

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Name: Translation I	Prerequisites: LM - 1002
Course Code: LM-0358	Corequisites: None
Credits: 3	Cycle: III
Schedule: 3 hours / week in-class work 6 hours / week out-of-class work	Classification: Exclusive of the B.A. in English
	Face-to-face modality

**I. DESCRIPTION**

This course has been designed for students enrolled in the B.A. in English program who chose Translation as their elective track. LM-0358 is the first of six translation courses, and it aims at offering a guided and hands-on first translation experience, using general texts and in a bidirectional manner. During this course, the main principles of Skopos theory, essential aspects of Spanish language, the professional practice of translation, translation strategies, and the use of some web tools for translation will be covered. Mediación Virtual will be the official platform for submitting documents, presentations, videos, and evaluations.

**II. GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

By the end of the course, students will be able to translate general texts accurately to experience a first real-like encounter with the field of translation and based on Skopos theory.

**III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, students will be able to

- a. distinguish translation and interpreting from an applied and theoretical perspective at a basic level.
- b. apply basic concepts from the field of translation on the course activities.
- c. reproduce the steps of the translation process by assuming different roles to deliver a collaborative project complying with required specifications.

- d. apply the translation procedures described during the course to solve potential problems within their own translations.
- e. contrast punctuation rules, grammar structures, and style in English and Spanish to minimize such errors in their own translations.
- f. edit their own and their peers' translations to improve the final product.
- g. use effectively basic available online tools to clarify doubts regarding terminology or context at a general level.

#### IV. CONTENTS

- a. Theory
  - 1. Translation definition and basic terminology
  - 2. Skopos theory
  - 3. Translation process: instructions, reading, analysis, translation, revision, and editing.
  - 4. Translation procedures.
- b. Grammar and punctuation
  - 1. Cognates
  - 2. Gerunds
  - 3. Common English-Spanish translation errors
  - 4. Contrastive punctuation use
- c. Style
  - 1. Text type: argumentative, informative, descriptive
  - 2. Editing and revising strategies for translated texts
- d. Translation tools
  - 1. Introduction to online tools for translation
  - 2. Online dictionaries, parallel texts, file format conversion, search engines, and linguistic questions sites.

#### V. METHODOLOGY

This course will be taught face-to-face. Mediación Virtual is the main platform and will be used to upload documents, presentations, and videos. Mediación Virtual will be **the official platform for submitting evaluated assignments** unless the instructor indicates otherwise. Activities will include workshops, forums, and similar tasks.

Classes will last three hours a week. Classes will be distributed into both discussion of theoretical issues and their practical application; thus, theory and practice will be approached simultaneously focusing on active participation of students while guided by the instructor. Students will have six hours a week for independent out-of-class work to complete the tasks specified in the chronogram.

Pre-translation activities may include brainstorming about the topic, analyzing translation briefs and parallel texts during the class, and doing reading comprehension and terminology-related exercises. Asynchronous activities may include the identification and research of translation problems and their possible solutions. Furthermore, post-translation activities may include discussing the translation strategies employed, the challenges encountered, the solutions proposed, reports on research results, and comments on the readings and other theoretical aspects.

Readings and exercises will be assigned for class discussion. Students must work together interactively (individually, in pairs, or in small groups) to find appropriate solutions to different types of translation problems. Students are expected to raise questions about the identified problems as well as to propose solutions and comment on and ask questions about the solutions presented by their peers.

This course emphasizes the application of Skopos Theory as a theoretical framework for translation. In addition, the course will focus on translation as a process that accounts for the different types of relationships operating between the source text (ST) and target text (TT), and the criteria used by translators to make their decisions.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a collaborative project consisting of at least two phases: the translation and editing of a given text. Thus, students will be able to apply translation procedures, identify and solve translation-related problems, and experience some of the common stages of a professional translation project. Besides, they will be able to integrate the theoretical knowledge with the translation skills developed throughout the course.

