

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Course record information

Name and level of final award:	BA (Hons) Translation Spanish BA (Hons) Translation French
Name and level of intermediate awards:	Diploma of Higher Education
Awarding body/institution:	University of Westminster
Teaching Institution:	University of Westminster
Status of awarding body/institution:	Recognised Body
Location of delivery:	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment:	<u>French or Spanish</u> and English
Mode, length of study and normal starting month:	Three or four years full time (with optional year abroad) Six or eight years part time (with optional year abroad)
<u>QAA subject benchmarking groups:</u>	Languages and Related Subjects qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Languages-and-related-studies.pdf
Professional statutory or regulatory body:	Not applicable
Date of course validation/review:	February 2015
Date of programme specification approval:	April 2016
Valid for cohorts:	2016/17 Levels 4 and 5; 2017/18 Levels 4, 5 and 6
Current Course Leader:	Saskia Huc-Hepher, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures
UCAS code and URL:	BA (Hons) Translation Studies Spanish QR94 westminster.ac.uk/courses/spanish BA (Hons) Translation Studies French QR91 westminster.ac.uk/courses/french

What are the minimum entry requirements for the course?

There are standard minimum [entry requirements](#) for all undergraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information.

westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply

For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements.

More information can be found here: westminster.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/how-to-apply

BA (Hons) Translation Studies –French or Spanish

Aims of the course

The aims of the course are determined by its specific focus on the professional contexts of Language mediation and level of linguistic competence. The BA Translation seeks to enable students to acquire knowledge of language structure, register, textuality and discourse by the application of linguistic concepts to practically-orientated translation tasks. It seeks to equip students with critical self-reflection, intercultural awareness, understanding and competence appropriate to the level of linguistic and cultural competence of aspiring translators. The course aspires to provide undergraduate linguists with professionally-orientated training in the generic and specific skills, knowledge and competencies which will allow them subsequently to develop a career as a professional translator.

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning. These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

- The overall **knowledge and understanding** you will gain from your course (KU).
- **Graduate attributes** are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA).
- **Professional and personal practice learning outcomes** are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP).
- **Key transferable skills** that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (KTS).

Level 4

Upon successful completion of level 4 students will be able to demonstrate:

1. a degree of in-depth knowledge of at least two languages in a variety of professional mediation contexts;
2. some sensitivity to cultural significance in language transfer processes and an elementary appreciation for ambiguity;
3. a general understanding of the major concepts and theories underpinning linguistic mediation;
4. competency in transferring mainly factual and explicit content from and into the foreign language;
5. the ability to undertake basic forms of textual analysis, applying appropriate

- linguistic concepts;
6. the capacity to make straightforward use of IT tools relevant to translators;
 7. the ability to communicate effectively in a limited range of registers and modes, paying close attention to detail;
 8. emerging competency in working productively, resourcefully and efficiently alone or as part of a team.

Level 5

Upon successful completion of level 5 students will be able to demonstrate:

1. in-depth knowledge of at least two languages in a variety of professional mediation contexts;
2. sensitivity to cultural significance in language transfer processes and a mounting appreciation for ambiguity;
3. a sound understanding of key sociolinguistic and discourse-analytical concepts of relevance to translation practice;
4. competency in transferring increasingly conceptual and complex content from and into the foreign language;
5. the ability to undertake refined forms of textual analysis, applying appropriate linguistic concepts;
6. the capacity to make use of basic features in specialist IT tools for translators;
7. the ability to communicate effectively in a range of registers and modes, in increasingly sophisticated contexts, paying close attention to detail;
8. advanced competency in working productively, resourcefully and efficiently alone or as part of a team.

Level 6

Upon successful completion of level 6 students will demonstrate:

1. in-depth and semi-specialised knowledge of at least two languages in a variety of professional mediation contexts;
2. full sensitivity to cultural significance in language transfer processes and a critical appreciation for ambiguity;
3. a critical, reflective and comprehensive understanding of intellectually-challenging theoretical ideas relevant to the work of the translator and the analysis of texts;
4. competency in transferring abstract, complex and at times specialised [OR rhetorically and conceptually complex] content from and into the foreign language to a professionally-acceptable standard;
5. the ability to independently identify, select, synthesise and apply a full range of scholarly material and resources appropriate to the completion of a translation and/or research project;
6. the capacity to make use of advanced features in specialist IT tools for translators;
7. the ability to communicate effectively and analytically in a broad range of registers and modes, paying close attention to detail, at a near-professional level;
8. full competency in working productively, resourcefully and efficiently alone or as part of a team.

How will you learn?

In Translation teaching and learning takes place through a combination of formal lectures, seminars and practical workshops; guided self-study and preparation; exposure to professionally relevant simulations and real-work environments. It is particularly important that you are aware that the extent to which you will benefit from formal language teaching and workshop discussion and analysis is directly proportionate to the thoroughness of the independent preparation and review work you undertake, individually or through group work, before and after timetabled events.

