

1. Course Description

Course Title

Contemporary Translation Theories. Applications to Specialized Texts

Course Description:

The course will review the main strands of translation theory in the European context (linguistic and textual approaches, école du sens and interpretative approaches, functionalism, descriptive translation studies, critical approaches to translation, deconstruction, etc.), and will explore their application to professional translation in various specialized fields.

Course Language: English and Spanish

This course is designed for undergraduate and graduate students with knowledge of English and Spanish

Level of students: Freshmen & Sophomore, Junior & Above (it may be offered to graduate students interested in translation, if appropriate)

2. Course Syllabus

Name of the instructor: María del Rosario Martín Ruano

Type of Class Arrangement (Time of the course): 15-26 July (preferably) [other arrangements also possible under consultation]

Course description including objectives

The course will review the main strands of translation theory in the European context (linguistic and textual approaches, école du sens and interpretative approaches, functionalism, descriptive translation studies, critical approaches to translation, deconstruction, etc.), and will explore their application to professional translation in various specialized fields.

In sessions combining theory and practical tasks with different texts and/or translation situations, the students will increase their knowledge of the most recent translation theories and will enhance their strategic capacity to efficiently address translation task that are representative of professional practice in an array of specialized fields. Therefore, the main objectives of the course include:

- To strengthen the students' knowledge about recent translation theories.*
- To help the students to get acquainted with common translation tasks in a variety of professional fields.*
- To help the students to develop a methodological competence for professional practice in an array of specialized domains.*

- *To help the students to develop a strategic competence to efficiently carry out translation briefs in different contexts.*

Topic or topics for each session

Each session will explain the theoretical tenets of one particular strand of translation theory and will explore its usefulness for professional translation in particular genres and professional fields:

- 1. What does translation imply today? Translation in the global era.*
- 2. Linguistic and textual approaches to translation: translating commercial, legal and institutional texts, etc.*
- 3. École du sens and interpretative approaches: translating for the media; cross-cultural mediation in specialized contexts, etc.*
- 4. Funcionalism: translating informative texts and advertising; translating for the business sector; etc.*
- 5. Descriptive translation theories: translating for the publishing industry.*
- 6. Critical approaches to translation: translating historical and political texts, etc.*
- 7. Deconstruction: translating literary and artistic texts, etc.*
- 8. Translation and ethics. Final assessment.*

Teaching methods

During sessions combining theory and practice, explanations by the lecturer will be complemented by practical tasks including text analysis and translation exercises based on texts from different specialized fields.

Assessment

Continuous formative assessment and final translation task: the students will analyse and compare translated texts and will carry out translation tasks during the sessions. In the final session, they will carry out a translation in which they will justify their solutions by applying the theories that have been explained during the previous sessions.

Required and/or recommended readings

- Munday, J. 2001. *Introducing Translation Studies*. London/New York: Routledge.

- Vidal, Á. 1998. *El futuro de la traducción*. Valencia: Alfons el Magnànim.
- Martín Ruano, M. R. 2007. “El ‘giro cultural’ de la traducción: perspectiva histórica, conflictos latentes y futuros retos”, in Emilio Ortega Arjonilla (ed.), *El giro cultural de la traducción*, Berna, Peter Lang, 2007, pp. 39-60.