TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING STUDIES

Programs

- Audiovisual Translation, Master of Arts (https://catalog.hbku.edu.qa/academic-degrees/chss/tisd/maat/)
- Intercultural Communication, Master of Arts (https://catalog.hbku.edu.qa/academic-degrees/chss/tisd/maicc/)
- Translation Studies, Master of Arts (https://catalog.hbku.edu.qa/academic-degrees/chss/tisd/mats/)

Division Courses

Audiovisual Translation

AVT 621 Current Trends in Audiovisual Translation   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This course introduces students to more recent scholarly approaches to the study of translation. The course follows a thematic and chronological development of the major theories in the field of TS in relation to other disciplines of the humanities and social sciences, including literary, philosophical, historical, political and sociological approaches. Through discriminating, critical engagement with theory and its scholarly and practical applications, this course invites students to think critically and reflectively about the complexity and implications of the choices they have to make as translators and scholars.

AVT 624 Subtitling   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This is a practical course which introduces students to subtitling (interlingual and SDH). Students are introduced to norms and conventions of both subtitling types: tempo-spatial constraints, timing, condensation, verbal and non-verbal cues, punctuation, positioning and segmentation. Students see how subtitles are a form of inter-semiotic mediation and learn how to apply appropriate strategies in view of the source text and intended audience (hearers or deaf viewers). Students also learn how to handle culture-specific difficulties in subtitling.

AVT 627 Voicing   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This course introduces students to the transadaptation of filmic visual content and dialogue for non-lip-synched dubbing, voice over or audio description. The language of instruction and of activities is both Arabic and English. Students learn to create scripts and to deal with a range of linguistic, cultural, semiotic and technical issues when producing voicing scripts; e.g. re-segmentation and the use of standard dubbing/voicing symbols. Students will work with a variety of genres: documentaries, interviews, cartoons, movies.

AVT 636 Intersensory Translation for Access   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): AVT 624 and AVT 627

In this course, students will refine their understanding of international norms in SDH and AD to consider their applicability to the Arab context. Students will also address AVT for access as "transadaptation," in which multimodal communication strategies and multiformat materials are used to reinforce multisensory engagement with knowledge and culture. Students will also interact with local stakeholders in cultural settings, as well as in organizations working with people with special needs towards the development of collaborative projects.

AVT 645 Research Methods in Audiovisual Translation   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613
Corequisite(s): AVT 621

This course prepares students to write their thesis, whether research- or practice-oriented. It builds on all they have learned in previous courses and leads them through the main areas of research in Audiovisual Translation, the principles of designing research projects, reviewing the literature and writing research proposals. They will also learn the skills and requirements for writing translation commentaries for the purposes of writing a practice-oriented thesis that consists of a translation accompanied by a theoretically-informed and evidence-based analysis.

AVT 654 Advanced Subtitling   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): AVT 624

This course extends the essential skills acquired previously to a more professional level, with experience in a wider range of genres, as well as serious cultural and linguistic challenges. Students will develop their professional practice further and learn to work with the specific standards and practices that are current in the Arabic-speaking world. Students will also be encouraged to reflect critically on prevailing standards and consider ways in which the market can be induced to value greater quality more highly.

AVT 655 Advanced Dubbing   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): AVT 627

This unit follows on from AVT 625 and extends the skills acquired to a more professional level while also introducing students to the actual recording and production of lip-synchronized revoiced AV products. Students will tackle more complex translation and adaptation tasks, learning to deal with a variety of cross-cultural issues, such as the rendering of dialect, slang, taboo language. Students will also learn to adapt for closely lip-synched dubbing.

AVT 658 Special Topics in Audiovisual Translation   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course will take on new topics with specific aims as required by the program

AVT 659 Introduction to Audiovisual Translation   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This is a largely practical course which introduces students to the techniques of various modes of audiovisual translation, including subtitling, dubbing and accessibility. Students will be introduced to the formal and discursive features of these modes: the temporal and spatial constraints, synchronisation, verbal and non-verbal cues, etc. Students will be encouraged to analyse how these branches of audiovisual translation function as a form of inter-semiotic communication and inter-linguistic mediation and reflect on the implications of choosing the most appropriate strategies.

