

Preparación Online—Improving Latino Academic Success

The University of Arizona National Center for Interpretation is looking for schools and school districts that are serious about improving the academic outcomes of their Latino students.

Thanks to a series of grants funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE), we have developed curricula and teacher in-service training that has demonstrated a transformative ability to rapidly increase Latino students' engagement with and interest in education, as well as their academic performance, improving composition, reading comprehension, critical thinking skills, GPA, attendance, retention and completion rates.

NPR's Morning Edition (Feb 1, 2008) captured the excitement the *Preparación* T&I curriculum generates in both students and teachers alike and students' newfound academic engagement and aspirations towards higher education: <http://preparacion.arizona.edu>.



ABOUT THE *PREPARACIÓN ONLINE* PROJECT

We have developed and piloted a comprehensive, multimedia translation and interpretation (T&I) curriculum, designed for integration into existing Spanish curriculum at the high school levels. **The overarching goal of our most recent project, *Preparación Online*, is to improve Latino enrollment, persistence, and completion rates at the secondary and post-secondary levels.**

The University of Arizona National Center for Interpretation is launching its *Preparación Online* In-Service Training Program starting June 23, 2014. This online in-service will prepare bilingual teachers and educators to use our T&I curriculum in their classrooms, enabling them to impact an enormous number of students quickly. Each unit has a full syllabus with lesson plans and materials ready for classroom implementation. All teachers who complete the in-service will receive three T&I curriculum units which focus on the following pivotal areas, with additional opportunities to acquire other units:

- ✓ Introduction to Translation and Interpretation
- ✓ Healthcare
- ✓ Criminal Justice

MORE ABOUT THE *PREPARACIÓN ONLINE* IN-SERVICE

Teaching T&I is not the same as teaching Spanish. It requires its own unique and intensive instructional methodology to maximize T&I skills and specialized register language acquisition.

To maximize the impact of our T&I curriculum units and provide the best possible chance for success in their implementation, teachers need to be trained in the pedagogy of translation and interpretation. The *Preparación Online* In-Service has several key goals:

- ✓ Building teachers' high and specialized register linguistic repertoires and T&I skills
- ✓ Building T&I theory and practice
- ✓ Introducing conceptual content central to delivering the in-class T&I units
- ✓ Introducing T&I pedagogical methods and collaborative and culturally-based teaching techniques that spur Latino academic achievement and cognitive growth.
- ✓ Aiding teachers in reviewing the curricula, understanding the scope and sequence, and teaching and learning assumptions, as well as learning pedagogical techniques and strategies to teach translation and interpretation.

Past participants in the previous onsite *Preparación* in-service unanimously ranked it as among the best in-service trainings they have ever had. *Preparación* In-Service training methodology is based on the Agnese Haury Institute for Interpretation, the premier interpreter training program in the country. We expect our new online in-service to deliver the same high quality instruction!

PREPARACIÓN IN-SERVICE TIMES AND COSTS

The 2014 *Preparación Online* In-Service is scheduled to launch June 23, 2014 and run through August 15, 2014.

The cost for the in-service is \$995.

In addition to the T&I curriculum units, participants who complete the program will receive 80 recertification credit hours, with the approval of their districts.

Finally, in exchange for the curricula, including all the materials, we ask that all participating schools and districts support their teachers in piloting the materials in a Spanish or ESL classroom with students who are heritage speakers of Spanish, or who have near high intermediate to advanced proficiency - 3rd year, or AP level. This piloting will include gathering survey and other data to help track the impact of the T&I curriculum on students.

CONTACT INFORMATION

University of Arizona National Center for Interpretation

Paul Gatto, Assistant Director
pgatto@email.arizona.edu

Phone: (520) 621-3615

Fax: (520) 624-8130

<http://nci.arizona.edu>

University of Arizona
National Center for interpretation
Geronimo Bldg, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 210432
Tucson, AZ 85721-0432



Find out more: <http://preparacion.arizona.edu>