

Programme Specification

BA Interpreting and Translation



1. Programme title	BA Interpreting and Translation
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	BA (Hons) Interpreting and Translation
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	FT/PT

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

Offers will normally be made on 300 Tariff points. To be admitted to the BA (Honours) Interpreting and Translation Programme, students must have a minimum of A Level grade C or equivalent qualifications in English and in one of the following languages: Arabic, French, German, Italian, Mandarin/Chinese, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Turkish. Further language combinations will be considered subject to student demand and viability.

The programme is offered only to native or near native speakers of these languages.

Acceptable qualifications equivalent to A level for international students are school-leaving qualifications allowing students to enter university, such as International Baccalaureate. See also the Undergraduate Prospectus for general entry requirements. International students for whom English is not a first language should normally have one of the following: IELTS at 6.0; Cambridge Advanced

Proficiency at least grade C. We welcome applications from people over the age of 21, with or without formal qualifications. Students who wish to claim APL will be required to submit certificates/evidence of appropriate learning/qualifications gained to be admitted to the programme.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- Introduce and develop a systematic knowledge and understanding of the fields of Interpreting and Translation studies, in both their practical and theoretical aspects in order to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be confident interpreting and translation professionals
- provide students with a knowledge and understanding of cultural, linguistic, literary, technical and socio-economic key aspects relating to interpreting and translation;
- provide research training and practice either for further study or for research in the workplace;
- develop students' critical awareness and generic intellectual skills, especially those of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation;
- develop students' competencies in using ICT in general and in relation to interpreting and translation in particular;
- develop further key transferable skills including effective and efficient communication in their chosen language combination, self-motivation, self-reliance, co-operation, time and information management.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

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

1. Interpreting and translation theory
2. The importance of cultures in the context and for the purposes of interpreting and translation
3. Methods, concepts and descriptive terms relevant to linguistic and textual analysis

The nature of the interpreting and translation professions in political, social and work environments

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Work placement/internship
- Guided study
- Independent study

Assessment methods Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by

1. Coursework (essays; reflective journals; translation commentaries; presentations; placement report; dissertation)
2. Written examination
3. Project-work

Formative assessment

B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

- Summarise and evaluate texts and Reason critically, analyse and interpret
- Think independently
- Minimise interference between their (two) languages sources

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through

Seminars
Translation workshops

1. Guided study
2. Independent study
3. Experience of residence abroad / work placement.

Assessment Method

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by

4. Coursework (essays; reflective journals; translations; translation commentaries;

	<p>presentations; placement report; dissertation)</p> <p>5. Written examination</p> <p>6. In-class tests</p> <p>Project-work</p>
<p>C. Practical skills</p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply interpreting and translation skills in a variety of contexts/to a variety of texts 2. Edit their own work and the work of others 3. Demonstrate skills in public speaking techniques 4. Select, retrieve and use information from a variety of resources for interpreters and translators (including dictionaries, internet, and information and translation technology) 5. Research and present material appropriately in the chosen language combination <p><i>Employ appropriate referencing skills</i></p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars • Translation workshops • Laboratory sessions • Guided study • Independent study • The experience of the residence abroad / work placement <p>Assessment methods Students' practical skills are assessed by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework (essays; reflective journals; translations; translation commentaries; presentations; placement report; dissertation) • Written examination • In-class tests <p>Project-work</p>
<p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reflect on personal and career development 2. Engage in effective learning 3. Communicate effectively 4. Work in teams 5. Display information technology and numeracy skills 6. Solve problems 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills workshops • Seminars • Guided study • Independent study • The experience of the residence abroad / work placement <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursework (essays; reflective journals; translations; translation commentaries; presentations; placement report; dissertation) • In-class tests • Project-work

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

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The BA (Honours) Interpreting and Translation exists in various language combinations such as: English and Arabic; English and French; English and German; English and Italian; English and Mandarin/Chinese; English and Polish; English and Russian; English and Spanish; English and Turkish. Language combinations offered will be subject to student demand and viability.

