

Legal Interpretation and Translation: English-Spanish Certificate Program



California State University, Los Angeles
Division of Extended Education
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Los Angeles
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A career with a future— will you be ready for it?

The U.S. Census Bureau reports there are over 31 million Latinos in the U.S. (approximately 13% of the U.S. population). They form the largest ethnic minority group in the U.S. It is projected that Latinos will comprise 25% of the total U.S. population by the year 2050 (96.5 million) and could reach 33% by 2100.

Why should you consider the Cal State L.A. Interpretation and Translation program?

- Salaries range from \$30,000 to \$60,000 a year and more
- It's approved by the Judicial Council of California for CIMCE (Court Interpreters Minimum Continuing Education) credit
- Jobs range from court interpreting to every area of the private sector
- Very few applicants for the State exam pass it without training in translation and interpretation
- It prepares you for the County, State and Federal Certification Exams and ATA (American Translator Association) certification
- Teachers can use it to prepare for Bilingual Teaching Certifications

This certificate program is sponsored by the Division of Extended Education. It trains students for county, state, and federal examinations required for employment as certified interpreters and translators.

Employment Opportunities

Prepare for employment in government: federal, state, superior, and municipal courts; California state administrative hearings; labor-related hearings; government agencies such as the Immigration and Naturalization Service. You can also be employed at medical centers; insurance companies; financial institutions; international corporations; law enforcement agencies; private businesses; consulting firms and with phone interpreting agencies where you work right out of your home.

Admission Requirements

- 54 quarter units (36 semester units) of post-secondary education or evidence of equivalent knowledge and experience to perform upper-division course work.
- Before being admitted to this program, students must take our bilingual placement test. The results of the test determine whether they can be admitted to the program with or without taking one or more of the preparatory courses.

The program consists of seven required courses (28 non-degree credit quarter units) in translation and interpretation and three optional preparatory courses (9 non-degree credit quarter units) for students whose bilingual skills need improvement. Three optional medical translation courses (9 non-degree credit quarter units) are also offered for students who wish to work in medical fields.

None of the courses may be taken concurrently. Students may not take more than one quarter off consecutively without being dropped from the program. In order to be readmitted, they must re-take the placement test or repeat their last course. Virtually all of the courses have been approved by the Judicial Council of California for Court Interpreters Minimum Continuing Education credit (CIMCE).

Program Content

Required Courses

- ML 790A Legal Translation: Contrastive Analysis of English-Spanish Grammatical Structures 4 Units
- ML 790B Legal Translation: Elements, Foundation and Style 4 Units
- ML 791A Translating and Interpreting for Criminal/Penal Proceedings 4 Units
- ML 791B Translating and Interpreting for Criminal/Penal Proceedings 4 Units
- ML 792A Translating and Interpreting for Civil Proceedings and Administrative Hearings 4 Units
- ML 792B Translating and Interpreting for Civil Proceedings and Administrative Hearings 4 Units
- ML 793 Legal Interpretation and Translation Laboratory Practicum 4 Units

Optional (Preparatory) Courses

- ML 700A Beginning Grammar for Legal Interpreters and Translators 3 Units
- ML 700B Intermediate Grammar for Legal Interpreters and Translators 3 Units
- ML 700C Advanced Grammar for Legal Interpreters and Translators 3 Units

Course Descriptions

Required Courses

ML 790A: Legal Translation: Contrastive Analysis of English-Spanish Grammatical Structures

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1452
Prerequisite: Admission to the certificate program

An extensive study of the grammatical contrasts between English and Spanish.

ML 790B: Legal Translation: Elements, Foundation and Style

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1453
Prerequisite: ML 790A

A comprehensive study of the processes and problems of legal translation.

ML 791A: Translating and Interpreting for Criminal/Penal Proceedings

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1454
Prerequisite: ML 790B

The acquisition and use of legal terminology related to criminal proceedings, plus training in consecutive and simultaneous interpreting.

ML 791B: Translating and Interpreting for Criminal/Penal Proceedings

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1455
Prerequisite: ML 791A

An advanced course on the acquisition and use of legal terminology related to criminal proceedings, plus training in consecutive and simultaneous interpreting.

ML 792A: Translating and Interpreting for Civil Proceedings and Administrative Hearings

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1456
Prerequisite: ML 791B

This course concentrates on consecutive and simultaneous interpretation as applied to family law, real estate, and probate as well as other civil cases.

ML 792B: Translating and Interpreting for Civil Proceedings and Administrative Hearings

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1457
Prerequisite: ML 792A

Continuing expansion and development of legal vocabulary and terminology in civil proceedings and administrative hearings, plus continued training in consecutive and simultaneous interpretation. Practical classroom and language laboratory exercises include memory enhancement and concentration.

ML 793: Legal Interpretation and Translation Laboratory Practicum

Approved by the Judicial Council of California for recognition by CIMCE: #1458
Prerequisite: ML 792B

Comprehensive review of criminal proceedings, civil proceedings, and state administrative hearings, plus intensive interpretation practice.

Placement Test of Bilingual Skills

This multiple-choice test analyzes your strengths and weaknesses in Spanish and English and tells you where to begin the program. The test measures bilingual skills in translation, grammar, and reading comprehension. Scores of 80 and above allow you to enter the program directly; scores of 70-79 allow you to advance to an oral examination; scores of 69 and below require you to take one or more of the preparatory courses. Note: Borderline scores may require additional oral and essay examinations.

Call (323) 343-4922 for testing dates. As soon as your scores are recorded, you may enroll in the program and start working towards a career as a legal interpreter.

Testing fee: \$20.

Advisement and Information

Call **Joann Edmond** at (323) 343-4922, jedmon2@cslanet.calstatela.edu.