ENG 270: Translation Methodology / ΑΓΓ 270: Μεθοδολογία της Μετάφρασης

Fall semester 2018-19

ECTS: 5
Instructor: Vasso Giannakopoulou
Email: vasso@ucy.ac.cy

Classes time and place: Mondays and Thursdays, 15:00-16:30, ΧΩΔ1, Room 003
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-14:00, Office M004 (Dept. of English Studies, Kallipoleos)

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The aim of this course is to discuss translation as a problem-solving activity and as a decision-making process and to introduce students to the methodology needed to deal with the text in its micro- and macro-structural dimensions. Focus will be put on the distinction between translation strategies (e.g. foreignization vs. domestication) and translation procedures (methods) as well as on the theoretical and methodological interplay between text and cultural background. Specific attention will be given to terminological issues and to translation problems arising from text-typological specificities (genre, function, cultural specificity). Each lesson will outline a set of related notions and problems on the basis of translation exercises. Students are expected to have developed an awareness of what the translation process involves and to have acquired the necessary skills to deal with practical translation problems.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of the semester, in terms of perception you will be expected to:

• distinguish between process and product, strategy and procedure, macro- and micro-level choices
• be aware of the complex nature of translation as a decision-making process
• have developed a critical understanding of the factors that influence the production of a translation
• be familiar with basic translation techniques and major schools of approaches
to translation

In terms of production, you will be expected to:

- make informed and consistent choices on the micro-level when translating according to some translation strategy
- be able to write meta-textual comments on your choices informed by the theories you will be introduced to during the semester

WEEKLY BREAKDOWN

Week 1: Introduction: Main issues of translation studies


Week 2: Translation as process and translation as product


Week 3: Equivalence and shifts


Week 4: Translation strategies and translation procedures: macro- vs. micro-


Week 5: Translation procedures: Methods of transfer in relation to strategy


Week 6: Context and culture; Systems theories


Week 7: Foreignization vs. domestication; visibility


**Week 8: Midterm 22/10**

**Week 9:** Text type and genre; Discourse and register analysis approaches


**Week 10:** The functional approach to Translation: Skopos theory


**Week 11:** The functional approach to Translation: Nord’s functional model


**Week 12:** Translation as an ‘ethical’ activity


**Week 13:** Wrap-up and case-studies

**SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Deslisle, Jean et al. (eds). Ορολογία της Μετάφρασης. Translated and introduced by Georgios Floros. Μεσόγειος/Ελληνικά Γράμματα, 2008, to be purchased online here <http://www.ucy.ac.cy/pek/ebooks/19-gr-articles/top-menu/mediterranean-


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Course Materials.** All the material will be uploaded in PDF format on Blackboard.

**Class Preparation.** You are expected to come to class having read the materials assigned for that day, noted down the main points, and prepared questions and thoughts to discuss in class. The class discussions cannot be perceived as a substitute to your own study of the primary sources.

**Class Participation.** Meaningful engagement with the texts in class will not only enhance your grade, but will give you the opportunity to have a better grasp of the
texts discussed.

**Attendance.** Attendance is mandatory at the University of Cyprus and inconsistent attendance will affect your grade. In case of absence, it is your responsibility to cover for the material presented during that class. More than three absences during the semester will seriously jeopardize your passing the course.

**Plagiarism Policy.** Please be warned that no form of plagiarism will be tolerated and any sign of it will lead to your immediate failure in the course. If in doubt regarding what consists plagiarism, please consult the relevant very analytical document of the UCY Library at <http://library.ucy.ac.cy/per-page-files/services/references/plagiarism/plagiarism_25112017.pdf>.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Students will have to study the theoretical texts assigned and translate the assigned extracts at home before we deal with them in class. They are also expected not only to attend regularly, but also to engage in class discussions in an informed manner. Excellent knowledge of both English and Greek are required for this course.

**ASSESSMENT**

The course grade will be apportioned as follows:

- 10% for regular participation in the lab
- 5% for insightful class participation
- 35% for the in-class written midterm exam, which will comprise an annotated translation of a short text from English into Greek, on **22/10**
- 50% for the end of semester assignment, which will comprise the translation of a passage, followed by a commentary on the reasoning behind the student’s translation choices informed by the theory