Terminology and Translation Technology (A703601)

Course size	(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 3.0	**Study time** 90 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	
			seminar	0.0h
			independent work	

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Daems, Joke	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
De Groote, Carine	LW22	co-lecturer
Lefever, Els	LW22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Applied Language Studies)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Turkish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, Italian)	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Terminology, Translation technology, Terminology management, Computer Assisted Translation (CAT), Translation memory, Termbase, Machine translation

Position of the course

Building on previous knowledge, this course aims to give students insight into terminological and technological support used by professional translators. Students gain a sound grounding in the theory of terminology and terminology management and gain hands-on experience with a number of common translation programs. The course gives students the necessary practical skills to support them during other translation courses but also aims to stimulate critical reflection on CAT tools.

Contents

During the first classes, students get to see the bigger picture: which kinds of translation technology exist? Why are they important? What are the factors that determine the strategy a translator will use?
The rest of the course focuses on two core aspects: terminology and translation technology.

The first part, on terminology, covers the following:
• fundamental principles of the theory of terminology (concept, concept system, description of a concept, term, assigning a term to a concept)
• neology
• language for specific purposes
• normalisation.
Much attention is devoted to practical aspects, including:
• the in-house GenTerm terminological record
• term extraction practice
• terminology management (using SDL MultiTerm)
• terminographical products.
In the translation technology sessions, students get hands-on experience with current translation tools and reflect on their use. Most sessions will focus on working with Trados (as this is the current market leader), but other tools will also be used for comparison (e.g., Matecat, memoQ, Lilt). Topics that will be covered include:
• Preprocessing: preparing source files for processing with translation tools
• Translating various file formats
• Working with and maintenance of translation memories
• Integrating termbases
• Working with machine translation
• File exchange
• Insight into the entire workflow: project management (e.g., calculate project statistics, measure overlap between segments to translate and the Translation Memory) and Quality Assurance (QA) (e.g., spelling and grammar checking, tag verification)

Initial competences

The general competences that may be expected from an academic bachelor, preferably in a discipline related to the course of studies. This course builds on certain competences of the course Introduction to Translation Technology.

Final competences

1 Reflect on the importance of subject-specific terminology.
2 Be able to manually and automatically create term lists.
3 Critically evaluate translation technology tools.

4 Make a motivated choice about the technology to be used, depending on the type of source text.

5 Use the right tools in a meaningful way when translating.

6 Be able to learn to work independently with new translation tools.

7 Be aware of the possibilities and limitations of machine translation.

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, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures for the information transfer, seminars for hands-on use of software, independent work for exercises and two assignments.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides presented in class
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Software

Name: Software for terminology management and translation tools, e.g., Trados Studio, Multiterm, SketchEngine, memoQ, Lilt
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

References

See references in class or on Ufora. A partial selection:

Buysschaert, J. & B. Defrancq, "Terminologie op het web: 'Google unearth(ed)'" in G. Rawoens, red., Taal aan den lijve. Het gebruik van corpora in taalkundig onderzoek en taalonderwijs. Gent, Academia Press, 2008, pp. 49-68. ISBN 978 90 382 1362 0

Rigouts Terryn, A., Drouin, P., Hoste, V., & Lefever, E. (2019). Analysing the impact of supervised machine learning on automatic term extraction: HAMLET vs TermoStat. In G. Angelova, R. Mitkov, I. Nikolova, & I. Temnikova (Eds.), Proceedings of Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2019): natural language processing in a deep learining world (pp. 1013–1022). Varna, Bulgaria.

Rothwell, A., Moorkens, J., Fernández-Parra, M., Drugan, J., & Austermuehl, F. (2023). Translation Tools and Technologies. Taylor & Francis.

Temmerman, R. (2000). "Towards New Ways of Terminology Description. The sociocognitive approach". Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Wright, S. E. & G. Budin, Handbook of terminology management (Volume 1), Amsterdam/Philadelphia, John Benjamins Publishing Company, 1997.

Vandepitte, Sonia & Els Lefever. 2018. Translation as a multilingual activity in the digital era. Revue Française de Linguistique Appliquée, 23 (2), 59-71.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support via Discussion Forum on Ufora. Possibility to contact lecturers via e-mail.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- Assignment Terminology 45%
- Assignment Translation Technology 45%: a translation project with the help of CAT tools, integrating different competences seen in class.
- Participatie 10%: students are expected to actively participate during class and to submit the exercises on Ufora when completed.

For the second sessions, students need to hand in both assignments. Students need not re-submit assignments from the first examination period for which they obtained a pass. They retain their marks for this assignment but have to re-sit the other part.

Calculation of the examination mark

See heading 'Extra information on the examination methods'.
In order to pass, the student must hand in both assignments by the proposed deadline.
If the student does not submit one of the assignments, they cannot receive a passing grade for this course. The final score - if higher than 7/20 - will be reduced to 7/20.

Facilities for Working Students

Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.

Limited possibility of feedback by e-mail or during consultation hour, restricted to answering specific questions.

Extra information:
The PowerPoints and hand-outs on Ufora can be studied independently. It is not possible to practise the software via the limited feedback option described above. The student may derive some help from online videos (please remember that this is not obvious). Students are asked to regularly check the announcements on Ufora, among other things to be aware of the instructions (including deadlines) for the two assignments.

Addendum

A4TV