Learning on the degree takes place in the classroom through small problem-solving exercises (both in groups and individually), through traditional lecturer-led dissemination of information, and via peer presentations and discussions. Contact time is designed to introduce new concepts, new information, foster your analytic skills, and supervise your own small research projects as a springboard for your own, increasingly independent academic and intellectual development. The vast majority of learning takes place beyond the contact time individually and in groups in the well-resourced and recently refurbished library, at home and via the online learning provision. Independent study is a key learning skill for academic study and for your future employability. It may take various forms: examples include group collaborative tasks, research, reading, revision, assessment preparation, projects that feed into presentation and debates, lab or studio based work. All course modules employ the on-line learning system, Blackboard, for the dissemination of information, the accumulation of study materials, assessment, and in some cases on-line discussion.

How will you be assessed?

The course has a strong professional orientation and assessments are designed to reflect real-world tasks: they will typically identify a professional context and specify a particular format in which the task is to be undertaken, or require you to communicate to an audience who will bring to your message identifiable, and often culturally-specific, assumptions. You are also expected to develop an understanding of the professional relevance of the assessments you undertake as part of the course and to incorporate this reflection on this aspect of your work in your e-portfolio.

The course offers a range of formative and summative assessments which aim to both assess and nurture your intellectual and academic development. Assessments typically comprise a mixture of formative in-class coursework and summative essays and projects, class contributions and presentations and oral and unseen written examination. Assessment is designed to give you an opportunity to develop your linguistic, analytic and critical skills and demonstrate your understanding of the topic. Both formative and summative assessment are given written feedback explaining the grade (when applicable), the strengths of the work, and ways in which you will be able to improve your work in future.

Employment and further study opportunities

University of Westminster graduates will be able to demonstrate the following five Graduate Attributes:

- Critical and creative thinkers
- Literate and effective communicator
- Entrepreneurial
- Global in outlook and engaged in communities
- Social, ethically and environmentally aware

University of Westminster courses capitalise on the benefits that London as a global city and as a major creative, intellectual and technology hub has to offer for the learning environment and experience of our students.

The BA (Hons) Translation aims to create graduates who are articulate in their use of language and sophisticated and discerning transposed in their understanding of how language and culture are structured and used, and trans-created. Graduates of this degree will possess an array of important transferable skills involving their ability to critically evaluate and use theory, accurate and precise analytic skills, and strong skills of organisation and planning. Engagement in small research projects and the associated ethical issues ensures that students of this degree have experience of considering and complying with ethical requirements. The range of language skills and cultural competences and critical abilities taught in the degree will allow you to function with a high degree of linguistic and cultural autonomy, and develop the interlingual and intercultural competences and sensitivities associated with an international outlook and global citizenship.

Course structure

BA Translation Studies French/Spanish

This section lists the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Undergraduate students study 120 credits per year. Diagrams showing the pattern of modules across the academic year are in the second part of this section

Students can take **either** the yellow **or** the light blue core modules as their complementary study to translation.

A/C/F/S in the tables below indicates Arabic, Chinese, French or Spanish.

Credit Level 4				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4TRSL001W	Introduction to Translation 1	Core	20	10
4TRSL002W	Introduction to Translation 2	Core	20	10
4LANS001W	Introduction to the Study of Language and Culture	Core	20	10
4ARAB001W (A) 4CHIN001W (C) 4FRNC001W (F) 4SPAN001W (S)	The Arab/Chinese/French/Spanish World and the Word 1	Core	20	10
4ARAB002W (A) 4CHIN002W (C) 4FRNC002W (F) 4SPAN002W (S)	The Arab/Chinese/French/Spanish World and the Word 2	Core	20	10
4LANS003W	Interpersonal Global Communication: Concepts and Strategies	Core	20	10
4LANS004W	Intercultural communication : an introduction	Core/Option	20	10
4LANS005W	Objects and Meaning: World Cultures in London Galleries and Museums	Option	20	10
Westminster Electives				
Award of Certificate of Higher Education available				
Credit Level 5				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5TRSL001W	Building Translation Competence 1	Core	20	10
5TRSL002W	Building Translation Competence 2	Core	20	10
5ARAB001W (A) 5CHIN001W (C) 5FRNC001W (F) 5SPAN001W (S)	Expressions of A/C/F/S Culture 1	Core	20	10
5ARAB002W (A) 5CHIN002W (C) 5FRNC002W (F) 5SPAN002W (S)	Expressions of A/C/F/S Culture 2	Core	20	10
5LANS006W	Complex Narratives: Representation, Meaning and Identity	Option	20	10
5LANS001W	Language Power and Institutions: Decoding Dominant Narratives	Core/Option	20	10
5LANS005W	Multilingual e-Collaboration: Transposing Current Affairs	Option	20	10
5LANS008W	Transnational Issues and Local Cultures on Film	Option	20	10
5LANS007W	Culture(s) and Conflict(s): Representations of War Conflict and Revolution across World Cultures	Option	20	10
Westminster Electives				
Award of Diploma of Higher Education or Foundation Degree available				
Year Abroad Available				

