

Religious Simultaneous Interpreting Course

6-11 July 2020, Ad Gentes, SVD Conference & Retreat Center, Nemi, Italy

Important Information on Eligibility of Participants for Superiors/Recommending Bodies

Religious Simultaneous Interpreting Course teaches strategies and techniques of interpreting, however a certain participant's profile, in addition to their language proficiency, is required for them to fully benefit from the training. We encourage the Orders' Superiors and the Recommending Bodies to carefully select candidates for the Course, taking into consideration not only their language proficiency but also their cognitive abilities, experience and personality traits.

While interpreting can be taught, it requires certain predispositions as well as previous foundation that cannot be built in a week. In a way it is similar to sports or music where you need to have that inborn talent. Everybody can learn the rules how to play football but only few would make it to the national selection team.

It is important to keep in mind that one can be highly proficient in two or more languages and communicate perfectly in those languages for her/his own needs and still not be able to translate orally on the spot. Her/his brain may not be structured to transfer the meaning interlinguistically in milliseconds. Being bilingual is thus only the very first step to become an interpreter.

Specific linguistic and background requirements are listed on the Admissions page. In addition, a good candidate for simultaneous interpreter possesses such personality traits as extraversion, emotional stability, self-efficacy and risk-taking. S/he is open-minded, curious, assertive and at the same time receptive and quickly responding to feedback. S/he has good memory, handles stress well and is comfortable with self-monitoring and self-evaluation. S/he is not timid; s/he is a good public speaker and does not have voice projection or articulation issues. In particular, a good interpreter has a high level of tolerance of ambiguity which is generally defined as the ability to manage situations that are new, complex and contain problems without a clear solution (novelty, complexity and insolubility).

Please kindly take into consideration all these factors when recommending candidates for the Course. We look forward to preparing qualified interpreters for your Order's/communities' needs.

Cordially in Christ,

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