Programme Specification

MA Translation and Professional Communication Skills (2020-21)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	1
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Master of Arts (MA)
Name of award	MA Translation and Professional Communication Skills
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate
	Postgraduate Diploma
FHEQ level of final award	Level 7
UCAS code	
Programme code	8514
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	
Programme Lead	James Minney

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The MA in Translation and Professional Communication Skills aims to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed for a career in translation or other professions that require a deep understanding of global languages, cultures and societies, and to apply those skills in practical and professional contexts. You will be able to choose from among a range of specialist modules, including subtitling, mediation and interpreting, professional writing and editing.

As well as working with translation theorists and practitioners, you will have the opportunity to study with experts in cultural and literary studies, history, ethnography and anthropology. This interdisciplinary approach will equip you with a deepened multicultural knowledge and will allow you to develop a range of professional skills, allied to a deeper understanding of what working across cultures entails, preparing you for a range of careers in bi- and multilingual and multicultural environments.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

You will be guided through to the achievement of the programme's learning outcomes by a range of lectures, seminars and workshops, supplemented by one-on-one contact with programme staff.

Assessment

Your progress on the course will be assessed through a range of formative and summative tasks. These include critical essays, oral presentations, practical translation tasks, reports on research events and reviews of published scholarship. These tasks will inform your final dissertation, which will be based on your own research interests and developed through consultation with an individual staff member.

Special Features of the programme

This programme blends a theoretical contextualisation of what it is to communicate across languages and cultures with a substantial hands-on element, giving you practical insights into a range of language related professions. You will have the opportunity to learn how to use professional software, such as Trados and memoQ, and to familiarise yourself with industry standard interpreting equipment. An optional placement module will give you the opportunity to apply the theoretical knowledge and practical skills acquired in a work environment of your choice.

As a postgraduate student, you will be a full member of the dynamic research environment here at Southampton. Your learning will be enriched by events hosted by the multidisciplinary Centre for Transnational Studies, the Centre for Imperial and Postcolonial Studies, the Centre for Global Englishes, and other research centres.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to: - equip you with the knowledge and skills needed for a career in translation and/or professions that require deep knowledge and expertise of intercultural communication;
- give you a thorough grounding in translation theory;
- enable you to develop your knowledge and skills in practical and professionally-oriented contexts, working across languages and cultures;
- provide you with the specialist training required to undertake work in professional translation, including the use of relevant systems and equipment;
- enable you to develop in-depth knowledge of world cultures and societies, cultural crossings and cultural movement and a deep understanding of what working across cultures entails.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1.   Translating and interpreting theories and methods, including the key theoretical frameworks in the field of translation and how to apply them to produce commercially viable translations.

A2.   the use of technology in translation and multilingual settings to produce work of a professional standard;

A3.   how translation theory is applied in a professional setting, dealing with the complexities of working and thinking globally and across cultures;

A4.   the subject chosen for your dissertation / extended translation project, including principal primary source materials and relevant scholarly literature;

Teaching and Learning Methods

Your knowledge and understanding will be developed through lectures, seminars and workshops, supplemented by one-on-one contact with programme staff and attendance at research events. You will be strongly encouraged to make use of Library and Web resources throughout the course and to extend your independent learning skills.

Assessment Methods

Your knowledge and understanding are assessed via critical essays, oral presentations, reports on research events and reviews of published scholarship. To gain the full MA award, you will also complete a dissertation, which will bring together the advanced knowledge and understanding you have acquired during the taught component of the programme.

Note;   Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Certificate will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of A1 and A2

Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Diploma will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of A1, A2 and A3

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1.   apply theory in order to communicate effectively between English and at least one other language in writing and / or orally in a variety of professional contexts;

B2.   undertake a substantial translation project and produce work of publishable standard;

B3.   analyse and reflect on your own professional practice and experience and identify areas for change;

B4.   evidence advanced theoretical knowledge and (where appropriate) professional skills over an extended piece of work

Teaching and Learning Methods

These subject-specific intellectual and research skills will be developed through lectures, seminars and workshops, including in-class discussion and debate, and through one-on-one research supervisions with programme staff. You will be strongly encouraged to make use of Library and Web resources throughout the course and to extend your independent learning skills.

