

C O U R S E S Y L L A B U S

# Ethics: The Interpreter's Conundrum

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## Course Overview

An interpreter's work can directly affect whether a person is found guilty or innocent. That weight demands accuracy — and the self-awareness to recognize and correct a mistake when one occurs. This webinar teaches interpreters how to admit error with professionalism, stay composed on the record, and use the right language and protocols to set the record straight.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the ethical responsibility interpreters carry in legal proceedings
  - Accurately assess their own performance and identify when a correction is necessary
  - Determine when it is appropriate to correct themselves on the record
  - Apply specific protocols and scripts for making corrections professionally
  - Handle common ethical scenarios with confidence and composure
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#	Lesson	What You'll Do
1	<b>Welcome</b>	Introduction to the course, its purpose, and what to expect from the webinar.
2	<b>Lecture — 2 Hours</b>	Covers ethical scenarios interpreters face, the conundrum of when to correct yourself, accurate self-assessment, additional scenarios for identifying when a correction is required, and protocols and ready-to-use scripts for making corrections on the record.
3	<b>Quiz</b>	A knowledge check covering the lecture material. Students must pass to receive their Certificate of Completion.

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### Instructor

**Athena Matilsky** has a Master's in Conference Interpreting from Glendon College, York University, and a BA in Spanish Interpretation and Translation. Through internship programs, specialized coursework and hours of self-study, she became a Certified Healthcare Interpreter, passed the NJ Spanish and French court interpreting exams, and achieved certification as a Federal Court Interpreter. She was a full-time staff interpreter for the NJ judiciary in Trenton for three years and was also editor-in-chief of NAJIT's publication, Proteus. Currently, she is in Montreal working as a conference interpreter and interpreter trainer. When she is not working on her interpreting, you may find her studying French or practicing Acro yoga.