## VI. EVALUATION

Components:

Two in-class translations <sup>1</sup>	30%
Quizzes (min. 4) <sup>2</sup>	25%
Out-of-class translation and analysis <sup>3</sup>	20%
Collaborative project <sup>4</sup>	25%

1. Students will complete the assigned translations during class time.
2. Quizzes may include any content of the course, and they will be announced at least one week in advance.

3. The out-of-class translation will be announced at least one week before its deadline. This assignment includes two deliverables: the translation and its corresponding analysis.
4. Students will work in groups for the final project. Each professor will provide specific instructions for the project.

**Notes:**

- a. No late assignments will be accepted.
- b. If the student uses machine translation tools such as Google Translate, DeepL, or similar platforms, as well as any artificial intelligence tools for writing or editing, such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, etc., in their assignments and assessments, they will lose all the points for the evaluated activity. In the case of projects, this would affect the current phase and any subsequent ones. Since this is a course aimed at developing writing and analysis skills, the use of these tools conceals the students' actual performance.
- c. Students must comply with the *Reglamento de régimen académico estudiantil, Universidad de Costa Rica*.
- d. Plagiarism is unacceptable and will be punished according to *Reglamento de Orden y Disciplina de los Estudiantes de la UCR (Artículos 4-20)*.

**VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Gapper, S. (2014). Quick reference on capitalization and punctuation. En Gapper, S. (Comp.), LPA 709: *La traducción al inglés* (s.p.). Universidad Nacional.
- Hervey, S., Higgins, I. y Haywood, L. (2009). *Thinking Spanish translation: A Course in translation method Spanish to English* (2<sup>a</sup> ed.). Routledge.
- Jiménez Jiménez, A. (2018). *Introducción a la traducción: inglés-español*. Routledge.
- Mossop, B. (2014). *Revising and editing for translators* (3<sup>a</sup> ed.). Routledge.
- Müller Delgado, M. (2013). *Curso básico de redacción* (3<sup>a</sup> ed.). Editorial Universidad de Costa Rica.
- Nord, C. (2023). Functionalist approaches. En L. Meylaerts y K. Marais (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of translation theory and concepts*. (pp. 169-184). Routledge. DOI: 10.4324/9781003161448-13
- Pym, A. (2023). *Exploring translation theories*. (3a ed.) Routledge.

## VIII. CHRONOGRAM

Week	Dates	Topics	Evaluations
<b>Week 1</b>	March 9-13	Course Introduction	
<b>Week 2</b>	March 16-20	Basic Terminology in Translation Reading: Introducción a la traducción	
<b>Week 3</b>	March 23-27	The Translation Process Reading: El proceso de la traducción	
<b>Holy Week (March 30th to April 3rd)</b>			
<b>Week 4</b>	April 6-10	Gerunds Reading: El gerundio	
<b>Week 5</b>	April 13-17	Common Mistakes Reading: Errores gramaticales frecuentes en la traducción	<b>Quiz 1</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	April 20-24	Common Mistakes Readings: Dudas idiomáticas & Quick Reference on Capitalization and Punctuation	University Week
<b>Week 7</b>	April 27 – May 1	<b>In-class translation 1</b>	
<b>Week 8</b>	May 4-8	Translation Techniques Reading: Técnicas de traducción - 1a parte	
<b>Week 9</b>	May 11-15	Translation Techniques Reading: Técnicas de traducción - 2a parte	<b>Quiz 2</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	May 18-22	Translation Techniques	
<b>Week 11</b>	May 25-29	Genre Reading: Functionalist approaches & Exploring translation theory	<b>Quiz 3</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	June 1-5	Editing Reading: Genre – Text Type and Purpose	<b>Out-of-class translation</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	June 8-12	Editing Reading: Stylistic Editing and Structural Editing	
<b>Week 14</b>	June 15-19	Editing	<b>Quiz 4</b>
<b>Week 15</b>	June 22-29	<b>In-class translation 2</b>	
<b>Week 16</b>	June 29 - July 3	Final Project Presentations	
<b>Week 17</b>	July 8	Final grades	
<b>Week 18</b>	July 16	Examen de ampliación July 16 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 a.m.	

**Note:** This chronogram is tentative, and it may be adjusted due to students' progress and time management.