



Philadelphia University
Faculty of Arts
Department of English Language & Literature
Fall Semester, 2017 /2018

Module Syllabus

Course Title: General Translation. Level: Third Year Prerequisite : 120271	Course Code: 120372 Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Time: Sun . Tues . Thurs 11:00-12:00
Lecturer's Name: Prof. Mohammad Asfour Rank: Professor Office Hours: Sun . Tues . Thurs 12:00 – 1:00 Office Number: 407 Phone: (06)479-9000 Ext: 2688	

Module Description:

This course aims at providing students with a foundation in the theory, practice, and ethics of translation. Specifically, the course will briefly address the history of translation; types of translation—semantic or literal translation versus communication- or target-language-driven translation; translation ethics; and the business of translation. Students will develop translation judgment first by learning how to analyze texts in the source language. The course is meant to be engaging and comprehensive. We hope that students will investigate some of the most effective translation strategies in various fields, including the field of mass communication, politics, economics, literature, diplomacy, and law.

Module Aims/Purposes/Objectives:

Students are expected to:

- Acquire a range of theoretical approaches to translation;
- Identify problems and use the appropriate method to tackle these problems;
- Acquire a degree of competence in translating various texts from Arabic into good, idiomatic English and from English into Arabic;
- Conduct basic research in translation.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

a. Knowledge & Understanding:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Acquire good knowledge of the various translation theories and strategies;
- Articulate the strategy they would use to translate a text;
- Translate a variety of texts from Arabic into good, idiomatic English and from English into good Standard Arabic.

b. Intellectual Skills (Thinking & Analysis):

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Observe the style, format, and presentation of various discourses in English;
- appreciate differences in values and cultures;



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- Use a range of strategies in addressing difficulties in translation in terms of textual ambiguity and culture-bound terms.

c. Communicative Skills (Personal and Academic)

At the end of this course, students will be:

- Better equipped to comprehend a text, analyze its components, decide on key issues in it, and translate it;
- Able to put the English translation into an organic whole, observing cohesion, coherence, paragraphing, diction, discourse markers, etc.

d. Practical and Subject Specific Skills (Transferable Skills)

At the end of this course a student will be:

- Able to communicate effectively complex ideas, using the appropriate translation strategy;
- Able to apply their acquired knowledge to actual translation projects.

Teaching Methods: (Lectures ,Discussion Groups, Tutorials, Problem Solving, Debates...etc)

Teaching methods will focus on a wide variety of student-centered activities. They will include individual student translations with analytical student participation, discussion, analysis, pair and group work, peer editing, and feedback to stimulate students' desire to translate and provide them with skills and tools to tackle a wide range of texts. Major learning tools will be monolingual and bilingual dictionaries as well as the Internet. There will be an ongoing assessment to monitor and measure students' progress; however, students will write two short papers and will take two tests and a final exam.

Assessment Instruments

Modes of Assessment	Score	Date
First Exam	20	Week 5
Second Exam	20	Week 10
Assignments / Seminars / Projects / Quizzes / Tutorials ,Reports, Research Projects, Presentations	20	
Final Exam	40	Week 16
Total	100	

Course / Assignments based on Newmark's A Textbook of Translation:

Week	Basic & Support Material to be covered	Homework/Reports and their due dates
1	- Introduction - What is Translation?	
2	The Analysis of a Text	
3	The Process of Translation	



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4	Language Functions, Text Categories and Text-Types	
5	Translation Methods First Examination	
6	The Unit of Translation and Discourse Analysis	
7	Literal Translation	
8	The Other Translation Procedures	
9	Translation and Culture	
10	The Translation of Metaphor	
11	The Use of Componential Analysis Second Examination	
12	The Translation of Neologisms	
13	Technical Translation	
14	The Translation of Serious Literature and Authoritative Statements	
15	Translation Criticism	
16	Final Examination	

Expected Workload:

On average students are expected to spend at least (2) hours of study for each 50- minute lecture/ tutorial.

Attendance Policy

Absence from lectures and /or tutorials shall not exceed 15%. Students who exceed the 15% limit without a medical or emergency excuse acceptable to and approved by the Dean of the relevant college /faculty shall not be allowed to take the final examination and shall receive a mark of zero for the course. If the excuse is approved by the Dean, the student shall be considered to have withdrawn from the course.

Course Policies:

1. You are allowed up to (5) absences on Mondays/Wednesdays or (7) absences on Sundays/Tuesdays/Thursdays. If you exceed this number, you will fail the course.
2. Tardiness will not be tolerated. If you come to class after I take attendance, you are welcome to attend, but you will be considered absent.
3. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense that will result in your failing the course.
4. Learning notes by heart and repeating the information word by word in the exam is a type of plagiarism.



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5. Participation is an essential part of the coursework. It does not merely mean coming to class; it involves preparing beforehand and playing an active role in class discussion.
6. Make-up exams will be offered for valid reasons only with the consent of the Dean.

Course Components:

I. Required Text

Peter Newmark: *A Textbook of Translation*: New York: Phoenix ELT, 1988.

II. Supplementary Readings

Aziz, Yowell Y., and Muftah S. Lataiwish. *Principles of Translation*. Dar Al-Nahda Al-Arabiyya.

Jackson, Howard. *Words and Their Meaning*. London: Longman, 1988.

Munday, Jeremy. *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications*. London: Routledge, 2001.

Newmark, Peter. *Approaches to Translation*. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1982.