Programme Specification and Curriculum Map for the MA in the Theory and Practice of Translation

Middlesex University

1. Programme title	MA in the Theory and Practice of Translation
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	
5. Final qualification	MA in the Theory and Practice of Translation
6. Academic year	2009/10
7. Language of study	
8. Mode of study	

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

- A good first degree in a relevant subject (normally 2:1 or equivalent)
- Native or near native command of English and of at least one other language.

10. Aims of the programme

The Programme aims to:

- educate its students in the theory, history and culture of translation
- help its students develop as translators by providing guidance and practice in text selection, translating and editing
- prepare and encourage students to progress to independent study for the dissertation and in some cases to further study to PhD level and beyond.

11. Programme outcomes	
A. Knowledge and understanding On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of : 1. knowledge and current problems at the forefront of the academic discipline of translation studies 2. techniques applicable to research and advanced scholarship in translation studies 3. how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline of translation studies 4. the development of the discipline of translation studies	**Teaching/learning methods** Students gain knowledge and understanding through • Lectures and seminars • Guided reading • Independent reading and private study • Formative assessment **Assessment** Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by • essays • preparation for and presentation of the dissertation project • the dissertation
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline of Translation Studies 2. evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses 3. demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn cognitive skills through • Lectures and seminars • Guided reading • Independent reading and private study • Formative assessment **Assessment Method** Students' cognitive skills are assessed by • essays • preparation for and presentation of the dissertation project • the dissertation
C. Practical skills On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: 1. deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, in particular	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn practical skills through • supervised preparation for translations • self editing • constructive criticism of existing translations • translating • formative assessment

in the context of the creation of literary and other translation genres 2. demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks, especially translation tasks, at a professional level 3. continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, especially of translation and the translation profession, and develop new skills at a high level	**Assessment Method** Students' practical skills are assessed by • essays which include translations (TRA 4014 and 4015; possibly TRA 4060, dissertation)
Postgraduate Skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. exercise initiative and personal responsibility 2. make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations 3. engage in independent learning in the pursuit of continuing professional development	**Teaching/learning methods** Student s acquire graduate skills through • presentations • class discussions • supervised preparation of their dissertation **Assessment method** Students' graduate skills are assessed through their dissertation

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The programme consists of four courses and a dissertation, taught over twelve months (full time) or 24 months (part time). Each course carries 30 credits, and the dissertation carries 60 credits. The entry point is September, and each module is taught and examined, by coursework only, over 24 weeks (48 for part time students). The dissertation is written between week 24 (48 for part time students) and the end of July.

Programme outline

Full time students take each of the following modules:

TRA 4043	'Research in Translation Studies'	30 credits
TRA 4015	'Literary Texts and their Translation'	30 credits
TRA 4016	'Translating Non-Literature'	30 credits
TRA 4055	'History, Theory and Culture of Translation'	30 credits
TRA 4060	'Dissertation'	60 credits

Part time students take the following modules in their first year (and they attend those sessions of TRA 4043 which introduce research conventions and facilities):

TRA 4015	'Literary Texts and their Translation'	30 credits
TRA 4016	'Translating Non-Literature'	30 credits
TRA 4055	'History, Theory and Culture of Translation'	30 credits

They take the following modules in their second year:

TRA 4043	'Research in Translation Studies'	30 credits
TRA 4060	'Dissertation'	60 credits

12.2 Levels and modules		
All modules in this programme are Level 4 modules		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: TRA4015 'Literary Texts and their Translation' 30 credits. TRA4016 'Translating Non-Literature' 30 credits. TRA4043 'Research in Translation Studies' 30 credits TRA4055 'History, Theory and Culture of Translation' 30 credits TRA4060 'Dissertation' 60 credits	N/A	Pass Pass Pass Pass Pass

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code

13. A curriculum map relating learning outcomes to modules

See Curriculum Map

14. Information about assessment regulations

The programme conforms to Middlesex University's assessment regulations

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

Students are able to contribute to the activities of TRANSCEN, Middlesex University Translation Institute's translation and text editing service provider. They may be able to use TRANSCEN projects as bases for essays and projects.

16. Future careers

The practical (C) and subject-specific (A) skills acquired during study for the degree are directly applicable in translating, subtitling, text editing and related activities. The cognitive and postgraduate skills are transferable to any liberal arts related career.

17. Particular support for learning

- Research seminar series and visiting speaker seminars provided by the Centre for Research in Translation
- Teaching by research active, subject specialist staff
- Specialist library collection

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	T800
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Linguistics; Languages and related studies

20. Reference points

Middlesex University Learning and Teaching policies and strategy

Middlesex University Guide and Regulations

Middlesex University Strategic Plan

Middlesex University Students' Charter

The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

The Linguistics and Languages and related studies subject benchmark statements

21. Other information

Middlesex University Translation Institute (MUTI) was established in 2002. Situated within the School of Arts and Education, it incorporates the Centre for Research in Translation, established in 1996 and led by the Professor of Translation Studies, and TRANSCEN, the translation and text editing service provider. The Institute provides teaching for the BA (Honours) in Translation and the MA in the Theory and Practice of Translation. Translators working with TRANSCEN often contribute seminars and may work with students on translation projects.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

Curriculum map for MA in the Theory and Practice of Translation

This map shows the learning outcomes of the programme and the modules in which they are assessed.

	Module	Code	Programme Outcomes												
			A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	D1	D2	D3
4	Literary texts and their translation	TRA4015			x				x	x	X		x	X	x
	Translating non-literature	TRA4016			X				x	x	X		x	X	x
	Research in translation studies	TRA4043	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
	History, theory and culture of translation	TRA4055	x			X	x	x				X			X
	Dissertation	TRA4060	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	Knowledge and current problems at the forefront of the academic discipline of translation studies	C1	Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, in particular in the context of the creation of literary and other translation genres
A2	Techniques applicable to research and advanced scholarship in translation studies	C2	Self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks, especially translation tasks, at a professional level
A3	How established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline of translation studies	C3	Ability to continue to advance own knowledge and understanding, especially of translation and the translation profession, and develop new skills at a high level
A4	The development of the discipline of translation studies		

Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Ability to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline of translation studies	D1	Ability to exercise initiative and personal responsibility
B2	Ability to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses	D2	Ability to make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations
B3	Ability to demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge	D3	Ability to engage in independent learning in the pursuit of continuing professional development