2201760
Research Methods in Translation

Course Description

The course looks at current research methods in translation. Its main objective is to offer guidance and training to students in the preparation of appropriate research proposals, especially for an MA thesis. Topics include the layout of a research report in translation, hypothesis statement, sampling, data gathering and analysis. The collected linguistic data may exemplify different fields of written translation and interpreting. Students are also expected to produce a short research paper applying the methods and skills they have learnt.

Course Objectives

This course aims to:

- Teach students the areas, issues, and methodologies used in Translation Studies
- Train them on how to conduct a research in Translation Studies
- Teach them how to write a research proposal, paper, and/or thesis

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- Explain the theory involved in comparative, process, and causal models of translation studies
- Differentiate between conceptual and empirical research
- Recognize a variety of research areas in Translation Studies: Text analysis; quality assessment; genre translation; multimedia translation; translation process, technology, history, and ethics; terminology; interpreting; translator training; and translation profession
- Critique published pieces of research in terms of hypothesis, methodology, results, and significance
- Locate published pieces of research in the map of Translation Studies
- Appreciate a variety of data collection methodologies
- Make interpretive, descriptive, explanatory, and predictive hypotheses and claims
- Write research questions that operationalize their hypotheses
- Test their research hypotheses
- Identify variables and variable relations
- Perform quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- Quote and cite references in text
- Review and report relevant literature on their research topic
- Describe their research methodology
- Discuss their results and draw conclusions
- Write an introduction and an abstract
- Document their research and compile their references

Assessment

This course shall be assessed as follows:

Presentations:	20
Assignments:	20
Mid Term Exam:	20
Research Paper:	20
Final Exam:	20

Syllabus

Week	Topic	Reference
1	• Introduction • What is research, why, and how to go about it	Compile a list of all indexed translation journals.
2	• Areas in translation research • Research planning	Compile a list of M.A. and Ph.D. theses in Jordan, UK, Canada, U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand, South Africa.
3	• Theoretical models of translation • Kinds of research	Choose a research topic and write a title for it. Identify the model of translation it will adopt and the kind of research it will be. Justify all that.
4	• Questions, claims, hypotheses • Relations between variables	Outline the research methodology in **3** pieces of empirical research.
5	• Selecting and analyzing data • An overview of how to write the research report	Compile a list of phrases used in **3** journal articles to introduce previous studies, their topics, research methodologies, and topics.
6	• Presenting the research • Assessing the research	Compile a list of the phrases used in **3** journal articles to introduce the results of three pieces of empirical research.
7	• Writing the literature review • EndNote	Compile a list of the references you will use in your own research using EndNote.
8	• Researching interpreting • Reflections on the literal translation hypothesis	Write your own Literature Review section.
9	• Writing the research methodology	Write your own Research Methodology section.
10	• Tracking Translator's Key Strokes and Eye Movement • Seeing Translation from Inside the Translator's Mind • Camtasia	Write your own References section.
11	• Writing the results and discussion	Write your own Results section.
12	• Controlled Psycholinguistic Investigation • Investigation of Cognitive Translation Processes	Write your own Discussion section.
13	• Writing the introduction, conclusion, and abstract	Write your own Conclusion section.
14	• Time Lag Investigation • Reception Study and Subtitling	Write your own Introduction section.
15	• Researching Errors and Omissions in Broadcast Interpreting • Researching Cognitive Processes during the Translation of Humor	Write your own Abstract section.

References

- Williams, Jenny & Andrew Chesterman. (2002). *The MAP: A Beginner's Guide to Doing Research in Translation Studies*. Manchester: St. Jerome.
- Hatim, Basil. (2001). *Teaching and Researching Translation*. London: Pearson Education Ltd.
- Alvsted, Cecilia, Adelina Hild, and Elisabet Tiselius. (2001). *Methods and Strategies of Process Research: Integrative Approaches in Translation Studies*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing.
- Wallwork, A. (2011). *English for Writing Research Papers*. New York City: Springer Science and Business Media.
- Thomson Reuters. (2013). EndNote Web [Computer Software]. Carlsbad, CA: Thomson Reuters (Scientific) Inc.
- TechSmith Corporation. (2012). Camtasia Studio. Okemos, Michigan: TechSmith.