UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Interpretation Techniques

2324-1-E2005P007

Learning area

INTERDISCIPLINARY KNOWLEDGE

Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding

The general objectives of the course are:
• Acquisition of skills and abilities that allow for accurate translation between languages.
• In-depth analysis and comparison of texts between the two languages and the development of interpretation techniques.
• Understanding how the human brain processes the translation between languages and the various stages involved.
• Learning and consolidating interpretation techniques from Italian to Italian Sign Language (LIS) and vice versa, both in consecutive and simultaneous modes.

Application of Knowledge and Understanding

• Interpreting texts of various nature fluently, effectively, and comprehensibly from Italian to LIS and vice versa, mastering both the input language (comprehension) and the output language (production), and ensuring correct cross-linguistic and cross-cultural transfer between the two languages.
• Mastering paralinguistic elements during interpretation, such as non-manual components, special oral components, role-shift, proper use of signing space, and facial expressions.
• Managing any interruptions, obstacles, or issues that may arise during interpretation.
• Handling emotional or stressful situations.
• Assessing interpretive performance through self-analysis.

Contents

Introduction to the various stages of consecutive interpretation and simultaneous interpretation (in pairs and teams), focusing on comparing the characteristics of the two types of interpretation. Reflection on the main linguistic and extra-linguistic skills of the interpreter.

Detailed program

• Introduction to interpretation.
• Techniques for improving short-term and long-term memory.
• Dual-task skills.
• Shadowing exercises.
• Completion exercises.
• Whispered interpretation.
• Latency time.
• General strategies used in reformulation in the active language.
• Consecutive and simultaneous interpretation activities on texts of different types and linguistic registers.
• Interpretation activities in pairs: providing support to the active colleague, requesting support, and giving (or receiving) positive feedback to the colleague.
• Introduction to professional ethics.
• Preparing for work, briefing and debriefing, requesting materials from the client, requesting logistical information, and practical organization of the work environment.

Prerequisites

The course is intended for students who have an advanced knowledge of Italian Sign Language, as determined during enrollment, or having successfully completed the Consolidation of Italian Sign Language I course.

Teaching methods

In addition to lectures, a significant portion of the teaching will involve problem-solving brainstorming activities and practical interpretation exercises. Assignments will also be given to be completed outside of class time, with feedback provided in the classroom.

Assessment methods

The examination is oral and consists of a practical interpretation test from and into LIS. The test will assess the ability to apply the theoretical knowledge discussed during the course.
The evaluation criteria for the examination test are based on elements such as equivalence, accuracy, appropriateness, and comprehensibility of the message that is reformulated from the "source" language to the "target" language through interpretation.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

The bibliography will be indicated on the e-learning platform of the course before the start of classes.

Sustainable Development Goals