

Pdf. documents, articles, Power Point presentations and web links.

GRADING

Participation	10%
Interpreting assignments	30%
Midterm	25%
Final project	35%

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (10%)

It is crucial to maintain your attendance. Remember that learning a language is a process. Therefore, it is important that you arrive to class on time. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you leave class 10 minutes before it ends, or you leave for more than 5 minutes during class, a tardy will be noted. After three tardies, an unexcused absence will count against you. **Two absences** will be allowed undocumented for undergraduate students and **One absence** will be allowed undocumented for graduate students. After the third/second absence, your grade will be affected (reduced by 2%). **Informing your instructor of an absence without acceptable documentation is a courtesy not an excused absence.**

Lessons will be interactive, with opportunities for practice in pairs, small groups or the whole class. Attendance at all lectures is strongly recommended in order to benefit from interactive activities, which help develop interpreting skills and ensure steady progress. For this reason, you are required to read, study, and prepare all assigned homework before class and to come to class prepared to be able to actively participate.

Graduate students will be asked to prepare additional readings for each session that will be clearly marked in the course schedule. Therefore, they will be expected to qualitatively contribute to class discussion by sharing opinions and insightful remarks about the extra material.

INTERPRETING ASSIGNMENTS (30%)

Consecutive: 7-10-minute audio/video (for undergraduates); 10-12-minute video/audio (for graduate students)

Sight Translation: 500-word document (for undergraduates); 750-word document (for graduate students)

Simultaneous: prep exercises + up to a 3-minute video (for undergraduates); prep exercises + up to 5-minute video (for graduate students).

MIDTERM EXAM (25%)

The midterm exam will address key topics and ideas covered in the first half of the semester. It will assess both theoretical and practical skills.

FINAL PROJECT (35%)

Final Project will be divided in two parts:

1. Service Learning: 10 hours undergraduate students / 15 hours graduate students
2. Essay: 10 pages undergraduate students / 15 pages graduate students

Students will have the opportunity to practice in real-life situations at the Thomas and Mack Legal Clinic. They will volunteer there as interpreters in a variety of cases, depending on the needs of the clinic. Students will be informed well in advance about their duties and how to perform them.

Upon completion of the volunteering at the clinic, students will be required to write an analytical and critical essay including not only the interpreting process and their experience, but also a decision-making, and problem-solving section, as well as a self-evaluation of their performance, justifying their comments with proper explanations.

GRADE CALCULATION

A	93-100	C	74-77
A-	90-92	C-	70-73
B+	88-89	D+	68-69
B	84-87	D	64-67
B-	80-83	D-	60-63
C+	78-79	F	59 or less

CLASS PROTOCOL

Students may not eat in class.

Students are not allowed to open other books or check documents rather than the ones related to the class. If students are late or leave the class before it is dismissed, it is a distraction and affects the dynamic of the class directly. Please, cooperate to create a learning environment. Disconnect and keep your cell phone in your bag before the class starts.

Students who use their electronic devices to follow the class, will not be allowed to use them to check their email, social media or do other classes' assignments.

E-MAIL POLICY

E-mails will be answered in less than 48 hours as long as they are received from Monday to Friday, and from 9:00am to 5:00pm. E-mails sent during the weekend will not be answered until the following business day. Please, plan accordingly.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Letters of recommendation will be written to students who request them, provided that the student:

1. has taken at least two classes with the instructor,
2. has received at least a B in each class,
3. did not take those classes over a year from the date he/she is requiring the letter.

PLAGIARISM IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. STUDENTS PLAGIARIZING ANY ASSIGNMENT WILL BE GIVEN AN "F" FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT. IF THIS CONDUCT PERSISTS, A MISCONDUCT REPORT WILL BE FILED AGAINST THEM AND THEY MIGHT BE EXPELLED FROM THE CLASS AND/OR UNLV.

ATTENTION!

Please login into your WebCampus account daily to be informed of any announcements, homework, PowerPoint presentation or handout (handout) delivered in class.

It is also your responsibility to read your Rebelmail on a daily basis.

The Language Resource Center is located at FDH 240. You need to open an ACE account to log into the LRC computers.

COURSE CALENDAR

	Clase	Tarea
Week 1		
	Introduction	
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 1	
Week 2		
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 2	Article: Discussion
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 3	
Week 3		
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 4	Article: Discussion
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 5	
Week 4		
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 6	Article: Discussion
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 7	
Week 5		
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 8	Article: Discussion
	Consecutive Interpreting: Lesson 9	
Week 6		
	Sight Translation: Lesson 1	Article: Discussion
	Sight Translation: Lesson 2	Consecutive Assignment due
Week 7		
	Sight Translation: Lesson 3	Article: Discussion
	Sight Translation: Lesson 4	
Week 8		
	Sight Translation: Lesson 5	Article: Discussion
	Sight Translation: Lesson 6	
Week 9		
	Review	
	Midterm Exam	
Week 10		
	Sight Translation: Lesson 7	Article: Discussion
	Sight Translation: Lesson 8	
Week 11		
	Sight Translation: Lesson 9	Article: Discussion
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Introduction	Sight Translation Assignment due
Week 12		
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 1	Article: Discussion

	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 2	
Week 13		
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 3	Article: Discussion
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 4	
Week 14		
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 5	Article: Discussion
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 6	
Week 15		
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 7	Article: Discussion
	Simultaneous Interpreting: Lesson 8	Simultaneous Assignment due
Week 16		
	Final Project	

**This Calendar is subject to change as per instructor's discretion as well as the needs of the class.*

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within** the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or **within** the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning>

<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency>

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Library Resources

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is Priscilla Finley https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject. UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call [702-895-3177](tel:702-895-3177). The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.