Suggestions for Course Topics for Continuing Education

The following list provides examples of study topics potentially affording continuing interpreter education credits. It is not an inventory of approved subjects.

**Skill Areas**

The development or refinement of skills generally relies on practice, coaching, and feedback, which require interaction with an instructor. It is therefore recommended that continuing education activities involving the acquisition or improvement of interpretation or language skills be instructor-led. This includes the following skill areas:

**A. Interpreting Skills**

- Consecutive interpreting skills: techniques and skills practice (memory, listening, note taking)
- Simultaneous interpreting skills: beginning and advanced techniques and skills practice
- Sight translation skills

**B. Language Skills**

- Grammar
- Style and composition
- Vocabulary-building
- Speed reading
- Accent reduction
- Voice protection
- Etymology, philosophy
- Public speaking
- False cognates
- Syntax
- Improvisation techniques

**Knowledge Areas**

The following are suggestions for topics to include in your continuing education activities. In addition to selecting an area to study, select a specific course that is right for you by looking at the course learning objectives in relation to a particular method of delivery. For example: courses may be instructor-led, group, or self-study activities, language specific or monolingual, offered in a classroom setting, via distance learning, or as conference workshops.
A. Terminology

- Street slang
- Forensic pathology
- Law enforcement jargon
- Criminalistics
- Drugs
- Fingerprints
- Weapons and ballistics
- DNA terms
- Gangs
- Medical terms
- Tools
- Automotive terms
- Regionalisms
- Financial and banking terms
- Sex offenses
- Drug and alcohol testing
- Business terms

B. General Law

- Criminal procedure
- Sentencing procedures
- Probation/parole
- Mental health proceedings
- Domestic violence
- Unlawful detainer
- Civil law
- Property law
- Family law
- Juvenile proceedings (dependency, delinquency, child support)
- Criminal investigation
- Juvenile justice
- Arraignments, hearings, motions
- Elder abuse
- Contracts
- Legal advice vs. legal information
- Drug court
- Jimmy Ryce proceedings