CHAPTER IV:

METHODOLOGY OF THE INVESTIGATION

4.1 KIND OF THE INVESTIGATION

This investigation was catalogued as descriptive and explanatory, because it described the entire problematic situation that students from UFG faced at the time of translating and interpreting from English to Spanish and vice-versa. The investigation also identified and classified the causes of students’ low performance as a result of the inappropriate resources and material teachers used in class.

4.2 DESIGN OF THE INVESTIGATION

In this investigation, the researches did not manipulate the variables stated in the hypotheses; that is why it was considered as Non Experimental Investigation.

Non experimental investigations are based just on observations; the results of the information were obtained in a natural environment; it means, the investigation should both reflect: students' knowledge of translation and interpretation and the necessity of a practical material to increase their skills in such area.

In terms of the results obtained by means of the data gathering tools, the research was catalogued as a Transversal Investigation because the calculation of the results was made in a specific time and place.

4.3 POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The population and sample took into consideration were divided into two groups: students who studied in previous semesters Translation and
Interpretation English-Spanish subject, and students that were taking the course in the second semester 2007; both of them of the English Major at the Universidad Francisco Gavidia. The total amount of students was 32; they provided information by filling a survey; and then the researchers interpreted the results, in order to prove the General and Specific hypotheses of the investigation.

4.3.1 INSTRUMENTS

The instruments in the research were used to measure the variable indicators, and also to collect the information to accomplish the objectives of the investigation.

In order to obtain clear and order ideas, three kind of surveys were elaborated, they were made of closed questions that allowed students to answer according to the situation they have faced when studying the subject.

In order to gather the information, the researchers elaborated six surveys, distributed as follows: 2 directed to teachers and 2 for students of Translation and Interpretation subject; one survey for the teacher and one for the students of Grammar class.

The surveys for Translation and Interpretation English-Spanish course have 10 closed questions and were distributed among 32 students registered; it is worthy to mention that all this procedure was in coordination with the teacher in charge of the class.

4.3.2 PROCEDURE

In order to collect all the information and to obtain the results, the team worked in coordination with the English Department of the Universidad Francisco Gavidia, the teachers, and the students of the Translation and Interpretation English-Spanish subject, and Grammar subject; in the schedule from 4:50 to 8:10 p.m. Monday to Friday, of the second semester 2007.

The means to collect the information is by surveys directed to "key persons" that can give important aspects to support the investigation. Those selected person
can be divided into three sectors:

- **Population:** Those were the students of the English Major at Universidad Francisco Gavidia that are going to be benefited positively, because some of their needs will be solved. The surveys reflected the experiences they have been faced during the course.

- **English teachers at UFG:** Teachers were the ones that had a closer relationship with student’s population, they knew students needs and contributed with essential information on the research.

- **English Major Professionals:** They gave clear explanations about the topic and shared experiences they had faced in their jobs.