Translation

Director, World Languages, Literatures and Cultures
• Jill N. Beckman (Linguistics)

Director, Translation
• Aron R. Aji (World Languages, Literatures and Cultures)

Undergraduate major: translation (B.A.)
Undergraduate minor: translation for global literacy
Graduate degree: M.F.A. in literary translation
Graduate certificate: literary translation
Faculty: https://translation.uiowa.edu/people
Website: https://translation.uiowa.edu/

Translation Courses

TRNS:1000 First-Year Seminar 1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities, field trips). Requirements: first-semester standing.

TRNS:1240 World Literature in Translation I 3 s.h.
Reading and analysis of major literary texts from writing’s origins to 1700 in the Mediterranean, Asia, and Africa; interrelationship of literature and history. Taught in English. GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts. Same as CL:1240, CLSA:1040.

TRNS:1241 World Literature: 1700 to Present 3 s.h.
Reading and analysis of major literary texts from 18th century to present in chronological sequence; emphasis on interrelationship of literature and history. Requirements: completion of GE CLAS Core Rhetoric. GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts. Same as CL:1241.

TRNS:2000 Translation and Global Society 3 s.h.
Contexts and functions of translation in the age of globalization; how translations are produced, received, and utilized in various contexts; effects of globalization on ethics, aesthetics, and politics of translation; how we understand cultures when they are received or transmitted through translation; effects of these exchanges on the English language. GE: Diversity and Inclusion.

TRNS:2001 Global Science Fiction 3 s.h.

TRNS:2248 The Invention of Writing: From Cuneiform to Computers 3 s.h.
Invention of writing as one of the most momentous events in the history of human civilizations; how the use of written sign systems, notations, maps, graphs, encryptions, and most recently, computer programs have consequences that reach deeply into all aspects of people’s lives; how writing fascinates and delights, fosters reflexive thinking and facilitates development of complex societies, and gives rise to institutions of social power and control; students explore the invention of writing and its consequences in broad international and interdisciplinary context. Taught in English. Same as ANTH:2248, ASIA:2248, CL:2248, CLSA:2048, COMM:2248, GRMN:2248, HIST:2148, IS:2248, LING:2248, WLLC:2248.

TRNS:2473 Cinderella 3 s.h.
Comparative analysis of Cinderella stories from around the world including Asia, Europe, Africa, South America; readings, discussion, workshops, and writing; consideration of visual and material presentation of Cinderella stories in physical books. Taught in English. Same as FREN:2473, WLLC:2473.

TRNS:2578 Translation in the Humanities: Modes and Approaches 3 s.h.
Introduction to translation in several humanistic modes including philosophy, poetry, fiction, biography, memoir, history, oral history, popular science, literary correspondence, public essays, and the retranslation of classical works; overview of translation history and theory; ethical, practical, technological, and commercial approaches to translation; language background or prior exposure to translation not required.

TRNS:3001 Reading for Translation: Text Analysis 3 s.h.
Required skills and vocabulary to identify and discuss elements of literary texts; formal and genre distinctions, historical and theoretical approaches to analyzing literature, and comparative methods.

TRNS:3122 Tolstoy and Dostoevsky 3-4 s.h.
Tolstoy’s War and Peace and Anna Karenina; Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment, The Demons, and short stories. Taught in English. Same as RUSS:3122, WLLC:3122.

TRNS:3179 Undergraduate Translation Workshop 3 s.h.
Translation exercises, discussion of translation works in progress; alternative strategies for translation projects. Same as CLSA:3979, ENGL:3850.

TRNS:3189 Undergraduate Translation Workshop II 3 s.h.
Continued training through translation exercises, discussion of translation works in progress; alternative strategies for translation projects. Prerequisites: TRNS:3179.

TRNS:3191 International Literature Today 1,3 s.h.
English majors and English and Creative Writing majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Transnational Literature and Postcolonial Studies. PERIOD: 20th/21st-Century Literature. Same as ENGL:3595, IWP:3191, WLLC:3191.