Assessment Methods

These skills are assessed via critical essays, oral presentations, reports on research events and reviews of published scholarship. To gain the full MA award, you will also complete a dissertation, which will bring together the skills you have acquired during the taught component of the programme.

Note: Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Certificate will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of B1 and B2

Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Diploma will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of B1, B2 and B3

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1.   work at a professional level across at least two languages

C2.   demonstrate high level interpersonal skills and intercultural awareness

C3.   monitor and evaluate professional activity, including self-evaluation

C4.   use specialist ICT skills confidently and appropriately in relevant professional contexts

C5.   manage deadlines and make effective use of your time

C6.   communicate complex ideas and arguments orally and in writing

C7.   engage in debate around complex ideas and theories

C8.   identify, select and draw upon a wide range of printed and electronic sources

Teaching and Learning Methods

Your key skills are developed through the programme's emphasis on active participation and independent learning. You are expected to read widely beyond the parameters of individual modules.

Assessment Methods

Your key skills are tested through assessed coursework involving essays, oral presentations, practical tasks, and where appropriate, in-class and take-away examinations. The final dissertation constitutes the means by which the acquisition of skills appropriate to the MA is distinguished from that of the Diploma.

Note;   Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Certificate will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of C1 and C2

Students exiting the programme with a Postgraduate Diploma will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of C1, C2, C3, C4 and C5

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Where optional modules have been specified, the following is an indicative list of available optional modules, which are subject to change each academic year. Please note in some instances modules have limited spaces available.

Part I

Typical course content
In the first semester, you will be introduced to key translation theory, which you will then have the opportunity to use in an applied translation module in semester 2. You will also choose one or two options in each semester from a selection of modules, focused on language, culture and/or professional writing. You may also choose a work placement module, giving you the chance to apply your skills in a hands-on setting.

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
LANG6030	Practical Translation	7.5	Core
LANG6018	Translation: Theory and Practice	7.5	Core

Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
LANG6019	Audiovisual Translation	7.5	Optional
LING6028	Language and Intercultural Communication	7.5	Optional
LING6043	Language ideologies in a globalising world	7.5	Optional
LANG6027	Memory in National and Transnational Contexts	7.5	Optional
HUMA6015	Narrative Non-Fiction: The Interdisciplinary Art	7.5	Optional
LANG6028	Narrative, Place, Identity	7.5	Optional
LANG6023	Nation, Culture, Power	7.5	Optional
LANG6031	Placement Module	15	Optional
LANG6kXX	Placement Module	7.5	Optional
LANG3006	Public Service Interpreting	7.5	Optional
ENGL6117	The Art and Craft of Fiction	7.5	Optional
LANG6026	Translation Theory and Practice (2): specialist translation	7.5	Optional
LANG6024	Transnational Movement in the Age of Globalisation	7.5	Optional
ENGL6116	Writing for Children and Young People	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes* and *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes* Any exemptions or variations to the University regulations, approved by AQSC are located in *section VI of the University Calendar*.

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:
- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources

- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides
- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme.
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff/Student Liaison Committees, School Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality Handbook.*

Career Opportunities

The programme will equip you with a deepened multicultural knowledge, and with the skills of analysis, communication and critical thinking necessary to excel in a wide range of careers. It will allow you to develop a range of professional skills, allied to a deeper understanding of what working across cultures entails, thus equipping you for a range of careers in bi- and multilingual and multicultural environments. Options will allow you to develop professional competence in translation, mediation and aspects of interpreting. A placement module will give you the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge and practical skills in a workplace setting.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: TBC

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Optional Visits (e.g. museums, galleries)	Some modules may include optional visits to a museum, galleries, etc. You will normally be expected to cover the cost of travel and admission, unless otherwise specified in the module profile.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In the majority of cases, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted online. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy.
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.