

## Conference Interpreting

**Three-semester  
full-time  
programme**  
(part-time study  
possible)

**Winterthur** (Zurich  
region)

The Specialisation in Conference Interpreting within the MA in Applied Linguistics is designed for anyone who wants to establish themselves in the challenging field of oral language mediation. You'll acquire outstanding practical professional skills and wide-ranging knowledge of the profession as a whole, while also learning how to efficiently handle translation-specific problems, thus ensuring you remain competitive in the complex world of conference interpreting in the long term.

### Your professional future

In our globalised working world, multilingualism is playing an increasingly important role. More and more people are communicating across language barriers, and they are doing so more often. In order to ensure smooth communication in this environment, there is a need for specialists in multilingual communication, including qualified conference interpreters.

Conference interpreters work for government offices, national and international parliaments and organisations, the industrial and private sectors, trade unions, political parties, professional associations and other clients. While they are generally self-employed and contracted directly either through colleagues or agencies, interpreters may also gain employment with major international institutions.

### Your MA programme

The research-based core modules form part of the MA programme for all three specialisations. In the core modules, you learn to reflect critically and constructively on professional practice. The modules focus on the principles and methods of

applied linguistics. In plenary lectures and small groups of students from the three specialisations, you consider central issues relating to applied linguistics in professional practice and learn how to assess communication output.

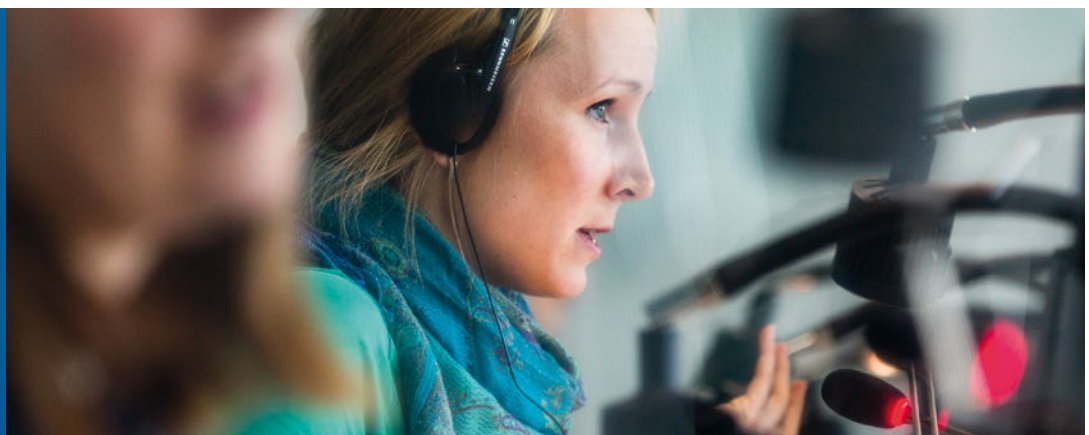
In your chosen specialisation, you acquire professional competences and skills that allow you to successfully embark on your career.

### Topics and courses

- **Simultaneous and consecutive interpreting**
- **Note-taking, voice training, speaking techniques and rhetoric**
- **Terminology management and conference terminology**
- **Simulated conferences**
- **Professionalisation and the language industry**

Visits to potential clients, guest presentations from active interpreters, the opportunity to practice in “dummy booths” at conferences and voluntary assignments provide a direct link to professional practice.

**MA**  
**Applied Linguistics**



## Languages and language combinations

In addition to your native language (A), you will study at least one active foreign language (B) and a passive foreign language (C) or at least three passive foreign languages:

- **A + B + C**
- **A + C + C + C**

You will interpret out of your B and C languages into your A language and out of your A language into your B language. German, English, French and Italian are our standard A, B and C languages, but if there is enough demand, we may offer additional languages. One of the languages you study must be German. Please consult our website to see the languages currently being offered.

## Teaching

You will study with recognised experts from academia and professional practice. With their international orientation – in terms of their background, practice and networks – our lecturers will provide you with clear insights into various aspects of the profession and optimally prepare you for a career as a mediator between languages and cultures.

A special feature of this MA programme is its excellent teacher-student ratio, which allows us to pay close attention to individual needs.

## Admission

The requirements for admission to the Specialisation in Conference Interpreting within the MA in Applied Linguistics are as follows:

- **A BA in Applied Languages or an equivalent undergraduate degree**
- **A successful result in our test of competence if your university degree is in another field**
- **A successful result in our professional aptitude test**
- **English language competence (at least C1 level) and German language competence for non-native speakers of German (at least C2 level)**

## Conference interpreting bridging course

Our conference interpreting bridging course provides you with the skills you need to prepare for the professional aptitude test for the Specialisation in Conference Interpreting. Through self-study, you will acquire the basics of note-taking and sight translation, build up essential background knowledge and learn to express yourself in a confident and considered manner in standard German.

During four to five classroom days, you will work together intensively with our lecturers to hone your interpreting skills and receive detailed and individual feedback on your progress.

## Other specialisations in the MA programme

- **Professional Translation**
- **Organisational Communication**

For more information about the MA programme, please visit:  
[www.zhaw.ch/ma-applied-linguistics](http://www.zhaw.ch/ma-applied-linguistics)

### Applications and contact

ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences  
School of Applied Linguistics  
Theaterstrasse 15c, PO Box, 8401 Winterthur, Switzerland, Tel. +41 58 934 60 60  
master.linguistik@zhaw.ch

**Register  
now!**