AVT 691 Internship   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613 and AVT 621 and AVT 624 and AVT 627

The Internship aims to help develop HSS MA students' professional competence and understanding of the translation industry in a structured period of practical-work based learning.

AVT 695 Master's Thesis Hours   **1-6 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass

Designed like an independent study, this course supports students in their endeavor to conduct research in the field of Audiovisual Translation Studies. Students can produce a research-based thesis or a translation and commentary thesis of up to 15,000 words. The thesis should display the student's ability to collect/assess data, build an argument; and critically apply the main theories in their area of study.

Intercultural Communication

ICC 600 Foundations, Critical Approaches and Future Challenges in Intercultural Communication   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course introduces scholarly approaches to the study of intercultural communication that have been developed since the inception of this field of enquiry (including religion, ethnicity, race, nationality and ethics). Through discriminating, critical engagement with theory and its scholarly and practical applications, students will think critically and reflectively about the complexity and implications of the choices that intercultural communication actors have to make across settings and will be encouraged to identify the key challenges that lie ahead for intercultural communication in our multicultural societies.

ICC 601 Research in Intercultural Communication: Tools and Methods   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course prepares students to conduct research in Intercultural Communication with the necessary research methods and tools provided by Humanities and Social Sciences. Epistemological foundations of qualitative and quantitative research and major ethical and political issues in research will be provided. Linkages between broader theoretical and conceptual issues and alternative hypotheses will be provided to organize knowledge, construct ideas and present various arguments. Hands-on experiences for research design, data collection and analysis, and writing of research findings will be provided.

ICC 602 Managing Communication in Intercultural Settings   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course introduces students to the challenge of managing communication across national, religious, occupational, gender boundaries in different intercultural settings and to equip them to develop the right skills and mindset to approach intercultural communication.

ICC 603 Intercultural Communication in the Community: Mediation & Interpreting   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course prepares students to work as intercultural communication actors in community settings, with a particular focus on health care, social services, non-governmental settings, where intercultural communication is key to avoid cultural, linguistic and systemic discrimination. Students will be introduced to the ethical questions raised by intercultural communication in these settings, to the main differences between the role of mediators and interpreters (the two main intercultural communication-related occupations in community settings) and will extensively practice their intercultural mediation and interpreting skills

ICC 604 Discourse and Communication Analysis   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course engages students in examining and applying the basic concepts of stylistics and discourse analysis to different communication contexts, text types and genres. The course is intended to enhance students' competence in analyzing and manipulating grammatical, stylistic and rhetorical features of language in multimodal communicative situations. Students will gain insight into, and develop the necessary skills to apply, the different tools and approaches to discourse analysis in various social and cultural settings.

ICC 605 Intercultural Communication in Organizations: Consulting & Management   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course prepares students to work as intercultural communication actors in the profit and non-profit sectors, with a particular focus on business where intercultural communication is key to face the challenges posed by cultural difference to Human Resources, organizational communication, public relations processes. Students will be introduced to the possible difficulties posed by cultural differences in organizations, and will acquire the necessary consulting and management skills to engage in intercultural negotiations and in diverse teams.

ICC 621 Intercultural Communication in Digital Media   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course will develop media literacy to access and evaluate content development and sharing on digital and social media platforms. Research on content creation and its impact on intercultural settings in Qatar will be core. It will offer opportunities for app development, fit for communication processes on Qatari and MENA platforms. Interdisciplinary reflection on the intercultural aspects of digital media will be enhanced in the framework of digital content creation and e-applications to critically approaching identity, acculturation and intercultural communication.

ICC 622 Intercultural Conflict Management   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course will reflect on the challenges of today`s increased global cross-border communication between different cultures and specifically on the communication processes that can be used during interactions in conflict situations between different cultures. Communication strategies will be analyzed. It will explore conflict prone dimensions in intercultural interactions, and design methods for successful communication in conflict situations. As a case study, it will analyze and test cultural management strategies in multicultural business environments and the methods of efficient problem solving.

