

Audiovisual Translation: English-Spanish (A703125)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

English, Spanish

Gent

seminar

independent work

0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Sanchez, Alexandra

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies

5

A

Postgraduate Certificate Dutch as a Foreign Language and Applied Communication(main subject Level of Dutch: CEFR B2)

5

A

Postgraduate Certificate Dutch as a Foreign Language and Applied Communication(main subject Level of Dutch: CEFR C1)

5

A

Teaching languages

Spanish, English

Keywords

audiovisual translation, subtitling, dubbing, audiodescription

Position of the course

The aim of this course component is to provide students with an understanding of various modalities of audiovisual translation (i.e., subtitling, dubbing, audiodescription). They learn to critically analyze the source text, identify challenges, and apply appropriate translation strategies and techniques to facilitate communication. Special attention is given to the specific characteristics of each modality, as well as to various language-related and culture-specific adjustments that target texts go through during the translation process. Additionally, students will acquire proficiency in handling specialized software.

Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required. However, students must be proficient users of Spanish (C1) and independent users of English (B2), as the course unit focuses exclusively on English source texts and Spanish target texts.

Contents

History, norms and conventions, translation strategies and techniques, specialized software of:

- dubbing
- audiodescription
- subtitling

Initial competences

B2 level of English (listening, reading, writing, speaking)

C1 level of Spanish (listening, reading, writing, speaking)

Final competences

- 1 Recognize contextual factors that influence the audiovisual translation process from English to Spanish (e.g., type of client, imposed modality, target audience,

style guide)

- 2 Identify challenges of audiovisual translation (taking into account the diversity of English and Spanish variants) and resolve them with appropriate translating techniques and strategies, on the basis of exercises and group discussions
- 3 Implement the norms and conventions of the different modalities of audiovisual translation (i.e., subtitling, dubbing, audiodescription)
- 4 Conduct the necessary research on the linguistic, cultural, and institutional contexts of English source texts (e.g., series, films) and Spanish target texts (e.g., audiodescription, subtitling)
- 5 Produce well-informed audiovisual translations that are appropriate for and adapted to the correctly identified target audience, while adhering to an assigned deadline
- 6 Efficiently and adequately rely on relevant translation tools (e.g., dictionaries, reference works, electronic databases) from a critical and independent point-of-view
- 7 Acquire advanced listening skills in English (C1). Students can understand audiovisual products (television programs, films, etc.) in different English language variants without too much effort, even when these are not clearly structured and information is only implied.
- 8 Finetune creative writing skills in Spanish (C2). Students can craft original and imaginative subtitles, dubbing scripts, and audiodescriptions in their preferred Spanish variant, while adhering to an imposed style guide and respecting the current audiovisual translation norms and conventions.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

After a theoretical introduction to each of the modalities of audiovisual translation (dubbing, audio description, subtitling), students engage in practical sessions during seminars. They also complete an assignment for each modality. The assignments are discussed in class afterwards. Students learn to work independently with specialized software during the seminars, as well as through independent work (assignments).

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Laptop

Name: Windows OS (MacOS not allowed)

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Additional information: Students will need to download and use free specialized translation software. Windows OS is required. MacOS does not work and is therefore not accepted in this course unit. Borrow a laptop through the Social Services here: <https://www.ugent.be/en/facilities/social-services/borrow-a-laptop-through-the-social-services>

Type: Software

Name: SubtitleEdit

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Online Available : Yes

Type: Audiovisual Material

Name: various fragments (series, films, etc.)

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

- Chaume Varela, F. (2012). *Audiovisual Translation: Dubbing*. St Jerome Publishing
- Martí Ferriol, J.L. (2013). *El método de traducir*, Universidad Jaumi I, Castellón de la Plana
- Matamala, A. & P.Orero (2016). *Researching Audio Description: New Approaches*. Barcelona: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Pérez-González, Luis (2018). *The Routledge Handbook of Audiovisual Translation*.
- Díaz Cintas, Jorge & Aline Remael (2020). *Introducing Subtitling: concepts and practices*.

Course content-related study coaching

The material is practiced in class and via Ufora. Support for the tasks via Ufora and email.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Skills test, Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Skills test, Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Peer and/or self assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Throughout the semester, students are required to submit assignments for multiple modalities of audiovisual translation ("peer and/or self-assessment"). They are also expected to attend and actively participate in all classes ("participation"). For the exam, students adhere to an assigned deadline for the submission of individual projects in which they provide subtitles, dubbing, and/or audiodescription for assigned excerpts ("skills test"). During the "oral evaluation," they evaluate the chosen translation strategies and techniques (for one or more of the assigned excerpts).

Passing the oral evaluation (including the skills test) is a prerequisite for passing the course component.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final score is the sum of the results of

A. the participation throughout the semester, including the assignments (25%)

B. the oral exam, including the skills test (75%)

In the second exam period, the final score is calculated based on the oral assessment, including the skills test (100%).

Facilities for Working Students

To be requested through the academic advisor ("studietrajectbegeleider").

Addendum

XSTR