ENG 170 Introduction to Translation Practice

ECTS: 5

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Classes time and place: Mondays and Thursdays, 15:00-16:30, Room A009

Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-14:00, Office M004 (Dept. of English Studies, Kallipoleos)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is intended to provide a general foundation in translating. The specific aim is to introduce students to the basic and essential issues involved in language transfer, such as lexical and syntactic equivalence, ambiguity, collocation, idiomaticity and comparative language usage. Moreover, students will be acquainted with the complexity of the translating task and will be encouraged to discuss problems and possible solutions with the help of translation exercises based on authentic texts of various genres. An additional aim is to familiarize students with the need for in-depth research and the vast research possibilities offered not only by bilingual dictionaries, but also by electronic and printed reference works and aids (e.g. encyclopedias, glossaries, the Internet and online databases). At the end of the course, students are expected to have developed an awareness of the background involved in language transfer as well as a basic ability to handle translation problems at the micro-structural level.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the semester, in terms of perception you will be expected to:

• be aware of basic concepts and approaches with regard to translation practice
• be aware of basic problems that appear during the translation process and potential ways to deal with them
• be acquainted with basic tools and resources to use in translation practice

In terms of skills, you will be expected to:

• be able to deal with various text types in translation
• be able to use a variety of tools and resources in translation
be able to apply the theory to solve translation problems in actual translation practice

critically discuss your translation choices using the appropriate theory and terminology

WEEKLY BREAKDOWN

1. Introduction to the concept of translation; some basic terminology; translation as process and product
2. Can translation be taught? Do we really need theory? What is Translation Studies? – Holmes map – interdisciplinarity
3. Basic tools and forms of research skills for translation
4. What skills are necessary in translation?
5. Text type and genre; context
6. Basic strategies: literal vs. free
7. The unit of translation; translation universals
8. The concepts of equivalence and fidelity
9. Translation problems: collocation, idioms, false friends
10. Translation procedures
11. More translation problems: cultural elements, ambiguity
12. Types of translation: interlingual-intralingual-intersemiotic
13. Localization, globalization, collaborative translation

SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Languages. Excellent knowledge of both English and Greek is indispensable.

Course Materials. All the material will be uploaded in PDF format on Blackboard.

Class Preparation. You are expected to come to class having read the materials, worked on any translation task assigned for that day, and prepared to discuss them in class. The class discussions cannot be perceived as a substitute to your own study of the primary sources.

Class Participation. Meaningful engagement with the texts in class will not only enhance your grade, but will give you the opportunity to have a better grasp of the texts discussed.

Lab Participation. The course is accompanied by an hourly lab in which you can have hands on experience of the concepts introduced theoretically during the lectures. Participation in the labs is mandatory and an indispensable component of the course.

Attendance. Attendance is mandatory at the University of Cyprus and inconsistent attendance will affect your grade. In case of absence, it is your responsibility to cover for the material presented during that class. More than three absences during the semester will seriously jeopardize your passing the course.

Plagiarism Policy. Please be warned that no form of plagiarism will be tolerated and any sign of it will lead to your immediate failure in the course. If in doubt regarding what consists plagiarism, please consult the relevant very analytical document of the UCY Library at <http://library.ucy.ac.cy/per-page-files/services/references/plagiarism/plagiarism_25112017.pdf>.

ASSESSMENT

The course grade will be apportioned as follows:

- 40% for in-class midterm exam on 18 March
- 10% for active participation in the lab
- 45% for the final in-class exam
- 5% for meaningful participation in the class discussions