

Translation Lab by Mostafa Taha

Course flow:

| Week No. | Topic | Learning objectives | Assignments | |
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| | | | During session | After session |
| Week 1 | Understanding the Text | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How is reading for translation purposes different? - How to deconstruct a text? - How to determine the exact meaning intended based on context? - Using monolingual dictionaries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying learning objectives on ‘Arabic translators did far more than just preserve Greek philosophy’ article | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watching ‘Arrival’ movie - Reading ‘Naughty words’ article. - Create a translation Diary |
| Week 2 | Follow up and practice | Practicing and discussion of week 1 assignments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing the movie and the article from last week assignments - Applying learning objectives on ‘Why languages and dialects really are different animals’ article | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying learning objectives on the assigned course project |
| Week 3 | Transferring the meaning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why should a translator see through the reader's eyes? - How to escape from the source text while translating? - How to draft your translation? - Using lexicons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translating a part of ‘Why learning a new language is like an illicit love affair’ article into Modern Standard Arabic - Retranslating the same part into Egyptian Arabic dialect. - Comparing the two versions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading ‘Thoughts into words’ article - Translating ‘Simplicity or style: what makes a sentence a masterpiece?’ article into Modern Standard Arabic |
| Week 4 | Follow up and practice | Practicing and discussion of week 3 assignments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing reading - Checking translated articles and giving feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying learning objectives on the assigned course project |

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| | | | - Translating a video subtitles | |
| Week 5 | Polishing your writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why is self-revision important? - Does your text sound “original”? - What to look for when revising? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revising our own translations for the ‘Simplicity or style: what makes a sentence a masterpiece?’ article | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading ‘A history of punctuation’ article - Reading Chapters 10 and 13 of ‘Revising and Editing for Translators’ book (will be provided in PDF) |
| Week 6 | Follow up and practice | Practicing and discussion of week 5 assignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing readings - Translating a short news article and trying to revise while drafting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying learning objectives on the assigned course project |
| Week 7 | Translation technology | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How is the translation scene changing? - Is the technology good or bad by nature? - When to decide to use Machine translation and how? - Is MTPE a translation or a revision task? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing google translate - Testing Tarjama’s engine - Revising a machine translated version of the ‘Simplicity or style: what makes a sentence a masterpiece?’ article | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading ‘Shitloads and zingers: on the perils of machine translation’ - Reading ‘Robo-writers: the rise and risks of language-generating AI’ article |
| Week 8 | Follow up and practice | Practicing and discussion of week 7 assignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing readings - Open discussion: Should we be using Machine translation early in our careers? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying learning objectives on the assigned course project |
| Week 9 | The whole process | Practicing the whole process as one, not in stages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Translating a part of ‘L’art de la traduction’ article | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing a group translation for the article |
| Week 10 | Working on projects | Checking progress of work projects and providing feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing difficulties they faced in projects and suggesting solutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working on projects |
| Week 11 | Working on projects | Completing assigned projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing difficulties they faced in projects and suggesting solutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finishing and submitting the projects |