The BA Interpreting and Translation is studied full time over three years or part-time over four years. Full-time students may choose to take the programme over four years by undertaking a work placement or study period abroad in the third year. Students normally study four modules (120 credits) in the teaching year (90 credits is the maximum for part-time students). The majority of modules have a credit rating of 30 points.

During the first year of study, students will take four modules, each worth 30 credit points. The *Introduction to Interpreting* (TRA1801), *Introduction to Translation* (TRA1802) and *Core Concepts in Language Transfer* (1803) modules introduce students to issues in the theory and practice of interpreting and translation, and to the basic skills of interpreters and translators. Students also take an introductory module on *Professional and Research Skills* (TRA1804), which focuses on aspects of the professional realities pertaining to the interpreting and translation industry, and seeks to provide further knowledge and skills as the basis for future study.

The second year develops students' insight into core theoretical material and its application to interpreting and translation practice through TRA2801. In addition, the module promotes the development of students' analytical and critical thinking skills, thus providing an important underpinning for the dissertation module in the final year. TRA2802 and TRA2804 are designed to develop students' practical interpreting and translation skills. The modules also provide further grounding in interpreting and translation-related skills and aim to broaden and deepen students' understanding of cultural and ethical issues in relation to the interpreting and translation professions. TRA2803, *Translation Technologies*, focuses on key theoretical and practical issues related to audiovisual translation, particularly subtitling, as well as on the use of different types of electronic tools in professional translation. Familiarity with professional software packages such as WinCAPS and SDL Trados will enhance students' employability. In the final year, the emphasis is on developing independent learning skills. All students must take TRA3801, *Research in Language Transfer*. The module enhances students' understanding of the main research methodologies, principles and questions current in the fields of translation and interpreting studies. Furthermore, the module equips them with the skills to undertake a research project (dissertation) on a topic of their own choice in the areas of interpreting and translation studies and practice, which they may wish to use to progress to further study. Students following the 3-year programme must also complete TRA3809 (Internship module). This practical experience module provides the means for students to link academic work with the 'real world' situation and facilitates the embedding of transferable and graduate skills necessary for future career paths and employment. Students who are unable to undertake a placement will take a final year option module to be able to complete their degree. For their third and fourth module, students are allowed to choose from a number of optional modules to gain more in-depth knowledge and enhance their skills and competencies in specialised areas of their choice, namely *Advanced Practical Translation* (TRA3805), *Legal Interpreting* (TRA3021) *Medical Interpreting* (TRA3022) or *Localisation* (TRA3803).

Students following the 4-year programme will either spend their third year studying Interpreting/Translation at one of our Erasmus partner universities (TRA3811 and TRA3813) or undertake a year-long work placement (TRA3807 and TRA3813) in an institution or company in the UK or overseas. Alternatively, they may opt for an exchange semester abroad in one half,

and a term-long work placement in the other half of Year 3. In their final year, they will take TRA3801 (*Research in Language Transfer*) and choose three modules out of *Advanced Practical Translation Skills* (TRA3805), *Legal Interpreting* (TRA3021), *Medical Interpreting* (TRA3022) and increase their chances of securing a high-quality internship/work placement in Year 3.

12.2 Levels and modules

Level 4 (1)

COMPULSORY

OPTIONAL

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following:

TRA1801 *Introduction to Interpreting* (30 credits)

TRA1802 *Introduction to Translation* (30 credits)

TRA1803 *Core Concepts in Language Transfer* (30 credits)

TRA1804 *Professional and Research Skills* (30 credits)

TRA1801
TRA1802
TRA1803
TRA1804

Level 5 (2)

COMPULSORY

OPTIONAL

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>TRA2801 <i>Translation and Interpreting Theory</i> (30 credits)</p> <p>TRA2802 <i>Practical Translation</i> (30 credits)</p> <p>TRA2803 <i>Translation Technologies</i> (30 credits)</p> <p>TRA2804 <i>Introduction to Public Service and Conference Interpreting</i> (30 credits)</p>		<p>TRA2801 TRA2802 TRA2803 TRA2804</p>
<p>Level 6 (3)</p>		
<p>COMPULSORY</p>	<p>OPTIONAL</p>	<p>PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS</p>

Year 2	TRA2801 TRA2802 TRA2803 TRA2804
Year 3	TRA3801 TRA3809* *) Students following 3-year programme

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

The programme conforms to Middlesex University's assessment regulations.

