

Programme Specification for

MA Translation (Audio- visual & Literary/ Business & Legal)



1. Programme title	MA Translation
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	MA Translation
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English (and source/ target language)
8. Mode of study	Full-time/ Part-time

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. International students for whom English is not a first language are required to have a minimum IELTS score 6.5 (with minimum 6.5 in writing and 6.0 in the other three components) or equivalent.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- provide students with the opportunity to develop a sophisticated grasp and critical awareness of contemporary translation theories and practice, as well as techniques applicable to research and advanced scholarship in translation studies;
- foster students' originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge related to the field of translation studies;

- provide students with a thorough knowledge and understanding of linguistics, textual, literary, cultural, technical and socio-economic issues relating to translation;
- equip students with the conceptual, analytic, evaluative and research competencies required of a translator;
- facilitate students' development as translators by providing guidance and practice in professional translation and editing;
- provide students with the opportunity to develop their ability to critically evaluate and competently employ different types of electronic tools and software packages available to translators;
- support students to progress to independent study for the dissertation and prepare them to pursue a career as a translator professional, for starting an academic career or to progress to further study.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

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

1. Contemporary translation theories and practice as well as techniques applicable to research and advanced scholarship in translation studies.
2. Conceptual, analytic and research competencies required of a translator.
3. Textual, literacy, cultural, technical and socio-economic issues relating to translation.
4. Practical and ethical issues relevant to their career as translation professionals.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials;
- guided reading;
- independent reading and private study;
- formative assessment.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- essays, presentations and translations;
- presentation of the dissertation project;
- dissertation.

B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

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

1. Reflect on and evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship related to the field of translation.

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through:

- lectures, seminars, workshops and tutorials;
- guided reading;
- independent reading and private study;

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Analyse and evaluate translation methodologies, develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses. 3. Apply principles of translation theory and methodology to existing as well as their own translations. 4. Discuss and develop translation strategy decisions (e.g. decisions on mediation between source and target cultures) in a cogent manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • constructive criticism of existing translations; • formative assessment. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • essays, presentations, podcasts and translations; • preparation for and presentation of the dissertation project; • the dissertation.
<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. Research complex issues in depth, deal with them both systematically, make sound judgements, and communicate their conclusions cogently in oral presentations and written assignments. 2. Demonstrate self-direction, show originality in problem-solving and act autonomously in planning and delivering translation tasks, at a professional level. 3. Employ appropriate translation strategies and critically reflect on their translations. 4. Employ appropriate computational tools and software packages to produce translations of a high standard. 5. Continue to advance their knowledge of theoretical, practical and ethical issues relevant to their career as translators, and develop new skills at 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workshops; • supervised preparation for translations; • self-editing; • translating; • formative assessment. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • essays which include translations; • presentations • podcasts; • in-class tests; • dissertation.

a high level.	
<p>D. Postgraduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use techniques applicable to postgraduate research and scholarly activities. 2. Take decisions in complex and unpredictable situations. 3. Exercise initiatives and personal responsibilities. 4. Engage in independent learning in the pursuit of continuing professional development. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oral presentations; • class discussions; • supervised preparation of their dissertation. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • essays; • oral presentations; • podcasts; • dissertation.

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

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

The MA Translation consists of **two pathways**, enabling students to specialise either in **Audiovisual and Literary Translation** or **Business and Legal Translation**.

To complete the programme students must pass **four modules** (as outlined below) and a **dissertation**, taught over 12 months (**full-time**) or 24 months (**part-time**).

All students take **TRA4018**, **TRA4019** and **TRA4020** (dissertation).

Each module 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 September.

A wide range of languages is offered (subject to student demand and viability) for translation into English for English native speakers and from English into the target language for native speakers of other languages.

Programme outline:

Audiovisual and Literary Translation Pathway (Full-time):

Students take each of the following modules between October and April:

- **TRA4010** Translating Audiovisual Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4017** Translating Literary Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4018** Translating Technical Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4019** Translation Theories and Cultures (30 credits)
- **TRA4020** Research Methods and Dissertation (60 credits)

They complete their Dissertation (TRA4020) in the summer, submitting it in September.

