

Introduction to Translation Studies (A704052)

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 2)	Dutch	Gent	independent work lecture
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Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

De Sutter, Gert	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
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Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Elective Set Linguistics	3	A
Elective Set Southeast-European Language	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Translation studies; interpreting studies; equivalence; skopos; translation policy; history of translation and translation studies; research and research methods in contemporary translation studies; inferential statistics

Position of the course

The aims of this course are:

- to introduce the broad and specific nature of translation and interpreting, and related research activities.
- show how important translation and interpreting has been in Western history in general and for languages in particular.
- show the most important research methods in translation and interpreting studies.
- introduce the most important heuristics.

Contents

This course provides an overview of the most important insights in various domains of translation (research) and interpreting (research). The first part addresses the different translation and interpreting circumstances (legal translation, literary translation, conference interpreting, subtitling, post-editing etc.). It also introduces crucial concepts as equivalence, skopos, context, and it discusses the influence of translation policy on translation activities. The first part closes with a brief overview of the history of translation and translation research.

The second part provides a more in-depth overview of several translation and interpreting domains, and related research activities: corpus-based translation and interpreting studies (e.g., translation norms), manipulation in translation, the function of style, ideology and interculturality in literary translation, audiovisual translation, machine translation and post-editing.

The third part consists of a brief overview of crucial concepts and techniques in inferential statistics, which is illustrated on the basis of recent case studies in translation and interpreting research.

Initial competences

General interest in language phenomena

Average general knowledge that can be expected from someone who has completed secondary education; no specific starting competences required.

Final competences

- 1 Having knowledge and understanding of different fields in applied language studies, more particularly translation studies and foreign language acquisition and didactics [B.1.4; assessed].
- 2 Having knowledge and understanding of translation difficulties that may arise during translation [B.1.6; assessed].
- 3 Having knowledge and understanding of the contextual factors that influence the translation process [B.1.6; assessed].
- 4 Having a basic understanding of the sources, heuristic methods and relevant tools for research in translation studies and foreign language acquisition and didactics [B2.2; assessed].

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

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture: ex cathedra and response lectures. Lectures are being recorded. Students can get access to these recordings if they can show that they cannot attend the lectures due to work or medical reasons.

Independent work: students prepare the lectures individually and practise the

learning content beforehand with (online) exercises, among others

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: In balans: een inleiding tot vertaal- en tolkrechtenschap

Indicative price: € 43

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Gert De Sutter en Isabelle Delaere

ISBN : 978-9-46379-238-7

Number of Pages : 416

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Slides

Name: Slides bij de behandelde hoofdstukken uit het handboek

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

- Bloemen, H., Koster, C., Meijer, C., & Naaijkens, T. (2010). Denken over vertalen: Tekstboek vertaalwetenschap. Nijmegen: Vantilt.
- House, J. (2009). Translation. Oxford: OUP.
- Munday, J. (2012). Introducing translation studies. Theories and applications. London/New York: Routledge.
- Pöchhacker, F. (2004). Introducing interpreting studies. London/New York: Routledge.
- Vandeweghe, W. (2005). Duoteksten. Inleiding tot vertaling en vertaalstudie. Gent: Academia Press.
- van Doorslaer, L., Gambier, Y. (2010). Handbook of translation studies. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing.

Course content-related study coaching

Supporting Discussion Forum and additional exercises via Ufora

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

The exam consists of a set of open and multiple choice questions

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodical evaluation

Facilities for Working Students

Possibility to be exempted from attendance.

Possibility to re-schedule examination to another date during the exam period.

Feedback can be given by email or by appointment during office hours.

