

Theory of translation and interpreting

Code: 101286
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Translation and Interpreting	OB	3

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

This subject requires a native or near-native level of Catalan (e.g. CEFR level C1).

Objectives and Contextualisation

The purpose of this course is for students to master the basic methodological and theoretical foundations that underpin translation and interpretation.

Upon finishing the course students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding and knowledge of the main areas covered in translation theory.
- Apply their knowledge to solve basic translation theory problems.
- Use this knowledge to make informed judgements on basic questions of translation theory.

Competences

- Mastering the main methodological principles of translation.
- Mastering the methodological principles of interpretation.
- Mastering the theoretical foundations of translation and interpretation.
- Reasoning in a critical way.
- Working effectively in teams.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identifying the basic bibliography related to the theory of translation and interpretation: Identifying the basic bibliography related to the theory of translation and interpretation.
2. Identifying the textual and dynamic nature of the translation equivalence: Identifying the textual and dynamic nature of the translation equivalence.
3. Identifying the translation as an act of communication that is addressed to a recipient: Identifying the translation as an act of communication that is addressed to a recipient.

4. Incorporating knowledge in order to make judgements about basic topics and problems of the theory of translation and interpretation: Incorporating knowledge in order to make judgements about basic topics and problems of the theory of translation and interpretation.
5. Reasoning in a critical way: Analysing the coherence of one's own judgements and other people's.
6. Reasoning in a critical way: Arguing the relevance of the judgements made.
7. Students must demonstrate they know the different translation methods: Students must demonstrate they know the different translation methods.
8. Students must demonstrate they know the different types of translation problems and errors: Students must demonstrate they know the different types of translation problems and errors.
9. Students must demonstrate they know the fundamental notions and current tendencies of the theory of translation and interpretation: Students must demonstrate they know the fundamental notions and current tendencies of the theory of translation and interpretation.
10. Students must demonstrate they know the phases of the translation process: Students must demonstrate they know the phases of the translation process.
11. Students must demonstrate they know the techniques and strategies needed to solve interpretation problems: Students must demonstrate they know the techniques and strategies needed to solve interpretation problems.
12. Students must demonstrate they know the techniques and strategies needed to solve translation problems: Students must demonstrate they know the techniques and strategies needed to solve translation problems.
13. Working effectively in teams: Working effectively in teams.

Content

A) BASIC ASPECTS OF TRANSLATION

1. Definition of translation

-Intersemiotic, intralingual and interlingual translation

-Purpose and characteristics of translation

2. Classification of translation:

-Modalities

-Types

-Classes

-Methods

3. Fundamental notions of translation analysis

-Equivalence in translation

-Translation unit

-Translation invariance

-Methods of translation

-Translation techniques

-Translation strategies

-Translation problems

-Translation errors

B) MAIN THEORETICAL APPROACHES

1. Translation Studies/ Translatology

2. Linguistic approaches: comparative stylistics - P. Newmark

3. Textual approaches: components of textual analysis and its application to the study of translation - intertextuality - text typologies

4. Cognitive approaches: Interpretive Theory of Translation (ITT) - translation competence

5. Sociocultural approaches: E. Nida

6. Communicative approaches: B. Hatim and I. Mason

7. Functionalist approaches: skopos theory - the concept of loyalty: C. Nord

8. The Manipulation School: Hermans. Polysystem Theory: Even-Zohar and Toury

9. Translation and gender: feminist translation studies

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	30	1.2	7, 8, 10, 12, 11, 2, 1, 3, 4
Practical tasks	8	0.32	4, 5, 6
Tasks for acquiring critical knowledge of aspects related to translation theory	7.5	0.3	4, 5
Type: Supervised			
Preparation of exams and associated tasks	10	0.4	7, 8, 10, 9, 12, 11, 2, 1, 3, 4
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous activities	90	3.6	

1. Directed activities

- Lectures

- Tasks for acquiring critical knowledge of aspects related to translation theory

- Practical tasks on the basic aspects of and different approaches to translation theory; tasks for applying knowledge of the basic aspects of translation theory.

2. Supervised activities:

- Preparation of exams and associated tasks

3. Autonomous activities:

- Reading assignments (dossier/Moodle)

- Preparation of exams / group presentation.

At the beginning of the course, the lecturers will notify students of the subject's compulsory and/or recommended reading materials.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Knowledge application test on basic aspects of translation theory	30%	1.5	0.06	7, 8, 12, 11, 5, 6, 13
Test/s of knowledge about fundamental approaches to translation theory	35%	1.5	0.06	9, 1, 4
Test/s on basic aspects of translation theory	35%	1.5	0.06	7, 8, 10, 12, 11, 2, 3

Continuous assessment

Students must provide evidence of their progress by completing various tasks and tests. These activities are detailed in the table at the end of this section of the Study Guide.

Review

When publishing final marks prior to recording them on students' transcripts, the lecturer will provide written notification of a date and time for reviewing assessment activities. Students must arrange reviews in agreement with the lecturer.

Missed/failed assessment activities

Students may retake assessment activities they have failed or compensate for any they have missed, provided that those they have actually performed account for a minimum of 66.6% (two thirds) of the subject's final mark and that they have a weighted average mark of at least 3.5.

The lecturer will inform students of the procedure involved, in writing, when publishing final marks prior to recording them on transcripts. The lecturer may set one assignment per failed or missed assessment activity or a single assignment to cover a number of such activities. Under no circumstances may an assessment activity worth 100% of the final mark be retaken or compensated for. In case of retaking, maximum grade will be 5.

Classification as "not assessable"

In the event of the assessment activities a student has performed accounting for just 25% or less of the subject's final mark, their work will be classified as "not assessable" on their transcript.

Misconduct in assessment activities

Students who engage in misconduct (plagiarism, copying, personation, etc.) in an assessment activity will receive a mark of "0" for the activity in question. In the case of misconduct in more than one assessment activity, the student involved will be given a final mark of "0" for the subject. Assessment activities in which irregularities have occurred (e.g. plagiarism, copying, impersonation) are excluded from recovery.

Single assessment

Single assessment will include a minimum of three assessment activities of different typology, as stated in the evaluation guidelines.

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2. Reference works

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2.2. Books on translation theory

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Reiss, Katharina, i Hans J. Vermeer. 1984. *Grundlegung einer allgemeinen Translationstheorie*. Linguistische Arbeiten 147. Tübingen: M. Niemeyer.

3. Basic reference bibliography

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Software

We will work with the most usual tools to edit documents.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan/Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	2	Catalan/Spanish	second semester	morning-mixed