



# Laney College

## THE LEGAL AND COMMUNITY INTERPRETING PROGRAM Overview

The **Legal and Community Interpreting Program** is designed for:

- 1) **Highly-proficient bilingual (English-Spanish) individuals** interested in furthering their language skills and seeking opportunities in the lucrative, growing and diverse field of professional interpretation;
- 2) **Active Spanish interpreters** with limited experience, who are not certified and are interested in taking the **California Court Interpreter Certification Exam** to pursue a career in court interpretation.

The six 3-unit courses in the program cover all the essential skills, knowledge and training that interpreters need in order to immediately enter the job market and join the field of community interpretation, and then pass the California (Consortium) Exam for Court Interpreters, for employment in the California courts. These are the courses in the Program.

- 1) Overview of the California Court System and State Law (POSCI 021)
- 2) Introduction to Spanish-Language Legal Interpretation (LCI 201)
- 3) Sight Translation (LCI 202)
- 4) Consecutive Interpretation (LCI 203)
- 5) Simultaneous Interpretation (LCI 204)
- 6) Preparation for the California Court Interpreter Certification Exam (LCI 205)

***College-level proficiency in English and Spanish is required for successful completion of this program.***

This is the only program that contains a Political Science component that includes curriculum content about the California state courts and judicial system.

All courses within this program are also available as independent offerings for students interested in the individual subject or subjects.

***Please see below for the schedule of courses offered this Fall 2013***

# THE LEGAL AND COMMUNITY INTERPRETING PROGRAM

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **1. Overview of the California Legal System and California Law: POSCI 021 (3 units)**

Introduction to the California State Court System: Trial Courts, Appellate Courts, the Supreme Court, the types of cases heard at each level and review of rights and responsibilities of individuals engaged in court proceedings. Role of the California Judicial Branch relative to the executive and legislative branches of the local California state government; discussions on court protocol, personnel, due process, jurisdiction and high profile legal cases that have compelling social and political significance. Comparison of California's legal system with other selected U.S. states and international systems.

### **2. Introduction to Spanish-Language Legal Interpretation: LCI 201 (3 units)**

This is an introductory course for people who are interested in working in the field of legal interpretation either in the court system or community legal services. The focus is to acquaint the student with the interpretation profession, the role of the interpreter and the different modes of interpretation: consecutive, simultaneous and sight. The course is structured to give the student a familiarity with key legal terms, English and Spanish vocabulary, criminal procedure in the California justice system, and the professional expectations in the field of a judiciary and community interpreter. Students are provided guidance on developing study habits and terminology resources.

### **3. Sight Translation: LCI 202 (3 units)**

Principles of sight translation (oral), skills and practices, legal terms used in court proceedings. Sight Translation lays the groundwork of interpreter training. Legal vocabulary development in English and Spanish, practice with court documents in English and from a variety of Spanish speaking countries.

*Sight translation is one of components of the California State Exam for Spanish Interpreters.*

### **4. Consecutive Interpretation: LCI 203 (3 units)**

Introduction to the principles of consecutive interpretation; development of oral interpretation skills, acquisition of legal terms as well as regional vocabulary and idioms used by Spanish speakers in legal proceedings.

*Consecutive interpretation is one of components of the California State Exam for Spanish Interpreters.*

### **2. Simultaneous Interpretation: LCI 204 (3 units)**

Acquisition and development of skills required in simultaneous interpretation in legal proceedings such as arraignments, pretrial hearings, motions, pleas and sentencing as well as legal arguments, trials.

*Simultaneous interpretation is one of components of the California State Exam for Spanish Interpreters.*

## 6. Preparation for the California Court Interpreter Certification Exam: LCI 205 (2 units)

Review of simultaneous, consecutive, and sight translation skills required in judicial settings, with a focus on the types of written and oral questions and challenges applicants will have to answer in the California (Consortium) Court Interpreter Written and Oral Examination; review of basic language skills, including vocabulary, cognates and false cognates, idioms, synonyms, antonyms, English and Spanish syntax, reading comprehension; review of the Professional Standards and Ethics for California Court Interpreters; description of exam environment and preparation for practical and psychological challenges of exam.

### FALL 2013 SCHEDULE OF COURSES

The following courses are being offered this Fall semester, which starts **August 19th, 2013 (late start: Sept. 7th)**:

- **LCI 201 – Introduction to Spanish Legal Interpretation**  
Monday evenings, 6:00-8:50, beginning 8/19/13  
Instructor: Carole Glasser, room: F204  
Enrollment code: 41669
- **LCI 204 – Simultaneous Interpretation**  
Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:50, beginning 8/21/13  
Instructor: Angela Zawadzki, room F200  
Enrollment code: 44426
- **LCI 205 – Preparation for the California Court Interpreter Exam**  
Saturday mornings, 9:00-11:25, beginning 9/7/13 (late start)  
Instructor: David Sweet, room F200  
Enrollment code: 41892
- **POSCI 21 – Overview of the California Court System**  
Online course, beginning 8/19/13  
Instructor: Tamina Alon  
Enrollment code: 41893

All instructors of the interpretation courses have over 15 years of court-interpreting experience and are well established in the field of court interpretation.

#### To enroll in the program:

- Go to <http://web.peralta.edu/apply-enroll/> or • Call (510) 466-7368 (admissions)

For more information about the program, contact the following program instructors directly:  
**David Sweet-Cordero:** [dsweet@peralta.edu](mailto:dsweet@peralta.edu) ; **Angela Zawadzki:** [angela.zawadzki@gmail.com](mailto:angela.zawadzki@gmail.com)

*We look forward to seeing you in class!*