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

3-year programme:

Students take TRA3809 (*Internship Module*) as a compulsory module in their final year.

4-year programme:

Students spend their third year either in a work placement or studying interpreting/translation abroad at a partner university or in a combination of the two. As a rule, students whose native language is not English are encouraged to spend their third year in placement in the UK. Native speakers of English are encouraged to study abroad at an approved translation school or university department. Students may also choose to spend half a year in placement and half a year abroad.

Support is available through the Employability Services, the Employability Business

Partner, the Exchanges Office and the BA Interpreting and Translation Programme Leader. Details of the organisation of the placement or study abroad may be found in the Programme Handbook.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

The BA Interpreting and Translation Programme team organise regular careers seminars to guide Interpreting and Translation students in their choice of future career.

The Placement offers students the opportunity to acquire experience which will help them to enhance their employability skills.

Visits from interpreting and translation practitioners and representatives of professional bodies in introduce students to the world of work and the range of interpreting and translation-related jobs available in the market.

A relatively high proportion of students go on to further studies at master's and to doctoral level

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the Learning Support schemes and facilities at Campus and University levels, particularly the English Language and Learning Services and Disability Support Services, and services available through the Student Union.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

Q910

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Linguistics; Languages and related studies

20. Reference points

Middlesex University Learning and Teaching policies and strategies
Middlesex University Regulations
Middlesex University Corporate Plan
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

This programme is available for full time and part time study.

Curriculum map for BA (Honours) Interpreting and Translation

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding of		Practical skills	
A1	Interpreting and translation theory	C1	Apply interpreting and translation skills in a variety of contexts/to a variety of texts
A2	The importance of cultures in the context and for the purposes of interpreting and translation	C2	Edit their own work and the work of others
A3	Methods, concepts and descriptive terms relevant to linguistic and textual analysis	C3	Demonstrate skills in public speaking techniques
A4	The nature of the interpreting and translation professions in political, social and work environments	C4	Select, retrieve and use information from a variety of resources for interpreters and translators (including dictionaries, internet, and information and translation technology)
		C5	Research and present material appropriately in the chosen language combination
		C6	Employ appropriate referencing skills
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Summarise and evaluate texts and sources	D1	Reflect on personal and career development
B2	Reason critically, analyse and interpret	D2	Engage in effective learning
B3	Think independently	D3	Communicate effectively

B4	Minimise interference between their (two) languages	D4	Work in teams
		D5	Display information technology and numeracy skills
		D6	Solve problems

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes																			
		A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Introduction to Interpreting	TRA1801			x	x		x		x	x		x	x		x		x	x			x
Introduction to Translation	TRA1802	x	x				x		x	x			x	x	x		x	x			x
Core Concepts in Language Transfer	TRA1803			x		x	x			x	x		x		x		x	x	x		x
Professional and Research Skills	TRA1804				x		x			x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Translation and Interpreting Theory	TRA2801	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x		x		x	x			x
Practical Translation	TRA2802	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x			x
Translation Technologies	TRA2803	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x			x
Introduction to Public Service and Conference Interpreting	TRA2804		x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			x	x			x
Legal Interpreting	TRA3021		x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x				x	x	x		x
Medical Interpreting	TRA3022		x		x	x		x	x	x		x	x				x	x	x		x
Research in Language Transfer	TRA3801	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x			x
Advanced Practical Translation Skills	TRA3805		x		x		x	x	x	x			x	x			x	x			x
Localisation	TRA3803	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	X	x
Internship Module	TRA3809		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Workplace experience (year-long)	TRA3807		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Workplace experience (half year)	TRA3808		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Study abroad (year-long)	TRA3811	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x			x
Study abroad (half year)	TRA3812	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x			x
Self-assessment	TRA3813		x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x		x	x	x				x

All programme learning outcomes are developed to level 6.