ICC 623 Mediation Interpreting in Healthcare   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course is offered in the format of the Bridging the Gap Medical Interpreters training offered by WCM-Q and is designed by the US Public Health Services to improve access to healthcare. To meet the need of Qatar's diversified population and to conform to accreditation standards, this WCM-Q based course offers Interpreter skills, Medical Interpreters Code of Ethics, Role of Medical Mediator Interpreters in healthcare settings, Culture and its impact on interpreting, Communication skills and appropriate advocacy, and Medical terminology.

ICC 624 Intercultural Competence in Healthcare   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

At the end of this joint TISD-WCM-Q course, students will be able to value the impact of diversity in healthcare particularly in Qatar. Define in contemporary terms: culture, cultural competence, patient-centered care and cultural humility. Differentiate between cultural competence and patient-centered care. Describe how culture influences both patients and provider's interactions and expectations. Recognize the effect of bias and stereotyping on healthcare quality and describe strategies to reduce their effect.

ICC 625 Diversity, Inclusion and Access   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

The widespread notion of equality of opportunities requires that the issue of discrimination and inclusion be studied so as to find solutions for barriers that hinder people from full access to basic spheres of life, such as healthcare, education, employment, information, culture and/or entertainment. This course aims at introducing students to issues of Diversity, Inclusion and Accessibility from the slant of communication and (dis)ability, leading them to develop innovative communication strategies to enhance equitable access solutions in diverse contexts.

ICC 660 Independent Research Project   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass

The Intercultural Communication program requires students to either undertake an internship or an independent research project. This course allows students to explore their specific research interests within intercultural communication studies. The student will work closely with the supervisor to implement this project within a given time period. The project may be capitalized on for the purposes of the thesis.

ICC 691 Internship   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass

ICC 695 Master's Thesis Hours   **1-6 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass

Translation General Course

TR 611 Introduction to Translation Studies   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course introduces students to the main approaches that have developed in the field of Translation Studies. Beginning with an overview of pre-20thC translation theory, the course follows a chronological trajectory of the development of the major theories in the field, including theories of equivalence, translation products and processes, functionalist approaches, discourse and register analysis, systems theories, norm theory and descriptive translation studies. Through discriminating, critical engagement with theory and its scholarly and practical applications, this course invites students to think critically and reflectively about the complexity and implications of the choices they have to make as translators and scholars.

TR 612 Pragmatic Translation   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

Pragmatic Translation is a foundation practice-oriented course designed for students with little or no background in translation. It aims at developing in students the basic skills and knowledge to perform translation tasks to the required standard in this class, in classes running in parallel and later in other more advanced classes. Translation practical work focuses on four text types: technical, financial, literary and media (audiovisual) texts. Both Arabic and English are used as languages of instruction, as appropriate. Analyzing and discussing Arabic texts requires the use of Arabic, and the same holds for English.

TR 613 Arabic Stylistics for Translators   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course engages students in examining and applying the grammar and stylistics of Arabic discourse in written and oral forms. It will enhance students' competence in manipulating various grammatical, stylistic and rhetorical features of Modern Standard Arabic (MSA). Students are taught to compose and comprehend prose in MSA. Through practical exercises, students will learn to apply relevant analytical tools and use relevant textual conventions in their own writing. Oral communication is also practiced in informal class discussion and formal presentations.

TR 620 Introduction to English/Arabic Interpreting   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

Translation Studies

TSD 621 Current Trends in Translation Studies   **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This course introduces scholarly approaches to the study of translation that have been developed over the last two decades. Students will think critically and reflectively about the community of translators and interpreters. They will engage with the complexity and implications of the choices that translators have to make on a daily basis.

TSD 623 Specialized Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This is a practice-oriented course intended to prepare students for a professional career in the translation market, either as in-house or freelance translators, working with various IGO's and NGO's. The course deals with various types of institutional texts produced by multilingual organizations. Using their linguistic skills and applying theoretical insights gained from other courses, students will be trained to research institutional translation topics, prepare appropriate terminology glossaries and produce professional translations of real source texts generated by IGOs and NGOs.

