

# H & H PUBLISHING



## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS FOR WILLIAM F. ROSS III, M.S., CI/CT

### WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED IN ASL OR CO-PRESENTED

#### THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOPS ARE PRIMARILY TO ASL INSTRUCTORS

##### **Including Expansion Techniques in Your Instruction**

Expansion techniques are naturally occurring linguistic features used by native signers of American Sign Language; as such they should be incorporated into ASL instruction. This workshop clarifies that these techniques, often thought to have been developed by interpreters, are actually a vital part of ASL. Due to the language differences in American Sign Language and spoken English expansion techniques must be utilized to make implicit information more explicit, and to clarify the goal or intent of the message. Adequate instruction in expansion techniques helps signers/interpreters develop ASL skills that demonstrate natural phrasing, correct grammatical structures, and limit errors in production. The goal of this workshop is to expose sign language instructors to the various expansion techniques and encourage them to incorporate this necessary instruction into their ASL classes.

##### **Knowing Your Language: Areas of Growth & Strength**

Our ability to communicate effectively is only as good as our language. We need to know if our overall language production is clear and accurate. Taking a critical look at our language is a necessary part of authentic self-assessment. Members of the interpreting community need to assess their working languages and determine their degree of bilingual competency. American Sign Language has been studied and recognized as a world and heritage language with definitive linguistic features. This training will utilize several linguistic tool(s) recognized by National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL) and other fields of research to outline levels of language proficiency. This user-friendly tool is comprehensible and built on a series of "I can..." statements. Once completed, this self-assessment guides individual professional development planning. This training promotes the utilization of deliberate practice to shape, improve and strengthen our language and work.

#### THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOP IS CO-PRESENTED ONLY

##### **Black and White in a Beige World**

Today diversity is talked about in many circles, both public and private. The interpreting profession is also grappling with the many ideas and beliefs bound up in the concept of diversity. This workshop will primarily address people of color and how to increase opportunities for diversity in our personal lives, the interpreting profession and within interpreting training programs. Also addressed will be creating a lively environment where people of different skin colors can intersect with genuine respect, creating an environment of growth! In addition, we will discuss how to provide supportive environments that allow for collaboration between people who come from differing backgrounds (i.e., culture, race, gender and so on). Some of the elements that lend to a place of growth and change are: risk, courageous conversations, mutual respect, gentle confrontation, authentic admiration and (most importantly) the gift of laughter!