UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Consolidation of Italian Sign Language (lis) 1

2627-1-E2007P008

Learning area

I. Learning Area: Acquiring language skills in LIS, LIST and Italian

Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding
By the end of the course, students will have in-depth knowledge and understanding of:

- Lexicon and Lexical Variability: Acquisition and mastery of an extensive Sign Language vocabulary, with an emphasis on variability and diverse shades of meaning.
- Non-Manual Components: The role and use of facial expressions, body movements, and posture in signed communication.
- Use of Signing Space: Understanding and application of three-dimensional space to convey information and concepts.
- Syntactic Structures: Formation and comprehension of simple and complex sentences, including interrogation, negation, and relative clauses in Sign Language.

Applying Knowledge and Understanding
Students will be able to apply the acquired knowledge and understanding to:

- Dialogic Interaction: Actively participate in conversations and communicative exchanges with Deaf individuals, demonstrating fluency and appropriateness in the use of Sign Language.
- Narration: Expand their ability to tell a real or imaginary event, utilizing Sign Language structures and conventions.
- Comprehension of Signed Content: Analyze and interpret videos and audiovisual productions by signing Deaf individuals, fully grasping the meaning and communicative nuances.

Making Judgments
Students will develop the ability to make judgments through:

- Critical Self-Assessment: Independently evaluate their own competence and performance in Sign Language, identifying strengths and areas for improvement.
- Peer Evaluation: Participate in group discussion and exchange sessions to provide and receive constructive feedback on their own and others' performances.
- Interaction with the Instructor: Discuss and confront their progress and encountered challenges with the instructor, refining their critical reflection skills.

Communication Skills
Students will enhance their communication skills by acquiring:

- Lexical and Morphosyntactic Proficiency: Expand and apply an advanced lexical and morphosyntactic repertoire, enabling clear, effective, and fluid communication.

Learning Skills
Students will develop effective learning skills through:

- Interactive Lectures: Participate in lessons conducted by native-speaking instructors, actively assimilating grammatical, lexical, and cultural concepts.
- Collaborative Learning (Peer Support): Engage in group activities and exchanges with peers to strengthen comprehension, practice, and collaborative resolution of linguistic problems and/or difficulties.

Contents

- Use of signing space
- Use of signing space with reference to actual position
- Body classifiers
- Object classifiers
- Direction and description of rooms with objects inside

Detailed program

- Use of signing space
- Use of signing space via CNMs and classifiers
- Spatial distances via CNMs
- Production of body classifiers via narration
- Production of object classifiers via narration
- Spatiality on several levels
- Contrast structure
- Numbers
- Mouth gestures and mouthings
- Phrase structuring in specific contexts
- Lexical expansion and respective variants

Prerequisites

Basic competences in Italian Sign Language (LIS) at B1 level (CEFR).

For the academic year 2026/2027 it will not be possible to select this course as a single-course entry.
Exam not selectable from the study plan by students not enrolled in Interpretariato e Traduzione in Lingua dei Segni Italiana (LIS) e Lingua dei Segni Italiana Tattile (LIST) *(Italian Sign Language (LIS) and Tactile Italian Sign Language (LIST) Interpretation)*.

Teaching methods

Delivered Didactics (40 hours):

- Frontal lecture supported by text (in minimal form), images and video

Interactive teaching (68 hours):

- Performance of exercises in groups
- Video observation and commentary
- Reflection and comparison

All material is shared with the students via the Telegram app.

Assessment methods

Oral Examination

Mid-term Assessment
The mid-term assessment will take place halfway through the course and will consist of two parts: comprehension and production. Its purpose is to provide an indication of student progress and the overall pace of the course.

Final Exam
The final exam will also be divided into two sections: comprehension and production. Both parts are mandatory and will cover topics discussed during lectures.

Evaluation Criteria

- 30 cum laude: Excellent performance, demonstrating superior mastery in both comprehension and production of Sign Language.
- 30-29: Very good performance, with strong proficiency in both comprehension and production of Sign Language.
- 28-26: Good performance, with comprehensive and fully satisfactory linguistic skills.
- 25-23: Fair performance, with satisfactory Sign Language skills, though not always exhaustive or expressed with full clarity.
- 22-20: Sufficient performance, with barely satisfactory and sometimes superficial signing skills; the student is nonetheless able to maintain a basic conversation.
- 19-18: Barely sufficient performance, with superficial LIS (Italian Sign Language) skills and a limited ability to maintain a conversation.
- Less than 18: Insufficient performance, with absent or severely lacking skills.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Detailed information about the course material will be published on the e-learning page associated with the course.

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | REDUCED INEQUALITIES