TSD 624 Translation Technologies   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This is a practical course that introduces students to a selection of language technology tools with a focus on their professional practice. These will range from widely-used open access tools to the industry standard SDL TRADOS (Getting Started level). Students will create and manage translation memories and terminological databases. They will integrate the use of corpora into their translation practice. They will also reflect on the role of machine translation and its application.

TSD 628 Terminology   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course explains the basic principles of terminology and the use of term bases. The theoretical part discusses terminology theory, concepts, definitions, the structure of terminological records, ISO standards and the major international term base formats that are publicly available. It treats concept models and state-of-the-art software and it describes the way in which large translation services make use of term bases. The practical part consists of terminology software exercises (development and maintenance of term bases).

TSD 645 Research Methods in Translation Studies   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613

This course builds on previous methodological and theoretical courses and equips you with the necessary knowledge to carry out your thesis in the second year, whether research- or practice-oriented. Through a review of the main areas of research and inquiry in Translation Studies (TS) and you will learn the principles of designing research projects, reviewing the literature and writing research proposals.

TSD 652 Commercial Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course equips students with the necessary skills for translating texts used in the commercial and business environment. Students will be introduced to styles, formats and functions of commercial texts and will develop methods for dealing with them. Special emphasis will be placed on the difficulties encountered in translating business texts, requiring specific skills and techniques. Contrastive features of commercial texts are examined and related to the translation process. The course also explores the importance of culture in commercial translation.

TSD 653 Media Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This is a practice-oriented course prepares students for a professional career in media translation. It deals with different forms, modes and genres of media texts, focusing in particular on political and economic texts. Students analyze and critically assess various media texts, including hard news reports, investigative reports, interviews, editorialized commentaries, editorials and TV news scripts. Using linguistic skills and applying theoretical and practical insights, students will be trained to produce professional translations of texts generated by media outlets.

TSD 655 Literary Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course will cover the following aspects of literary translation: Features of literary texts: analysis & translation approaches; style in literary translation; approaches to translating literary genres: poetry, theater, fiction, speeches; translating titles; translating metaphors and figures of speech; culture, politics, ideology; the problem of linguistic variety: register, dialect, slang; using footnotes; the working translator: tools & resources, publication. Class discussion is conducted in both Arabic and English.

TSD 656 Intercultural Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course examines intercultural issues central to translation studies today. Studying translation in different cultures and historical contexts, the course highlights the significant role that translators have played in enriching national languages, spreading religious creeds, and framing intellectual and political encounters across linguistic communities. Students are introduced to the current theoretical debates on translation and intercultural communication. Special emphasis is placed on the role of translation in the construction of the foreign as a primary tool of representing/misrepresenting cultural others.

TSD 657 Legal Translation   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course aims at providing students with extensive experience in translating legal texts from English into Arabic and vice versa. It introduces students to the textual and rhetorical standards adopted in various legal texts in Arabic and English. It develops in students the critical thinking and research skills needed to successfully deal with legal translation quality assessment (revision), including the importance of legal terminology, text function, and intercultural contexts (since law is part of culture).

TSD 658 Special Topics in Translation Studies   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course will take on new topics with specific aims as required by the program.

TSD 691 Internship   3 Credits
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass
Prerequisite(s): TR 611 and TR 612 and TR 613 and TSD 621 and TSD 623 and TSD 624

The Internship aims to help develop HSS MA students' professional competence and understanding of the translation industry in a structured period of practical-work based learning

TSD 695 Master's Thesis Hours   **1-6 Credits**
Grade Mode: Pass/Non Pass

Designed like an independent study, this course supports students in their endeavor to conduct research in the field of Translation Studies. Students can produce a research-based thesis or a translation and commentary thesis of up to 15,000 words. The thesis should display the student's ability to collect/assess data, build an argument; and critically apply the main theories in their area of study.