

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND SYLLABUS

Course Title: Scientific and technical translation (for students of Life Sciences)	
Course Headline	For fourth-year students on the Combined Degree Programme, all languages.
Course Prerequisites	French, German, Spanish C1 (CEFR)
Course Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a basic proficiency in written scientific and technical translation into English • To become skilled in clear expression and sensitive to stylistic issues • To develop an understanding of how to manage terminological and other linguistic resources • To develop a critical approach to the WWW as a terminology resource
Learning Objectives	<p>After completing the course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translate technical complex texts within familiar subject domains into English, with the use of dictionaries • Exploit the WWW as a translation resource • Assess a text in terms of target audience and register and choose the most appropriate translation strategy

Core Content	<p>This course is intended for students in their fourth year on the Combined Degree Programme.</p> <p>The course will combine practical translation work with use of a range of methodologies and utilities for exploiting and managing language resources for the purposes of translation.</p> <p>The practical translation element will focus on written translation, into English, of technically complex texts from the domains of biology/biochemistry/biotechnology as appropriate; these may include extracts from scientific papers, patents and popular scientific texts.</p> <p>The integrated translation technology component will include the use of the WWW as a resource for translation, glossary creation and maintenance and the creation of specialised text corpora.</p> <p>Regular attendance at classes and regular submission of coursework are essential for successful completion of the course. Classes include a weekly 2-hour practical translation class, plus approx. 2 hours a week self-study is required. Attendance records are kept for all students.</p> <p>Material to be used for the course</p> <p>Texts for translation will be derived from appropriate printed and electronic sources. The integrated translation technology component will focus on the WWW and terminology management.</p> <p>Language</p> <p>French, German or Spanish and English.</p>
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Topics

Syllabus – Autumn Term

The syllabus will be completely based around practical translation tasks, during which matters such as accuracy, idiomaticity and genre will be addressed on a heuristic basis. A variety of different types of text will be translated.

Use of the WWW (on-line glossaries and dictionaries; search engines); terminology management, corpus linguistics.

Syllabus – Spring Term

(A continuation of the previous term.)

Assessment**Based on:**

Coursework: 60%

Six pieces of assessed translation (5% per piece = 30%)

From Horizons course

In addition two pieces of written coursework, one in-class test plus one oral examination (30%).

Coursework assignments should normally be submitted by the relevant deadline. A short extension may only be obtained if circumstances warrant it, with the prior agreement of the lecturer concerned. A longer extension is permissible only in exceptional circumstances.

The course is moderated by an External Examiner. All marked work must be retained for resubmission at the end of the course.

Examination: 40%

A two-hour written examination at the end of the Spring Term (use of specified dictionaries permitted)

Weeks/Credits

Practical translation course 20 weeks
Horizons course 10 weeks
6 ECTS

Maximum number

15

CONTACT

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