PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Associate in Science (A.S.) in ASL/English Interpreting provides students with a unique opportunity to transform a passion for language, culture and people into an exciting, challenging and rewarding career. Professional ASL/English Interpreters have opportunities for both contract or full time employment and, as interpreting skills develop, qualified interpreters can work in many specialized settings such as DeafBlind, education, health care, legal, mental health, Spanish-influenced settings and video relay/remote interpreting.

This program requires intermediate American Sign Language abilities for several first term courses which may be gained through college-level coursework (ASL 1130: ASL 3 or higher) or the Proficiency in American Sign Language Communication Exam (PACE). Program coursework includes a foundation in theories of interpretation with an emphasis on interpreting skill development. There are ongoing opportunities for practical experiences, with a special topics course, an internship, observations, shadowing, preparation, pre/post processing, professional responsibilities and duties, and simulated and supervised authentic interpreting services.

Graduates will be prepared for the written portions of the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) and the National Interpreter Certification (NIC) and have a strong foundation for the performance portions of both the EIPA and NIC. At this time, certification of professional sign language interpreters in Florida is not required by law, however hiring agencies/organizations recognize and frequently require a formal assessment of interpretation abilities.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- High school diploma or high school equivalent
- Forward official college transcripts to the College
- Check the catalog to learn about all course prerequisites, specifically as it relates to the language requirement that must be fulfilled prior to enrolling in the program. American Sign Language I and II are offered for foreign language credit. American Sign Language III is offered to prepare students for the PACE, as a prerequisite for the A.S. in ASL/English Interpreting degree, to satisfy prerequisite requirements for ASL/Deaf related bachelor's degrees or for personal enrichment.

AT-A-GLANCE

- 66 Credit Hours
- Financial Aid Eligible
- Face-to-Face Courses

CONTACT

interpreting@fscj.edu  
(904) 646-2392

Apply online at fscj.edu/admissions.

The ASL/English Interpreting program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Interpreter Education (CCIE).
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When can I start?
Applications accepted Fall, Spring and Summer Terms; however, enrollment into interpreting skills courses begins during the Fall Term only.

Where are the educational courses held?
General education courses are offered at any of FSCJ’s campuses and centers. The professional core courses for this program are offered at FSCJ South Campus.

What is the cost of the program?
Many students attending FSCJ qualify for financial aid, which can greatly reduce out-of-pocket expenses. This program is Federal financial aid eligible. The approximate cost of tuition and fees is $7,551.*

Besides tuition and fees, students have to pay for things like living expenses, transportation, supplies and books. Book costs vary widely by program and course selection as well as choice of electives; students are encouraged to budget about $60 per credit hour.

*Tuition reflects Florida resident rates and are subject to change. Certain classes that require labs may have additional fees for lab supplies. Additional fees are published in the class schedule.

What other programs are related to the field?
Students who have an interest in the ASL/English interpreting (A.S.) may also be interested in the following FSCJ programs:
• Early Childhood Education (B.S.)
• Supervision and Management (B.A.S.)
• Human Services (B.S.)

**Bridge Option: Students who complete the A.S. degree and an additional bridge of 15 credits in general education are eligible for the 2+2 articulation with the University of North Florida’s ASL/English Interpreting B.S. The A.S. degree also satisfies the prerequisite courses for several other bachelor’s programs in interpreting, both in and out of state.

Where can I get more information about potential careers?
Research local job opportunities, wage data, career paths and market trends at fscj.emsicareercoach.com.