# Translation Resources and Tools with Translation Tecnology Module (Curriculum: Foreign Languages for Specialised Translation and Publishing) Prof. Monica Piccione Pareschi, Daniele Moretti

**Translation Resources and Tools (curriculum: Languages, Literature and Communication)**

**Prof. Monica Piccione Pareschi**

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course is divided into two parts:

Part 1 aims to provide students with a range of intellectual tools for understanding the world of Italian publishing over the last few years and the role of translation in its midst. The course will examine the catalogues of publishing houses and their publication lines, book fairs and the events that revolve around the book market and now constitute an important backbone of the publishing supply chain. There will be a particular focus on the translation market and communities of translators in Italy, with information on contracts and industry associations. Students will be provided with updated information on the contractual systems applied to translators in the publishing industry.

This will be followed by an overview of the main tools used by literary and generalist translators: dictionaries (with instructions on their use), corpora, online resources (dictionaries, blogs, social media, translator mailing lists etc.).

In Part 2, students will engage in a specific task on translated texts that will be supplemented with practical sessions and relate to activities associated with and complementary to the translation process, such as revision. By comparing translations, some contemporary and some from different eras, students will be able to reflect on translation approaches, both from a synchronic and diachronic perspective. This will be accompanied by critical reflection on the main translation theories to emerge from translation research.

By the end of the course, students will be able to develop translation strategies independently that they can then adapt to different texts, using the necessary tools (dictionaries, corpora, websites dedicated to specific topics…).

***COURSE CONTENT***

General course.

Translation in the Italian publishing sector in recent years.

Guided reading of translated texts: a critical approach.

***READING LIST***

Susanna Basso, *Sul tradurre*, Bruno Mondadori, Milan 2010

Mariarosa Bricchi, *La lingua è un’orchestra*, Il Saggiatore, Milan 2018

Georges Mounin, *Teoria e storia della traduzione,* Einaudi, Torino 2006

Franco Nasi, *La malinconia del traduttore*, Medusa, Milan 2008

Gianfranco Petrillo (ed.), *Tradurre. Pratiche Teorie Strumenti*, Zanichelli Bologna 2017

Daniele Petruccioli, *Le pagine nere*, *Appunti sulla traduzione di romanzi*, La Lepre, Rome 2017

Details of further reading material will be provided during lectures and published on Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of a written test and an oral test.

The written test consists in the translation of a short contemporary literary text and will assess students on their translation skills i.e. not only the ability to transpose the content accurately from one language to another in terms of syntax and grammar, but also respecting the stylistic quality, register and rhythm that characterises literary and generally creative texts. Syntactic and grammatical accuracy and stylistic considerations will have equal weight i.e. 50% for syntactic/grammar/communication and 50% style (lexical choice, rhythm and register).   
*NB: Students whose curriculum does not include the study of English will take the written test in one of the two chosen languages. The test will be assessed jointly by the lecturer for the specialised translation practical classes (French, German, Russian, Spanish) and the course leader.*

In the oral part, students must explain their translation decisions by referring to what they learned during the course. This will be followed by some questions on translation theory, dictionaries and contractual systems for translators. The texts referred to in the oral exam will be the Bricchi, Mounin and Petruccioli texts. The lecturer will inform students of the chapters to prepare for the exam during the course. The written component is worth 70% of the final mark; the oral component is worth 30%.

*NB: Students whose curriculum does not include the study of English will take the written test for one of their two chosen languages. The test will be assessed jointly by the lecturer taking the Specialized Translation Practical Classes (French, German, Russian, Spanish) and by the course leader.*

Contributing to the final assessment are: the assessment, out of thirty, of the module on *Technologies for Translation* by Prof. Moretti (50%) the assessment, out of thirty, of the exam taken with Prof. Pareschi (50%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

***Notes***

The course includes 15 hours of specialised translation practical classes for each language:

* English language, Dr Francesca Pè. The specialist translation exercises from English will focus on analysis, translation and revision (also in groups) of technical texts taken from real work situations, with particular attention to terminological research, evaluation of sources, comparison with parallel texts.
* French language, Dr Carlotta Contrini. During the specialised translation tutorials from French, the topic of artificial intelligence and technologies applied to translation will be introduced, presenting a sample of CAT tools for machine translation. The purpose of the tutorials is to provide students with a pragmatic approach to the world of assisted and automatic translation, starting from translation experience with texts of four specialised text types.
* Russian, Anna De Ponti. During the specialised translation practical classes from Russian, students will learn methods for translating various types of texts. The group will also work on broadening awareness of the choices made in each translation, in relation to the characteristics and overall coherence of the text under consideration.
* Spanish, Elena Stella. The specialised translation practical classes from Spanish aim to develop translation skills through the analysis of the translation difficulties and problems present in the source text, with particular reference to textuality, text types and genres, and the ability to use the main research and work tools available to the translator.
* German, Giulia Missale. The specialised translation practical classes aim to study the following topics in depth: introduction to translation strategies, what it means to translate, suggestions for writing clear texts and parameters for good writing; the lecturer will also present various text types, highlighting their specific characteristics, and suggest appropriate translation strategies; she will then propose specific texts, which can be translated independently, giving students the chance to apply what they have learned.  
  Students must attend the practical classes relating to the two languages they are studying. Students unable to attend the practical classes must get in touch with the lecturers and arrange a syllabus to obtain a mark: students must also pass the practical classes in order to take the oral exam with Prof. Piccione Pareschi.

***Prerequisites***

Students require excellent knowledge of their source language and good knowledge of written Italian, as well as a specific interest in reading and creative writing.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.

