INTERPRETING, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

The demand for interpreting services in the U.S. far exceeds the supply of qualified interpreters, and the federal government estimates that job opportunities for interpreters will increase significantly faster than the average rate of job growth through 2030. The Graduate Certificate in Interpreting offers online professional training to students in any of the offered language pair. The program is designed for those who have earned an undergraduate degree, have either significant industry experience or post-graduate degrees, and are interested in language-services careers focused on interpreting.

The Graduate Certificate program is recognized by the American Translators Association as an approved Translation & Interpreting Studies program. Alumni go on to work as freelance or in-house interpreters in a broad range of areas, including legal, medical, and community interpreting.

Please visit this page (https://uwm.edu/translation-interpreting-studies/contact/request-for-information/) to request more information.

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines

Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application deadline chart (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines/) for specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found by using the One Stop calendars (https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/).

Eligibility and Admission

Applicants to the Graduate Certificate program in Interpreting must hold a bachelor's degree with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.75. If the GPA is less than 2.75, the applicant must provide substantial evidence of ability to succeed in graduate-level work.

A degree in the applicant's foreign language or advanced study in that language is desirable but not required. To be eligible for admission, all applicants to the certificate program must submit a reason statement and pass a qualifying examination administered by the faculty of Translation & Interpreting Studies (TIS) (https://uwm.edu/translation-interpreting-studies/admissions/qualifying-exam/).

Application

- Students wishing to obtain this certificate must declare their intention by applying to the program office or director.
- All graduate certificate applicants—even those already enrolled in a UWM graduate program—must apply to the Graduate School (https://uwm.edu/applygrad/).
- Graduate degree and previously admitted graduate non-degree students who decide to pursue a certificate program must submit the application before completing 6 credits in the certificate sequence.
- Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree and have a minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate grade point average to be admitted into a certificate program.

Credits and Courses

Students must complete 15 credits of required courses, as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Required courses		
TRNSLTN 700	Introduction to Interpreting	3
TRNSLTN 711	Ethics in Translation and Interpreting	3
TRNSLTN 722	Advanced Interpreting	3
TRNSLTN 750	Community Interpreting and Translation	3
Elective		
See below regarding elective course		3
Total Credits		**15**

Electives

In addition to the four required courses, students must complete one elective course (3 credits). In consultation with the certificate coordinator, students select their elective from among the following courses. Other courses relevant to the student's plan of study may be used to fulfill the elective requirement with the consent of the coordinator.

Code	Title	Credits
One of the following:		
TRNSLTN 530G	Business and Professional Aspects of Translation	3
TRNSLTN 706	Introduction to Translation: French to English	3
TRNSLTN 707	Introduction to Translation: Spanish to English	3
TRNSLTN 708	Introduction to Translation: German to English	3
TRNSLTN 709	Seminar in Literary and Cultural Translation	3
TRNSLTN 710	Comparative Systems for Translation	3
TRNSLTN 716	Seminar in Advanced Translation: French to English	3
TRNSLTN 717	Seminar in Advanced Translation: Spanish to English	3
TRNSLTN 718	Seminar in Advanced Translation: German to English	3
TRNSLTN 719	Introduction to Translation: Russian to English	3
TRNSLTN 720	Topics in Translation:	1-3
TRNSLTN 726	Computer-Assisted Translation	3
TRNSLTN 727	Project Management in Translation	3
TRNSLTN 728	Editing for Translation	3
TRNSLTN 729	Seminar in Advanced Translation: Russian to English	3
TRNSLTN 730	Internship in Translation/Interpreting	3
TRNSLTN 820	Translation Theory	3

Additional Requirements

Transfer Credit

Up to 12 credits of graduate certificate coursework in Interpreting may be transferred into an MA degree (Translation or Interpreting concentration) in the TIS Program.

Required courses completed as part of a student's undergraduate degree will not count toward the graduate certificate. In such cases, students consult with the certificate coordinator to select appropriate elective

courses (in lieu of one or more required courses) to complete the 15 credits required to earn the graduate certificate.

Grade Point Average Requirement

Students must earn at least an average GPA of 3.0 in courses completed at the graduate level as well as a 3.0 GPA on all credits completed for the certificate. In addition, students must earn a B or better in all courses completed for the certificate.

Capstone Requirement

All certificate students will be required to pass a one-hour interpreting examination.

Articulation with Degree Programs

1. Credits and courses required for a certificate may double count toward meeting UWM graduate degree requirements subject to the following restrictions:
   - Degree programs must approve the courses from certificates that can double count toward the degree.
   - All credits taken in completion of certificate requirements may count towards a UWM graduate degree as long as they do not contribute more than 90% of the total credits needed to obtain the degree. (Note: Students in PhD programs must still complete the minimum residency requirements)
   - Certificate courses used toward meeting degree requirements must be completed within the time limit for transfer credit.
2. Courses completed for a degree may be counted toward a subsequent certificate, subject to all certificate policy requirements.
3. A course may count toward no more than one certificate and one degree.
4. Students may not earn a certificate subsequent to a concentration in the same area.

Time Limit

Certificate program time limits shall be established as follows:

- 18 or fewer credits/Three years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.
- 19 or more credits/Four years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.

For certificates that are designed as add-ons to degree programs and are awarded concurrent with the degree, the time limit shall be the same as that of the degree program.

Translation and Interpreting Studies Learning Outcomes

Students graduating from Graduate Certificate and Master's degree programs in Translation & Interpreting Studies (TIS) will meet objectives in five core areas of professional practice.

Knowledge – Students graduating from TIS programs will:

- Produce accurate **entry-level translations and/or interpretations** between their source and target languages, demonstrating understanding of the linguistic specificities of their languages.
- Integrate significant **cultural, ideological, and discursive elements** into their translations or interpretations between source and target cultures.

- Articulate how various **translation & interpreting theories** influence work produced in a range of literary and critical contexts and in the student's own translation and/or interpreting work.

Critical Thinking – Students graduating from TIS programs will:

- **Apply translation & interpreting theory** to assess translated texts and interpreting encounters.
- *In Translation tracks*: Analyze **source texts**, identify their most salient features, and discuss potential strategies for rendering those features in translation.
- *In Interpreting tracks*: Analyze **cross-cultural communication** in interpreted encounters.

Skills – Students graduating from TIS programs will:

- *In Translation tracks*: Produce **literary, specialized, and technical translations** that successfully negotiate linguistic, cultural, and technical challenges.
- *In Interpreting tracks*: Produce **interpretations in a variety of cross-cultural communication contexts**, successfully negotiating linguistic, cultural, technical, and environmental challenges.
- *In the professional track*: Apply **industry-standard principles and best practices** for language services with respect to quality assurance (ISO), entrepreneurship, and project management.
- *In the research track*: Conduct **translation & interpreting studies research**, which may include bibliographic research, comparative analyses, literature reviews, literary analyses, scoping reviews, and qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods studies.
- Learn and apply **ethical standards of professional practice** in translation & interpreting and in the student's area of specialization.
- Demonstrate **readiness to use technology** most relevant to the student's translation and/or interpreting practice and area of specialization.

Research – Students graduating from TIS programs will:

- Produce publishable **academic research papers or articles** contributing to knowledge or professional development in the language services industry.

Professional Development – Students graduating from TIS programs will:

- *In the professional track*: **Produce a resume** and at least two polished translation samples or model interpretations.
- *In the professional track*: **Produce a C.V.** and one polished writing sample.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the **leading professional organizations/associations** in the language services field and in their area of specialization.