Credit Level 6				
Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
6TRSL001W	Towards Professional Translation 1	Core	20	10
6TRSL002W	Towards Professional Translation 2	Core	20	10
6TRSL003W	Translation Project	Core	20	10
6ARAB001W 6CHIN001W 6FRNC001W 6SPAN001W	Themes in Arabic/Chinese/French/Hispanic Studies	Core	20	10
6LANS002W	Professionalising Global Communication	Core	20	10
6LANS006W	People and things on the move: Identity place and memory in and across diasporic spaces	Option	20	10
6LANS004W	Gender Matters: Femininities Masculinities and Trans-Cultural Practice	Option	20	10
6LANS005W	Dreaming the same Dream? Concepts of Happiness Across Cultures	Option	20	10
6LANS007W	Developing Career Competences for Linguists	Option	20	10
6LANS003W	Narrating the Other: Politics and Literature	Option	20	10
	Westminster Electives			
Award BA available				
Award BA Honours available				

Level 4

Semester 1, 20 credits	Semester 2, 20 credits
Introduction to Translation 1	Introduction to Translation 2
Introduction to Language and Culture Study core	Option/Elective
The A/C/F/S World and the Word 1 OR	The A/C/F/S World and the Word 1 OR
Interpersonal Global Communication	Intercultural Communication

Level 5

Semester 1, 20 credits	Semester 2, 20 credits
Building Translation Competence 1	Building Translation Competence 2
Option	Option/Elective
Expressions of A/C/F/S Culture 1 OR	Expressions of A/C/F/S Culture 2 OR
Talking to the World	Language, Power and Institutions

Year Abroad (optional)

Semester 1, 60 credits	Semester 2, 60 credits
5LANS003W	5LANS004W

Level 6

Semester 1, 20 credits	Semester 2, 20 credits
Towards Professional Translation 1	Towards Professional Translation 2
Option / Elective	Option MLC
Professional Communication OR	
Themes in A/C/F/S Studies 20 credits yearlong	
Translation Project 20 credits yearlong	

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations

How will you be supported in your studies? Course Management

Course Leader for BA Translation: Saskia Huc-Hepher, Senior Lecturer in French Studies

Head of Department, Modern Languages and Cultures: Dr Gerda Wielander, Reader in Chinese Studies

Senior Tutor: Dr Elizabeth Waters, Principal Lecturer in Modern Languages and Cultures

The degree has a designated course leader whom you will meet during Orientation Week and who is available for consultation during weekly office hours throughout the year or by appointment. During March of the first and second year, you will have the opportunity to choose your option modules for the following year after consultation with academic staff. Individual modules each have a module leader who is responsible for the smooth running of that module. Module leaders are available during term-time during their office hours or by appointment. The degree is one of several BAs offered in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures and students are members of its vibrant academic community with access to a full programme of extra-curricular seminars and social events. At all levels of your university study you will have a designated personal tutor to whom you may turn for general personal and academic advice.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an orientation programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Faculty Registry Office. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which gives detailed information about the course. You have a course leader, and you will be assigned to both an academic tutor to support you in your studies and a personal tutor who can provide guidance on other matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where you can access your course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students.

Learning Support

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend study skills workshops and one-to-one appointments.

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group work, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. You can also choose from several computer rooms at

each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the course. You can also securely connect your own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student Affairs department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University.

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel in 2015. The panel included internal peers from the University and academics from other universities. This helps to ensure the comparability of the course to those offered in other universities and the relevance to employers.

The course is also monitored each year by the Faculty to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the outcomes from Course Committees, evidence of student progression and achievement and the reports from external examiners, to evaluate the effectiveness of the course. Each Faculty puts into place an action plan. This may, for example, include making changes on the way the module is taught, assessed or even how the course is structured in order to improve the course. There is an approval process for such changes.

A Course Review takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers and to further study. Students meet with review panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years, e.g. from Course Committees, is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through Course Committees students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Student representatives are elected to Committee to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the student representatives.
- Each Faculty also has its own Faculty Student Forum with student representatives; this enables wider discussions across the Faculty. Student representatives are also represented on key Faculty and university committees.
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader of the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- The University also has an annual Student Experience Survey which seeks the opinions of students about their course and University experience. Final year undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

Please note: This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification should be read in conjunction with the Course Handbook provided to students and Module Handbooks, which provide more detailed information on the specific learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods for each module.

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