Design, implementation and evaluation of a program on Intercultural Communication and PSIT.

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Masters Degree in Intercultural Communication, Public Service Interpreting and Translation

I. Master´s Description

II. Evaluation

III. The future.....
The beginning....

- **1999 -2000**: Seminars, Course proposal
- **2001-02**: Postgraduate Specialist Course in Interlinguistic Communication: PSIT (several language pairs) (250 hours)
- **2005-06**: UAH - Master’s Degree
- **2006-07**: Master’s Degree (Ministry of Education) (60 ECTS)
- **2009**: EMT network member
I. PSIT as a ‘discipline’.

- Professionalization
- Competent professionals
- Training: In & out the classroom
- Alliances & Cooperation
Training in Action: *Cross-fertilization*
Aimed at:

• Students with an extensive knowledge of Spanish and/or minority languages.

• Students serving as liaisons for immigrants and refugees.

• Students with experience as linguistic and cultural mediators, but no training.
Main objectives

• Providing theoretical knowledge and skills, abilities, and tools to act as linguistic, communicative, and cultural liaisons.

• Becoming familiar with and to practice primary techniques used in IC
Curriculum

• Module 1. Interlinguistic communication.

• Module 2. Interpreting and translating in healthcare setting.

• Module 3. Interpreting and translating in legal, administrative, educational settings.
Modulo 4. Internship in public / private institutions
- Signing an academic agreement
- Tasks: specified in the agreement

Module 5. Master’s Degree Project, a research project
- Highly valuable tool to know the reality and planning the future.
+ 100 Masters´ Thesis evaluated
Language Specific

- Arabic-Spanish
- English-Spanish
- French-Spanish
- Polish-Spanish
- Romanian-Spanish
- Chinese-Spanish
- Bulgarian-Spanish
- Russian-Spanish
- German-Spanish

* A minimum of 5 students per language pair needed
Course planning: A one year’s master

• **October**: Online classes
• **November – February**:
  – Onsite classes
  – Schedule: Monday - Thursday, 16:00-20:00.
• **March – September**:
  – Internships in institutional centres
  – Master’s Degree Project.
Methodology
(CROSS-FERTILIZATION)

• Training

Research

Internships / Relationship
with institutions

(A. Corsellis, F. Pöchhacker, E. Hertog)
Main topics

- State of the art
- Intercultural communication
- Training
- Translation & Translation criticism
- Terminology (Development)
- Theoretical studies
II. Evaluation (2006-9)

• Nº students (2006-9): + 140
• Degrees: T&I, Modern Languages, Law, Mediation and Intercultural Communication, Political Science…
• Age: 25 – 35
• Sex: + female
• Nationalities: + 15
• Data from:
  – Students´ questionnaires
  – Teachers´ reports
  – Language coordinators´ reports

• Some aspects evaluated:
  - Masters´ Organization
  - Teacher´s profile
  - Internships
  - Job market
Some results

• Main objections:
  - infrastructure deficiencies
  - intensive period
  - short internships
  - more time for practice (2 academic years)
Some comments: about the students

But:
- Variety of students´ profile
Some comments: about the students

And:

- Different access to/ availability of resources
- Culture / language influence
- Trainers’ profile
Some comments: Trainers

- Background
- Needs
- Difficulties
- Improving ...
Some comments: Internships

PSIT: “institution – driven”:
- direct contact with real market
- Conexions between parts involved:
  - Needs & expectations
and…..

• The institutions:
  – Lack of recognition of the profession
  – Don’t know how to work with interpreters
  – Don’t appreciate effective communication…
Students’ opinion

P1 Usefulness
P2 Time
P3 Theory & practice
P4 Connectivity
P5 Material
Conclusion: Working on improving relationships: academia - society (university / job market)
Developing multilingual materials
Traductor/intérprete en los servicios públicos: una profesión emergente

Taller

19 de noviembre de 2009, 16:00 h.

Presenta:
Dra. Carmen Valero Garcés (coordinadora del Grupo FITISPos-UAH)

Intervienen:
Natalia Abramian
Paulo Alves
Elena Borrás
Yaping Cheng
Sarah Khay
Raquel Lázaro
Bárbara Rodríguez
Denis Socarrás
Bianca Vitalaru

Lugar: Universidad de Alcalá. Colegio San José de Caracciolos. C/Trinidad, 5.
Avances y retos en la traducción e interpretación en los servicios públicos

Challenging topics in public service interpreting and translating

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Looking ahead:

• A long way….

• Implimentig an efficient structure
• Developing quality assurance instruments
• Accreditation
• Recognition of the profession
A hard way to go .... but not impossible

• Thank you for your attention / Gracias por vuestra atención

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