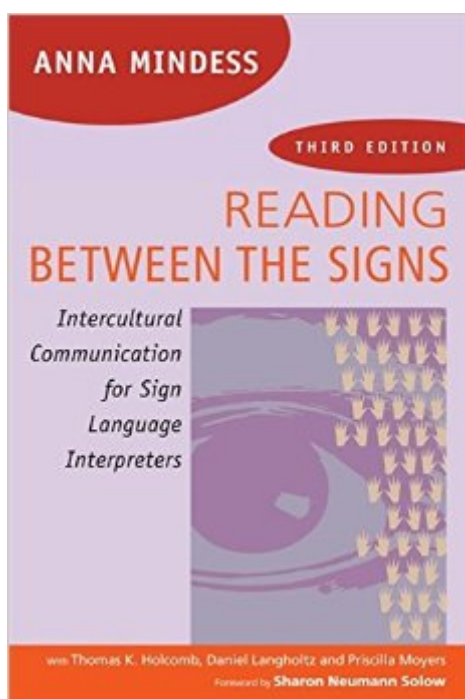


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Reading Between The Signs: Intercultural Communication For Sign Language Interpreters 3rd Edition



Synopsis

In *Reading between the Signs*, Anna Mindess provides a new perspective on a poorly understood culture, American Deaf culture. With the collaboration of three distinguished Deaf consultants, Mindess explores the implication of cultural differences at the intersection of the Deaf and hearing worlds. This new, third edition of her classic and best-selling text covers several new topics of great interest to activists and interpreters, including teaming with Deaf interpreters and cultivating a "Deaf heart." It is used in Deaf studies courses and interpreter training programs worldwide. Anna Mindess has been a Sign Language interpreter for more than thirty years. She lives in Berkeley, California.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In order to understand deaf culture, you need to understand what is standard American culture and then see how it contrasts with deaf culture. Anna Mindess does an excellent job of comparing and contrasting these cultures, with references to cultures from all over the world. She includes insights from respected Deaf members. This is an easy read, not a difficult textbook. I read this with many lightbulbs going "aha". She delves into values, presentation styles, and politeness in both worlds. She provides scenarios with cross cultural perspectives in the doctors' office and the job interview. I have a new understanding of myself as a hearing American and a new appreciation for the cross cultural obstacles that deaf people must face.

I was a little skeptical as to whether I should even buy this book, as it is touted specifically for interpreters and I am still learning ASL, but this book transcends ASL and Deaf culture to provide a great sociological field of study for everyone who works, plays, indeed LIVES in our society. Talk about providing insight as to the "how and why" we all make social faux pas, and the ways that we can be more open to resolving the mistakes we often make. This book is a must read for anyone who interacts with people of different cultures/backgrounds on a regular basis.

This book entitled "Reading Between the Signs: Intercultural Communication for Sign Language Interpreters (2nd edition)" is the most in-depth study of cultural mediation that I have ever seen. Anna Mindness does a wonderful job of helping an interpreter to see where communication barriers exist, and then explain how to bridge those gaps. Why are cultures different? What is cultural mediation? How do you convey a message between conflicting cultures? What tools can effective interpreters use to empower the clients we serve toward better communication when obstacles exist? After reading this book, I found myself making adjustments in interpreting, and was able to see positive results in terms of faithfully communicating source language messages to the recipients. If one reads this book, and applies the principles learned toward their work, it will assist in making them a better interpreter, and ultimately a better communicator between cultures. I highly recommend this book to others and express my thanks to the author for putting the elements of intercultural communication together in one great volume.

This book was required for one of the pre-requisites for my interpreter training program. Mindness not only offers an in-depth analysis of Deaf cultural norms, but also helpful insights into the difficulties interpreting between Deaf culture and hearing culture. She does a thorough job describing why successful interpreters need to go beyond fluency in both languages, to an in-depth understanding of both cultures. Failing to do so can mean less than complete interpretations, that may result in misunderstandings between consumers, offending each other or even experiencing complete communication breakdown. While this book is geared toward Deaf and hearing cultures, it could also be relevant to the cultural awareness needed to provide a complete interpretation between any two languages.

Great Christmas gift for my daughter-in-law...She loved it and was excited to get started. I love ...I've been highly satisfied with the quality of each product and how quickly I receive the merchandise.

While this book has some interesting information, I totally regret purchasing it. Most information can be found online. After having taken an ASL class, I must confess that my Deaf Culture class didn't introduce anything I wasn't taught in ASL.

i guess i expected this book to have pictures of signing for some reason...i don't know, but once i started to read it i saw how informative it is. i like the book a lot and i believe that Anna Mindess knows what she's writing about. if you want to understand the deaf culture more and are determined to become an interpreter, i think this book is essential.

A great book that helped me pass the NIC-Generalist Written Test. Definitely helpful to have in your library!

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