

# FACULTY AND COMMUNITY SEMINAR

## INTERPRETING STUDIES AND PRACTICE

### FALL 2020 WEBINARS



#### Sept 16, 2020—11am US Eastern Time

(click on the link provided under speaker's name OR visit [Zoom](#) and join the meeting by typing the last 9 numbers of the link (97874129875))

#### Oct 21, 2020—5pm US Eastern Time

click on the link provided under speaker's name OR visit [Zoom](#) and join the meeting by typing the last 9 numbers of the link (98326406619)

#### Nov 9, 2020—6pm US Eastern Time

click on the link provided under speaker's name OR visit [Zoom](#) and join the meeting by typing the last 9 numbers of the link (99960243043)

#### Influence of Cultural Difference on Humanitarian Interpretation in Natural Disaster Crisis Situations

by Yosmary Montes

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/97874129875>

#### Technology, Language Access, and the U.S. Courts: Current Trends and New Developments

by Chris Mellinger

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/98326406619>

#### Healthcare Interpreting: Positioning to Thrive During a Pandemic

By Vonessa Costa

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/99960243043>

University of Massachusetts Amherst

College of Humanities & Fine Arts  
Languages, Literature and Cultures

Please enter your full name when joining the webinar. Certification of attendance will be issued upon request for those who wish to apply for CEUs related to their respective certifications. Please email [cmazzei@umass.edu](mailto:cmazzei@umass.edu) after attending the webinar (you need to have attended the webinar live to qualify).

## Yosmary Montes

*PhD student at the University of Alcalá, Spain—Linguistic Research Program Human Interpretation in the Environment of Natural Disasters.*

Based on a case study, Montes analyzes how cultural factors play an important role in interpreting during natural disasters, specifically in the case of Hurricane María, which swept through Puerto Rico in September 2017. One of the main conclusions evidenced by the study is that even though interpreters are taught to be an invisible entity, in reality the human component forces them to abandon this space and adopt the role of a cultural mediator, one that enables them to demonstrate sensitivity and empathy toward those affected by the crisis.



## Chris Mellinger

*Assistant Professor of Spanish Interpreting and Translation Studies, UNC Charlotte*

With an ever-increasing number of limited English proficiency speakers in the United States, the U.S. court system is regularly challenged to provide linguistic access to legal proceedings in many languages. Language access plans often look to pair in-person interpreting services with a combination of in-person, remote, distance, or video interpreting technologies to meet increasing demands. This webinar presents an overview of some of the current research on these technologies, the impact that they have on interpreting in legal settings, and some new technological



## Vonessa Costa

*Director, Multicultural Affairs and Patient Services - Cambridge Health Alliance*

Covid-19 has made a tremendous impact on the work of healthcare interpreters in the United States. Drawing from lessons learned in one of the largest hospital-based language access programs in New England, the presenter will explore how institutions and individual interpreters can position themselves to not only survive, but actually thrive, during a pandemic.

