



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

## *MA Translation Studies*

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships  
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

**July 2021**

### **Copyright**

The contents of this document are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>MA Translation Studies</i></b>
Final Award	<i>MA Translation Studies</i>
Exit Awards	<i>PG Diploma in Translation Studies, PG Certificate in Translation Studies</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P0680FTC, P0680PTC
Mode of study	<i>Full time, Part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Campus</i>
Normal length of course	<i>1 year (full time), 3 years (part time)</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>from September 2019 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Languages and Area Studies</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="http://www2.port.ac.uk/translation">www2.port.ac.uk/translation</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/modern-languages-and-area-studies/ma-translation-studies/">http://www.port.ac.uk/courses/modern-languages-and-area-studies/ma-translation-studies/</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	<i>Level 7</i>

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

- To provide a challenging and stimulating study environment
- To provide a framework allowing students to follow a flexible coherent programme of study
- To acquaint students with translation theory so to enable them to obtain a detailed understanding of the process of translation and to reflect on their own translation products and published translation products
- To provide students with opportunities to generate high-quality specialised translated texts of both a shorter and longer nature
- To provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the professional world of the translator and thereby to prepare them for entry into that employment sector and related areas of employment
- To provide opportunities for students to develop an appropriate expertise in specific areas, such as the application of information technology to translation (use of CAT tools and machine translation), and to experience specialised areas of translation, such as subtitling
- To give students an opportunity to undertake an independent and in-depth investigation in a subject of their own choice

## Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	The central analytical concepts used in translation theory	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, presentations.</i>
A2	Advanced methods of analysis used in translation theory	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, dossiers, portfolios,</i>
A3	The need for a systematic approach to linguistic phenomena and how this helps to organise the understanding of practical text production	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>
A4	The reasons and the criteria for evaluating alternative analyses of a given set of data	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>
A5	The nature of the translation profession	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>

**B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:**

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
B1	Assessing the merits of contrasting theories and explanations	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorials</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries, presentations</i>
B2	Critically judging and evaluating evidence, in particular in relation to the use of language in specific modes, genres and contexts	<i>Lectures, seminars, presentations</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries, presentations</i>
B3	Recognising problems and developing problem-solving strategies	<i>Lectures, seminars, presentations</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries, presentations</i>
B4	Awareness of the relation between knowledge of theory and critical evaluation on the one hand and implementation of language in translation on the other	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorials</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries, presentations</i>
B5	Collecting, analysing and manipulating data of diverse kinds	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorials</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>

**C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:**

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
C1	Apply advanced techniques for collecting data, including electronic ones	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries, presentations</i>
C2	Produce high-quality translated texts according to a variety of agendas and briefs	<i>seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>portfolios, translations,</i>
C3	Critically discuss translated texts	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, commentaries</i>
C4	Demonstrate competence in relation to a number of skills which constitute the translator's skills matrix	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>
C5	Consider the ethical issues in translation and interpreting	<i>lectures, seminars,</i>	<i>essays, portfolios,</i>

		<i>group work, tutorial</i>	<i>translations, commentaries</i>
--	--	---------------------------------	---------------------------------------

#### D. Transferable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Collection, understanding, analysis, interpretation and critical evaluation of complex information	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, commentaries</i>
D2	Construction, analysis and critical evaluation of theoretical and complex argumentation	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, commentaries</i>
D3	Recognising problems and developing problem-solving strategies	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>
D4	Acquiring complex information of diverse kinds, from a variety of sources including electronic sources (libraries, internet, corpora, discussions with peers etc.) and using other IT tools	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>
D5	Acquisition of entrepreneurial skills	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, tutorial</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, translations, commentaries</i>

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

**In addition to these University support services this course also provides guidance on job opportunities, work placements or internships and advice on various professional avenues and entrepreneurial skills on graduating. Students are also invited to attend the “Engaging with the profession” seminars organised by the Course Leader which are also recorded for Distance Learning students.**

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

## Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

[MA Translation Studies](#)

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **European Master's in Translation**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff

## Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

## Copyright

The contents of this Course Specification are the copyright of the University of Portsmouth and all rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, such as electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded or otherwise, without the prior consent of the University of Portsmouth.

## Document details

Author	<i>Dr Begoña Rodríguez de Céspedes</i>
Date of production and version number	<i>July 2018</i>
Date of update and version number	<i>July 2021 (v3)</i>
Minimum student registration numbers	<i>10</i>