# Translation Theory and Technique

## Prof. Simona Anselmi; Prof. Laura Anelli

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

The course, addressing theoretical and practical issues, will provide an overview of the orientations that have characterised the evolution of translation studies since the origins of the discipline. In addition, it will deal with the problems connected with the role of translators and illustrate the most recent professional techniques developed by the translation industry, with special emphasis on specialized and multimedia translation.

The course will promote an awareness of the translation dynamics used to transpose the different discursive genres into the target culture. To this end, the course will explore the various inter-linguistic and intercultural transposition processes and their influence on the translation choices. In the second semester, the course will focus on audiovisual translation, dealing with thedubbing and subtitling issues.

By the end of the course, students will know the various theoretical and practical approaches adopted throughout the history of translation, including in specialist areas such as audiovisual material. They will be able to recognise the main translation methods, strategies and procedures adopted at various points in history, and relate these to the socio-cultural context and genre in question. They will be able to identify the translation issues that various text types raise, and select the most appropriate translation strategy to resolve them, based on the target readership and text purpose. Students will also be able to assess the main characteristics of the various translations provided, taking a descriptive perspective and applying the relevant linguistic and stylistic criteria.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* Multidisciplinary aspects of translation studies.
* Translation as rewriting.
* The intercultural and inter-linguistic role of the translator.
* Understanding and rewriting texts towards translation.
* Critical study of the translation choices of translated texts.
* Exploring the main characteristics of inter-semiotic literature.
* Case studies of inter-semiotic literature.
* Types of audiovisual translation.
* Case studies of audiovisual translation.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory texts for Semester One:

L. Anelli, *La traduzione e le sue sfide. Tra teoria, apprendimento e pratica*, EDUCatt, Milano, 2014.

R. Jakobson, *Aspetti linguistici della traduzione,* in L. Heilman (ed), *Saggi di linguistica generale*, Feltrinelli, Milan, 1965.

A. Lefevere, *Translation,* *Rewriting and the Manipulation of Literary Fame*, Routledge, London and New York, 1992 (trad. it. di S. Campanini *Traduzione e riscrittura: la manipolazione della fama letteraria*, UTET, Turin, 1998).

J. Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies,* Routledge, London and New York, 2001 (trad. it. di C. Bucaria, *Manuale di studi sulla traduzione,* Bononia University Press, Bologna, 2012)

M. Ulrych (edited by), *Tradurre. Un approccio multidisciplinare,* UTET, Turin, 1997.

Compulsory texts for Semester Two:

M. Paolinelli-E. Di Fortunato, *Tradurre per il doppiaggio,* Hoepli, Milan, 2005.

F. Chaume, *Audiovisual Transaltion: Dubbing*, St. Jerome Publishing, Manchester, 2012.

J. Diaz Cintas-A. Remael, *Audiovisual Translation: Subtitiling,* St. Jerome Publishing, Manchester, 2007.

E. Perego-C. Taylor, *Tradurre l’audiovisivo*, Carocci Editore, Roma, 2012.

Suggested extra readings:

M. Agorni (ed), *La traduzione: teorie e metodologie a confronto. LED,* Milan, 2005.

S. Anselmi, *On self-translation,* LED, Milano, 2012.

M. Pavesi, *La traduzione filmica. Aspetti del parlato dall’inglese all’italiano,* Carocci, Rome, 2006.

E. Perego, *La traduzione audiovisiva. Carocci,* Rome, 2005.

F. Scarpa, *La traduzione specializzata,* Hoepli, Milano, 2008 (2ª ed.).

M. Ulrych (edited by), *Terminologia della traduzione,* Hoepli, Milano, 2002.

For each semester extra readings will be provided to analyse specific translation aspects more in depth.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures and guided practical assignments.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will be based on a) an oral exam designed to assess knowledge of the various theoretical and practical approaches to translation, including in specialist areas such as audiovisual content, and b) three interim tests: one translation test and two translation criticism tests to assess students’ ability to identify the translation issues raised by the various text types and the most suitable translation strategies to apply in each case. Moreover, the criticism tests are designed to contextualise these issues and strategies within a certain socio-cultural area, so the students can critically analyse the main characteristics of various translations. The two criticism tests differ in terms of the choice of case study: one will be assigned by the lecturers, one will be chosen by each individual student.

In the oral exam, students must demonstrate that they can interpret course content from a critical perspective, efficiently and with clarity. The maximum mark is 30/30.

In the written tests, students must demonstrate that they can apply and justify the translations strategies covered on the course, as well as the critical analysis methods illustrated in lectures. Key assessment criteria include: linguistic accuracy, ability to analyse translations critically and, for the criticism test based on the student's choice of text, originality in the approach to the topic.

The maximum mark for each test is 30/30.

The final mark is the average score of the four tests having therefore the same weigh (25%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course is organised over two semesters. The first semester will address the basic topics of translation studies, which will be further developed in the second semester with special emphasis on rewriting in audiovisual translation. Practical translation and translation criticism activities are scheduled for both semesters.

Students who choose to take this course over one semester must attend the first semester only.

Non-attending students must contact the lecturers via email to agree on a detailed itinerary that takes the written tests and oral test into consideration.

Although the syllabus has a strongly theoretical focus, unrelated to the specific features of the languages in question, students require good knowledge of the English language in order to complete ongoing translation tests proficiently so as to benefit fully from the course.

Students must enrol via the Blackboard platform.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

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.