**Introduction to Translation Studies - Spring 2021**

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Professor Stephanie Rodriguez

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**Contact Information:**
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**Virtual Class Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 10AM-11:20AM - via Zoom  
https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/93843813186?pwd=WkNCbXpLZ0MrbzFGZStURit6bGq0Zz09  
Meeting ID: 938 4381 3186  
Password: 420812

**Virtual Office Hours:** Monday 3-5PM or by appointment

**Course Texts:**

**Introduction to Translation Studies** intends to present the fundamental theories as tools to confront the most significant practical problems that may arise in specialized translation. The theories will focus on (a) the acquisition of the fundamentals on translation theory to facilitate the comprehension of multidisciplinary translation and the variety of theoretical approaches, (b) the study and evaluation of primary methods of research to enhance future research and practices, (c) the acquisition of necessary metalanguage, which allows the textual analysis of the translation process, the solution driven mind of a translator, the approach to tackle recurring translation problems, and the evaluation of translated texts.

**Objective:**
- To gain the basic knowledge of Traductology, its main theories, and paradigms.
- To acquire a solid understanding of the requirements of a translator.
- Comprehend the role of a translator as an intercultural mediator according to the functional focus of the study of translation.
- Formulate the identification of recurring problems in translation and the best approach to solve them as quickly and ethically as possible, by applying strategies from the various areas of translation theory.
- Familiarize the student with the professional context within translation development involving the work of a documentalist, translator, editor, proofreader, reviewer, quality assurance manager.
- To attain fluency in translation processes, research application, professional conduct as a translator, the understanding of continual applied learning, the development of textual analysis, and the creation of target texts.

**Teaching format and methods:**
Course contents are taught through lectures and guided group discussions on different topics. Teaching methods will promote both individual work and teamwork to develop students’ own specialized knowledge, intellectual skills, and interpersonal qualities. Students will also be provided with opportunities to i) actively participate in and reflect on their own learning processes, ii) structure their...
own learning experiences and relate them to the course syllabus, and ii) gradually become critical thinkers.

**Course Requirement and Grading:**
30% - Class participation, preparation, and attendance
15% - Class presentation of a translation theory covered in lectures
25% - Midterm Exam
30% - Final Exam

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**Course Grading Breakdown:**

**Topic Presentation (15%):** Each student will sign-up to present a 5-7 minute presentation (you are to create a PowerPoint or video presentation) on a translation topic covered throughout class discussions. Once the topic is determined, each student will 1) discuss and analyze the theory and methodology of the translation topic, 2) create project timeline, scope, budget cost, and client expectations, 3) present portfolio of translation completed, 4) include practical problems encountered. You will deliver an oral presentation covering the 4 previously listed presentation requirements. – Please reach out to me directly to discuss other options of representation whether it be through audio, written, etc.

Make sure all sources and references are cited to avoid any case of plagiarism. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.

Plagiarism is a serious offense and will constitute grounds for failing the assignment, potentially the class and may constitute grounds for expulsion from the University. If found guilty of plagiarism, it becomes part of your permanent record. What is plagiarism:

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source

**Class Participation (30%):** Completing and analyzing the reading before class is a vital requirement, along with submitting your reading responses via Canvas. Your fully engaged attention to our conversation and participation in our class discussions will enrich everyone’s experience. This class will not be solely lecturing, it will be interactive, which will allow each student to ask questions, share experiences, concerns, and practical problems encountered while translating and/or interpreting.

**Midterm Exam (25%):** This exam will cover Translation and Interpreting Methodologies, Theories, and Practices previously discussed and exercised during class until that point.
Final Exam (30%): This exam will cover Translation and Interpreting Methodologies, Theories, and Practices previously discussed and exercised during class from after the midterm.

Attendance: If you have to miss a class for a compelling reason (illness, personal or family emergency, religious holiday observance), let me know (in advance when possible). After four absences your grade will go down by 5 pts for each absence. Three late arrivals, mid-class absences or early departures (of more than ten minutes) together will constitute an unexcused absence.

Academic Integrity:

As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/

Students with Disabilities: Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact ODS, register, have an initial appointment, and provide documentation. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and documentation submitted) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided to the student. The student must give the LOA to each course instructor, followed by a discussion with the instructor. This should be completed as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS: (973) 353-5375 or ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

Counseling Services: Counseling Center Room 101, Blumenthal Hall, (973) 353-5805 or http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/.

Weekly Course Schedule:
Week 1 (Tuesday, Jan. 19) - Introduction to the course. What is the Translation Theory and its Importance?

Week 1 (Thursday, Jan. 21) - The Role of a Translator.
Assignment: Read Chapter 1, Exploring Translation Theories.