**Translation Technology Module - Daniele Moretti**

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Course aims:

The course aims to provide students with the basics of translation technology and the use of the main computer-aided translation tools currently available on the market. The course also aims to enable students to acquire practical skills in the use of these technologies in order to improve the efficiency and quality of the translation process. Furthermore, the course aims to introduce students to the post-editing activity of machine translation.

Intended learning outcomes:

*Knowledge and understanding:*

At the end of the course, students will possess:

* a solid understanding of the fundamental concepts of translation technologies and the significance of utilising computer-aided translation, machine translation, and post-editing tools within the professional setting;
* the ability to discern the unique characteristics of each computer-assisted translation tool, critically evaluating their strengths and limitations;

and will understand:

* the importance of translation technologies within the professional environment and their role in enhancing the efficiency and quality of the translator's work.

*Applying knowledge and understanding:*

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

* perform the main functions of the computer-aided translation software presented during the course (managing glossaries and translation memories, etc.);
* choose the most suitable translation tool for a given project, taking into account the specific requirements and needs of a possible client;
* defining procedures and best practices for managing translation projects using the tools seen during the course, including the allocation of roles among team members (project management, terminology, translation, proofreading, etc.).

*Making judgements and learning skills:*

As a result of the skills acquired, at the end of the course students will be able to:

* critically examine the translations produced using translation tools, assessing consistency, terminological accuracy and linguistic style;
* understand the importance of cultural and linguistic adaptation when localising multimedia materials;
* develop the ability to independently learn to use new translation tools and technologies that may emerge in the future.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course content is structured as follows:

Part I: Computer-assisted and machine translation, post-editing

During this phase, students will be provided with the basics of computer-aided translation using tools and will practise post-editing. Through the translation of short texts from English into Italian, the functions, benefits and limitations of CAT tools will be explored. Three main CAT tools will be introduced and used, covering all their key functions. Topics covered will include terminology extraction and maintenance, creation and maintenance of translation memories, analysis and word count for project management, text editing and handling of different file types, quality assurance and integration of machine translation as a resource. In addition, reformulation strategies for post-editing will be explored.

Part II: translation/localisation project under real-life conditions (English-Italian)

In this phase, students will work in groups to simulate a translation/localisation project in which the synergies of a team consisting of different professionals will be exploited. Each group will use one of the CAT tools presented in Part I. Through the translation of a complex of texts for the same client, such as the website of a company or an institution, students will have the opportunity to exchange active roles and resources, facilitating familiarisation with all the professional roles in the translation process and with all the functionalities of the CAT tools used.

***READING LIST***

The following manuals are recommended:

- Jean Nitzke, Silvia Hansen-Schirra, *A short guide to post-editing* (Volume 16), Language Science Press, 2021.

- Paulina Pietrzak, Michal Kornacki, *Using CAT Tools in Freelance Translation: Insights from a Case Study*, Routledge, 2020.

Additional teaching materials will be made available to students via the e-learning platform.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will combine different modes of instruction to ensure comprehensive and participative learning. Slides will be presented to provide a theoretical basis on the concepts and methodologies related to the use of CAT tools. Subsequently, students will be involved in guided practical activities, during which they will translate short texts from English into Italian, applying the different CAT tools to different text types. These activities will provide students with the opportunity to become familiar with the specific functionalities of the different tools.

After that, text adaptation strategies for post-editing will be presented, analysed and discussed. Students will then have the opportunity to independently apply the skills acquired during the course in the post-editing process of texts translated by machine translation engines.

In the second part of the course, students will work both in groups and independently, according to the tasks at hand. During this phase, they will be involved in a translation/localisation project, in which they will be assigned specific roles (such as terminology, translation and proofreading) within the team. The teams will use the various computer-aided translation tools presented in the first part of the course. This teaching structure will allow students to experience both individual and group work, promoting autonomy and active learning.

Through this teaching structure, the course aims to provide students with a solid theoretical and practical foundation in computer-assisted and machine translation, as well as the opportunity to gain experience working as part of a team in a simulated professional translation environment.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Assessment method

The assessment of the course will be based on a final examination that will allow students to demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in the field of computer-assisted translation and post-editing. During the examination, students will be assigned a text to translate, similar to those covered in the second part of the course and related to the area of the project developed. They will be required to use the CAT tools presented during the course to provide a high-quality, publishable translation. In addition, students will be required to export and submit the translation memory and glossary associated with the translated text, following the specifications discussed during the course.

Assessment criteria

The criteria used for assessment will take into account several aspects, including the correctness and accuracy of the translation, stylistic and terminological consistency, as well as the correct usage of CAT tools and terminology resources. The ability to adapt the text for post-editing and compliance with the project specifications will also be evaluated. In addition to the final translation, the quality of the translation memory and glossary will also be considered, including the criteria for the extraction, care and validation of terminology resources. The aim of the assessment is to determine the level of competence achieved by the students in the use of CAT tools and the production of high-quality translations in accordance with professional standards.

Students are advised to take an active part in the classes, carry out the proposed activities and to delve independently into the topics covered in order to ensure adequate preparation for the final exam.

The grade, expressed in thirtieths, will contribute 50% to the overall assessment of the Resources and Tools for Translation course held by Prof. Pareschi.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

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Regular attendance of the course is essential to ensure complete learning and to be able to carry out the practical activities related to the use of CAT tools. Regular class attendance is strongly recommended in order to ensure that the learning experience is maximised.

Prerequisites

For successful participation in the course, the following skills and prerequisites are expected:

- Familiarity with the use of digital and computer tools;

- Skills in the field of translation, including an understanding of the basic principles of translation and its methodologies.

*Student Feedback and Consultation Hours*

Appointments can be scheduled in advance via email.