TRNS:3200 Literary Translation from German 3 s.h.
Workshop and seminar on translating from German to English; emphasis on literary translations and studying existing translations; special issues of German as a source language for translation into English. Taught in English and German. Requirements: prior completion of two German courses at the 3000 level or above. Same as GRMN:3200.
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TRNS:4050</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Focused study on topic of student's choosing under direction of faculty member. Requirements: permission of the student's academic advisor or the program coordinator of the undergraduate minor in translation for global literacy.</td>
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<td>TRNS:4131</td>
<td>Critical Reading</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Analysis of different types of texts—theoretical, cultural, political, philosophical, literary, poetic—and exploration of varying ways to frame and read them. Same as WLLC:4131.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRNS:4470</td>
<td>Translating Style</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>How do translators carry style over from one language and cultural milieu to another? To what extent does style structure storytelling? Exploration of these questions through a variety of readings by modern and contemporary stylists who either write in English or translate into English; special attention to what stylistic devices are at work and what their implications are for narration, characterization, and world building.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRNS:4480</td>
<td>Literature and Translation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Translation in the broadest sense; originality, authority, authorship, accuracy, ownership, audience; issues problematicizing differences between medium and message.</td>
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<td>TRNS:4500</td>
<td>Undergraduate Capstone Project</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>Culmination of undergraduate minor in translation for global literacy; translation manuscript or a scholarly/research thesis on topics relevant to scope of minor. Requirements: approval of the program coordinator of the undergraduate minor in translation for global literacy; consent of a faculty member willing to serve as director of the capstone project.</td>
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<td>TRNS:4660</td>
<td>Transcultural Texts and Translations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Exploration of transcultural texts and films that have contributed to reshape the Italian cultural landscape; analysis and discussion of topics including migration and diaspora, belonging and exclusion, memory and nostalgia, prejudices and other obstacles to integration, use of language as a means of rejection and connection, struggles of new generations, hybrid identities, and imagined transformations that foster constructive interactions between cultures, histories, and languages; reflection and engagement in the practice of translation as a way of honing linguistic and cultural competency. Taught in Italian. Recommendations: at least one course taught in Italian at the 2000 level or above. Same as ITAL:4660.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRNS:4800</td>
<td>Seminar in Comparative Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Focus on comparative, interdisciplinary, theoretical, and/or inter-arts topic; topics vary; required for comparative literature major. Taught in English. Same as CL:4800, GRMN:4800, GWSS:4800, WLLC:4801.</td>
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<td>TRNS:5210</td>
<td>International Translation Workshop</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>International writers pair with University of Iowa translators to write new works of poetry and fiction in English; second-language fluency not required for international writers. Same as IWP:5205.</td>
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<td>TRNS:5491</td>
<td>Advanced Translation Internship</td>
<td>arr.</td>
<td>Internship with the Translate Iowa Project. Taught in English. Requirements: TRNS:2000 or TRNS:3179 or TRNS:3202 or ENGL:3724 or JPN:3201 or SPAN:3030 or SPAN:3050 or SPAN:4980. Same as ARAB:3498.</td>
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<td>TRNS:5500</td>
<td>Advanced Translation Practice</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Substantial translation project guided by a faculty advisor; readings and assignments designed to help translator with particular tasks and challenges presented by the project; translation and critical/reflective writing. Prerequisites: TRNS:6459 and TRNS:7460. Requirements: advanced-level translator in literary translation M.F.A. program.</td>
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TRNS:5999 Publishing, Prizes, and Prestige  3 s.h.
Introduction to contemporary world literature and its producers, circulation, and gatekeepers; students award the annual Translator’s Choice Award for a literary translation published in the previous calendar year. Taught in English.

TRNS:6000 The Craft and Contexts of Translation  1,3 s.h.
Focus on craft and contexts of translation practice; provides students with information and experience regarding the profession and practice of translation; readings, reflective writing, and participation at guest events that focus on topics and practices relevant to the craft and professional contexts of translation.

TRNS:6050 Independent Study  arr.

TRNS:6400 Thesis  arr.
Translation thesis with critical introduction.

TRNS:6444 Thesis Workshop  3 s.h.
Intensive multi-language workshop; focus on M.F.A. thesis manuscript and critical paratext; translations from various languages into English. Prerequisites: TRNS:7460. Requirements: second-year standing in M.F.A. literary translation.

TRNS:6459 Issues in Translation  3 s.h.
Contemporary and historical theories.

TRNS:6555 Translator-in-Residence Workshop  3 s.h.
Translation workshop facilitated by the translator-in-residence; focus on review and revision of student manuscripts; readings on technique and theories, translation practice, and manuscript review.

TRNS:7460 Translation Workshop  3 s.h.
Requirements: at least one foreign language. Same as IWP:7460.