Week 2 (Tuesday, Jan. 26) - The Role of a Translator: visibility, ethics, and sociology
Assignment: Read Chapter 9, Introducing Translation Studies. Submit responses to questions 1-3 on Canvas.

Week 2 (Thursday, Jan. 28) - The Cognitive Process of Translation.
Assignment: Read Chapter 2, Sections 2.1 & 2.2, Exploring Translation Theories.

Week 3 (Tuesday, Feb. 2) - Natural Equivalence.
Reflecting on the translation and determining tone.
Assignment: Read Chapter 2, Sections 2.3 & 2.8, Exploring Translation Theories.
Week 3 (Thursday, Feb. 4) - Directional Equivalence
Assignment: Read Chapter 3, Exploring Translation Theories. Submit responses to questions 1-3 on Canvas.

Week 4 (Tuesday, Feb. 9) - Consecutive and Simultaneous Interpreting
Assignment: Read Simultaneous Translation of Lectures and Speeches
Watch Simultaneous and Consecutive Interpreting videos and complete interpreting exercises (On Canvas).

Week 4 (Thursday, Feb. 11) - Translation Performance
Assignment: Read Self-efficacy in translation. Submit 1-page topic paper (Guidelines on Canvas).

Week 5 (Tuesday, Feb. 16) - Theory of Translation Analysis according to Vinay and Dalbernet.
Assignment: Read Chapter 4, Introducing Translation Studies. Submit responses to questions Canvas.

Week 5 (Thursday, Feb. 18) - Cultural Translation
Assignment: Read The impact of cultural background knowledge in the processing of metaphorical expressions (On Canvas).

Week 6 (Tuesday, Feb. 23) - Translation Crisis
Assignment: Read A Translation Crisis on the Border. Submit responses to questions 1-3 on Canvas.

Week 6 (Thursday, Feb. 25) - Intro to Legal Terminology and Judicial Proceedings
Assignment: Read Linguistics of Legal English (On Canvas).

Week 7 (Tuesday, Mar. 2) - Court Interpreting
Assignment: Read Cultural Proficiency and Nonverbal Communication in Court Interpreting and Judicial Procedure Transcript (On Canvas).

Week 7 (Thursday, Mar. 4) - Midterm (Guideline on Canvas). No class.

Week 8 (Tuesday, Mar. 9) - Intro to Literary Translation and Cultural Translation
Assignment: Read Chapter 8. Exploring Translation Theories and Literary Translation (On Canvas). Translate literary poem on Canvas.

Week 8 (Thursday, Mar. 11) - Translation, Humor & Literature
Assignment: Read Chapter 10. Translation, Humour and Literature and Humor and translation - An interdiscipline (On Canvas). Submit responses to the 3 questions listed on Canvas.

Week 9 (Tuesday, Mar. 16) - Film Translation & Adaptation
Assignment: Read Chapter 1. Media and Translation (On Canvas). Complete Film Translation exercise on Canvas.

Week 9 (Thursday, Mar. 18) - The Process of Subtitling & Dubbing

Week 10 (Tuesday, Mar. 23) - Linguistics of Medical Translation
Assignment: Read Chapter 1, Medical Translation Step by Step (On Canvas).
Week 10 (Thursday, Mar. 25) - Medical Translation and Interpreting during COVID-19
Assignment: Read *Life as a medical interpreter during COVID-19 crisis* and *When Coronavirus Care Gets Lost in Translation* (On Canvas). **Complete translation assignment (On Canvas).**

Week 11 (Tuesday, Mar. 30) Intro to SDL Trados; Machine Translation exercise
Assignment: Read Chapter 7, *Exploring Translation Theories*. Watch SDL Tutorial on Canvas.

Week 11 (Thursday, Apr. 1) - Localization Project Management and project scope exercise
Assignment: Read *9 Ways a Project Manager Makes Your Translation a Success* and *Best Practices for Localization Project Managers* (On Canvas). **Submit 1-page topic paper (Guidelines on Canvas).**

Week 12 (Tuesday, Apr. 6) - Topic Presentations

Week 12 (Thursday, Apr. 8) - Topic Presentations

Week 13 (Tuesday, Apr. 13) – Social Media Translation
Assignment: Read *Challenges in Social Media Translation* (On Canvas). Complete translation exercise on Canvas.

Week 13 (Thursday, Apr. 15) – Practice: Translation of Various Genres

Week 14 (Tuesday, Apr. 20) – Practice: Interpreting in Various Settings

Week 14 (Thursday, Apr. 22) - Practical Problems in Translation I
Assignment: Read *Practical Problems in Translation I* (On Canvas).

Week 15 (Tuesday, Apr. 27) - Practical Problems in Translation II.
Assignment: Read *Practical Problems in Translation II* (On Canvas).

Week 15 (Thursday, Apr. 29) - Review for Final Exam

May 11 - Final Exam