Audiovisual and Literary Translation Pathway (Part-time):

Students take the following modules in their first year (and they attend those sessions of **TRA4020** which introduce research conventions and facilities):

- **TRA4010** Translating Audiovisual Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4017** Translating Literary Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4018** Translating Technical Texts (30 credits)

Students take the following modules in their second year:

- **TRA4019** Translation Theories and Cultures (30 credits)
- **TRA4020** Research Methods and Dissertation (60 credits)

They complete their Dissertation (TRA4020) in the summer, submitting it in September.

Business and Legal Translation Pathway (Full-time):

Students take each of the following modules between October and April:

- **TRA4018** Translating Technical Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4019** Translation Theories and Cultures (30 credits)
- **TRA4021** Translating Business and Legal Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4020** Research Methods and Dissertation (60 credits)

Plus option module from the following:

- **MGT4150** Management in a Globalised World (30 credits)

Or

- **MGT4200** Contemporary Management (30 credits)

They complete their Dissertation (TRA4020) in the summer, submitting it in September.

Business and Legal Translation Pathway (Part-time):

Students take the following modules in their first year (and they attend those sessions of **TRA4020** which introduce research conventions and facilities):

- **TRA4018** Translating Technical Texts (30 credits)
- **TRA4021** Translating Business and Legal Texts (30 credits)

Plus option module from the following:

- **MGT4150** Management in a Globalised World (30 credits)

Or

- **MGT4200** Contemporary Management (*30 credits*)

Students take the following modules in their second year:

- **TRA4019** Translation Theories and Cultures (*30 credits*)
- **TRA4020** Research Methods and Dissertation (*60 credits*)

They complete their Dissertation (TRA4020) in the summer, submitting it in September.

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7 (4)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Audiovisual and Literary Translation Pathway: Students must take all of the following: TRA4010 <i>30 credits</i> TRA4017 <i>30 credits</i> TRA4018 <i>30 credits</i> TRA4019 <i>30 credits</i> TRA4020 <i>60 credits</i>		Pass
Level 7 (4)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

<p>Business and Legal Translation Pathway:</p> <p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <p>TRA4018 <i>30 credits</i></p> <p>TRA4019 <i>30 credits</i></p> <p>TRA4021 <i>30 credits</i></p> <p>TRA4020 <i>60 credits</i></p>	<p>Students must also choose one of the following:</p> <p>MGT4150 <i>30 credits</i></p> <p>MGT4200 <i>30 credits</i></p>	<p>Pass (including chosen option module).</p>
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12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code

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)
<p>Students can go on Erasmus exchange in order to undertake dissertation research at a European partner university once they have completed their taught modules at Middlesex University.</p> <p>The minimum of an exchange placement is 3 months and students are eligible for an Erasmus grant for help support the costs of living abroad.</p>

16. Future careers (if applicable)

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 (B) and postgraduate (D) skills are transferable to any liberal arts related career.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students learning will be supported through the following:

- “mini conferences” and visiting speaker seminars
- teaching by subject specialist staff and translation practitioners
- access to specialist equipment and software
- careers seminars

Support may also be gained from the following units or personnel:

- English Language and Learning Support Unit
- Learning Resources Facilities and Disability support
- the programme leader and module tutors for academic staff

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

Q910/ Q920

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 Regulations
- Middlesex University Students’ Charter
- The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- Master’s degree characteristics
- Linguistics, and Languages and related studies subject benchmark statements

21. Other information

Opportunities to work closely with professionals and institutions such as the Institute of Linguists.

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 rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

Curriculum map for *[title of Programme]*

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		Practical skills	
A1		C1	
A2		C2	
A3		C3	
A4		C4	
A5		C5	
A6		C6	
A7		C7	
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1		D1	
B2		D2	
B3		D3	
B4		D4	
B5		D5	
B6		D6	
B7		D7	

