COURSE NUMBER: 40980  
MEETING TIMES: TTH 2-3:30pm  
INSTRUCTOR: Audrey Ulloa  
OFFICE HOURS: W 9-11am, T 1-2pm, & by appointment  
ROOM: JES A217A  
OFFICE: CAL 516  
EMAIL: aulloa@mail.utexas.edu  

SEMESTER: Spring 2010

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide an overview of the field of sign language interpreting. Students will be introduced to the theory and practice of interpreting from American Sign Language (ASL) into spoken English and from spoken English into ASL. The emphasis will be on theory of interpreting. Among the concepts and skills to be addressed are: the history and professionalization of interpreting, the interpreter’s code of ethics, linguistic register, conceptually accurate signing, sensitivity to the language choices made by D/deaf individuals, laws that impact the D/deaf and interpreter communities, and working with other interpreters.

COURSE RATIONALE: This course has been designed to give students a broad look at the field of sign language interpreting and is intended to provide students with the understanding of the skills required of, as well as the roles and responsibilities placed upon, the professional sign language interpreter.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS:  

PARTICIPATION: Students should make an effort to attend every class and be prepared to participate in class activities. Attention to classroom activities is imperative, and off-task activities will not be tolerated. This is a participatory course involving group and individual work, and practice and skills development using your ASL skills. There is no way to make up information missed due to absence or lack of attention.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance will be taken every class period. You are allowed four absences over the course of the semester. If you have five absences, regardless of the reason, your final grade will be lowered one letter grade. Each subsequent absence will result in a further ten point reduction of your final grade. Note that no distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Quizzes (10%): Ten short quizzes will be administered on a weekly basis, except for exam weeks. These quizzes will target vocabulary and specific interpreting skills. Each quiz will be worth 10 points.

Homework Assignments (5%): Homework will be assigned periodically throughout the semester.

Observation Hours (10%): Students will observe professional interpreters as they work for 5 hours over the course of the semester. You will acquire these hours at a minimum of two interpreting situations. Your instructor will help you make arrangements for this assignment. After each observation, students will fill out a form documenting the hours. The form and guidelines for you to follow will be posted in blackboard.

Three Exams (15% each): Students will be tested on their knowledge of the information taught in class and the required text. The exams will include essay, short answer, and multiple choice questions.

Preliminary Recorded Voice-to-Sign and Sign-to-Voice Performance (10%):
Students are required to interpret a spoken English linguistic event into ASL and an ASL linguistic event into spoken English while being recorded for evaluation purposes. This project will be due near the beginning of the semester, and will allow students to evaluate their skill in the task of active interpreting. Guidelines for the performance will be posted in blackboard.

Final Recorded Voice-to-Sign and Sign-to-Voice Performance (20%): Students are required to interpret a spoken English linguistic event into ASL and an ASL linguistic event into spoken English while being recorded for evaluation purposes. Instructor feedback should be incorporated into the second performance. This project will be due near the end of the semester, and will give students the opportunity to measure their progress in the task of active interpreting. Guidelines for the performance will be posted in blackboard.

NO MAKE UP ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN
LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE REDUCED A LETTER GRADE PER DAY

GRADES: Letter grades will be figured as follows:
A    90-100
B    80-89
C    70-79
D    60-69
F    59 and below

No extra credit will be given. Your grades will be posted in Blackboard.

POLICY ON SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. For more information, please visit the Student Judicial Services website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs
POLICY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The University of Texas at Austin provides, upon request, appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, visit the Services for Students with Disabilities website at http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/

DUE DATES

Weekly                              In Class Quizzes
As Announced                       Homework
February 16                         First Exam
March 9                             #1 Voice-to-Sign and #1 Sign-to-Voice performances
March 30                            Second Exam
April 22                            #2 Voice-to-Sign and #2 Sign-to-Voice performances
April 27                            Observation hours
May 6                               Last Exam

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1                              Class Intro, Chapter 1
Week 2                              Chapter 7
Week 3                              Chapter 10
Week 4                              Chapter 11

Week 5                              Chapter 9
Week 6                              Chapter 8
Week 7                              Chapter 14
Week 8                              Chapter 13
Week 9                              Spring Break
Week 10                             Chapter 13 cont.

Week 11                             Chapter 2
Week 12                             Chapter 3, Chapter 4
Week 13                             Chapter 5
Week 14                             Chapter 6
Week 15                             Chapter 12
Week 16                             Class Wrap-up