

History of translation and interpreting

Code: 101287
ECTS Credits: 3

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Translation and Interpreting	OB	2

Contact

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Teaching groups languages

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

Prerequisites

Students must be enrolled in this subject.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of this subject is to provide an introduction to basic developments and notions about translation and interpreting from a historical perspective.

At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Demonstrate that they understand basic aspects of the development of translation and interpreting from a historical perspective.
- Apply this knowledge to the analysis of basic issues related to the history of translation and interpreting.
- Make reasoned judgments about basic issues related to the history of translation and interpreting.

Competences

- Mastering the aspects related to the historical evolution of translation and interpretation.
- Reasoning in a critical way.
- Working effectively in teams.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identifying the basic bibliography related to the history of translation and interpretation: Identifying the basic bibliography related to the history of translation and interpretation.
2. Incorporating knowledge in order to make judgements about basic topics and problems of the history of translation and interpretation: Incorporating knowledge in order to make judgements about basic topics and problems of the history of translation and interpretation.
3. Reasoning in a critical way: Students must make their own judgements.
4. Students must demonstrate they know the historical evolution of translation and interpretation: Students must demonstrate they know the historical evolution of translation and interpretation.
5. Working effectively in teams: Working effectively in teams.

Content

The main subject of the course is the role of translation in the history of knowledge:

- Historical evolution of the concept of translation.
- The role of the translator and the interpreter throughout history.

The focus will be on the following issues:

1. The origins of writing and translation
2. Translation in ancient history
3. The birth of "vulgar" languages and medieval translation
4. Humanism and the Renaissance. The printing press, the "national" languages and the wars of translation
5. "Belles infidèles", Neoclassicism and Enlightenment
6. Romantic revolution and Art Nouveau revolution
7. Until the end of the world wars: 1939/1945
8. European post-war period. Translation as a science

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Exercises	6	0.24	4, 1, 2
Extending our knowledge	2.5	0.1	2
Lectures	15	0.6	4
Type: Supervised			
Guided reading	5.5	0.22	4
Type: Autonomous			
Documentation searches	5	0.2	1
Exercise preparation	10	0.4	4, 1

Given the low number of credits and hours available for this subject, as well as the large number of students per group, a substantial part of the time will be devoted to lectures and master activities, in which the lecturers will synthetically present and develop the main themes of the course. These sessions are essential for students to carry out supervised and autonomous activities.

Remarks

1. The schedule will depend on the pace of the work and the needs of the group.
2. The contents of the subject -as well as the assessment- may change over the semester if agreed by the teacher and the majority of the students who attend regularly in the course.

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
Closed-ended questions test	30%	3	0.12	4, 1, 2
Open-ended questions test	40%	2	0.08	1, 2
Written report	30%	1	0.04	2, 3, 5

Evaluation is carried out through two exams, one with open-ended questions and one with closed-ended questions, together with a written report.

For the final grade, linguistic accuracy will be taken into account, as well as the reasoned argument and the ability to produce deep personal judgements during the course.

Related matters. The above information on assessment, assessment activities and their weighting is merely a guide. The subject's lecturer will provide full information when teaching begins.

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

This subject may be assessed under the single assessment system in accordance with the terms established in the academic regulations of the UAB and the assessment criteria of the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting.

Students must make an online request within the period established by the faculty and send a copy to the teacher responsible for the subject, for the record.

Single assessment will be carried out in person on one day during week 16 or 17 of the semester. The Academic Management Office will publish the exact date and time on the faculty website.

On the day of the single assessment, teaching staff will ask the student for identification, which should be presented as a valid identification document with a recent photograph (student card, DNI/NIE or passport).

Single assessment activities

The final grade for the subject will be calculated according to the following percentages:

- Written report: 30%
- Closed-ended questions test: 30%
- Open-ended questions test: 40%

Grade revision and resit procedures for the subject are the same as those for continual assessment. See the section above in this study guide.

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Software

No

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	first semester	afternoon
(TE) Theory	2	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	3	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed