

MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The University of Westminster has a rich portfolio of postgraduate courses in modern languages and cultures.

The Specialised Translation MA and the Translation and Interpreting MA focus on professional skills leading directly into careers in the translation and interpreting industry. The International Liaison and Communication MA focuses on liaison, negotiation and intercultural communication.

Our postgraduate courses are delivered by highly skilled professionals in the field of translation, interpreting and international liaison. Their practice-led approach is complemented by theory informed lectures and seminars, taught by academics, whose research lies in the field of translation studies, intercultural communication and cultural studies.



95% of students say that staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching

Source: Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2018



DIPLOMA IN TRANSLATION

(INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST IOLET)

Our Diploma in Translation (DipTrans) preparation course aims to support students in working towards the Diploma in Translation exam. It is delivered in 'blended learning' mode and comprises a series of Saturday workshops throughout the year as well as regular online translation assignments.

The DipTrans is the oldest professional qualification of its kind, widely recognised by employers in the UK and around the world, and is intended for working translators and for those who wish to embark on a career in professional translation. It is a postgraduate-level professional qualification offered by the Institute of Linguists Educational Trust (IoLET).

Who is the course for?

Our Diploma in Translation preparation course is for you if you:

- are a native speaker of the target language (the language you will be translating into in the exam)
- have degree-level (or equivalent) proficiency in the source language (the language you are translating from in the exam)
- want to gain a professional qualification to embark on a career in translation

Course content

Our Diploma in Translation preparation course runs for one calendar year and gradually builds your translation competence to exam level. From January to May and again from September to December, you will be attending monthly on-site workshops, which will cover important translation and exam basics as well as topics such as effective subject research and terminology management, text analysis for translation purposes, translation and revision strategies and, towards the end of the year, targeted exam skills training. Each of these topical sessions will be followed by language-specific sessions with your translation tutor*. In addition, you will, throughout the year, complete a monthly translation assignment online and will receive tailored feedback on your translations from your designated translation tutor.

You will learn to:

- analyse and assess a variety of texts or text types in the source and target language
- apply practical translation skills to the standard required of a newly qualified translator
- explain and justify translation solutions
- carry out cultural and lexical research relevant to a variety of topics

Length of course: one year, starting in January

Location: Central London (see map p200)

Fees and funding: see course web page

Entry requirements: see course web page

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:

westminster.ac.uk/diptrans

Teaching methods

The course is taught through a combination of on-site workshops and online translation assignment, on which you will receive individual written feedback. Our lecturers use a variety of both face-to-face and distance learning methods to equip you with the skills needed to further your translation skills, such as:

- sight translation
- group translation
- text analysis for translation purposes
- strategy discussion
- individual written feedback on translation assignments
- research methods for translation purposes
- glossary building and editing
- analysis of past exam papers and reports

Before enrolling on the course, all candidates are required to pass an admissions test. More information can be found on our course page: westminster.ac.uk/diptrans

Exam

The DipTrans exam takes place every January and the University of Westminster is one of several exam centres for the Diploma in Translation. It is important that you are aware that the DipTrans exam fee is not included in the preparation course fee. You will need to register for the DipTrans exam independently of taking the course. You can also register for the Diploma in Translation exam without having taken a preparatory course.

For more information on taking the DipTrans exam at Westminster, see westminster.ac.uk/study/language-tests/diploma-in-translation-exams

Cancellations

Please also note that all classes are subject to sufficient enrolment. Each course needs to recruit a minimum number of students in order to run. In the event of a class cancellation due to insufficient numbers of students registering, you will be informed in advance and you will receive a full refund of the fees paid for the course.

*Languages subject to annual confirmation

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON AND COMMUNICATION MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September or January

Location: Central London (see map p200)

Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees

Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:

westminster.ac.uk/international-liaison-and-communication-ma

This is a dynamic, pioneering interdisciplinary Masters course which meets the global demand for greater professionalism in interpersonal and inter-institutional bilingual communication.

The course will focus on enhancing your personal skills as a communicator and facilitator of communication. This can be as an advocate, as a mediator, communication strategist, intermediary or communication facilitator. Firmly grounded on the latest international communications theories and using real life simulations, you will learn to locate and analyse resources, pre-empt communications challenges and develop strategies to overcome obstacles to successful interaction.

The course will enrich your knowledge and application of the key paradigms of international communication, information handling and presentation in a range of contexts in the fields of cultural diplomacy, international media, international business, and international NGOs, among others. It also enhances your competencies in handling information across and between languages and cultures, in various professional settings.

You will have the training and preparation to make significant contributions in your chosen profession.

Course applicants typically come from fields such as language studies, translation and interpreting, social work, teaching, journalism and other areas of the media as well as from public office. However, the course will prove invaluable to anyone with high-level bilingual competence and experience in mediation between peoples from different cultural backgrounds.

Course content

You will take three core modules, two of which are taught and the third is research based. Theories and Practices of Global Communication covers the key underpinning knowledge and analytical tools for the programme as well as your abilities as a presenter of information. International Liaison focuses on your practical communication competences.

In the research component you have the choice of an MA Thesis (the Dissertation module), conducting research into a topic of your choice, or a Professional Project where you apply your knowledge and expertise to creating a communication strategy. In both you are required to demonstrate research competence at Masters level. You then have the choice of four option modules to complete the MA.



Core modules

- International Liaison
- Professional Project OR Dissertation
- Theories and Practice of Global Communication

Option modules

- Intercultural Communication
- International Organisations and Institutional Discourse
- Migration and Cultural Encounters
- Sociolinguistics
- Values, Beliefs and Media Narratives

Associated careers

Course graduates have gained success in communications-related positions in NGOs, diplomatic missions, international divisions of business and international organisations, as well as achieving a step-change in their original professions.

SPECIALISED TRANSLATION MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time (day-time attendance), starting in September
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:
westminster.ac.uk/specialised-translation-ma

The Specialised Translation MA is open to native and non-native speakers of English, who combine English with any of the following languages: Chinese, French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish. At the heart of the Specialised Translation MA lie our weekly practical translation classes between English and one of the languages listed.

If you are studying the Specialised Translation MA with English and one other language, you will also be attending modules that introduce you to audio-visual and computer-assisted translation, revision, editing, post-editing, quality assurance, and project management skills for translators. If you are a native speaker of English and would like to study translation with two of the above languages, you can elect to replace the Audio-visual and Computer-assisted Translation and Quality Assurance and Project Management modules with a further two Specialised Translation modules in your second foreign language.

The Specialised Translation MA will prepare you for a career in the translation market. Building on your existing language skills, you will learn how to research specialised subjects to produce, with and without the use of translation memory software tools, commercially usable translations of specialised technical and institutional texts, applying insights drawn from linguistics and translation theory as well as from professional practice. All students will also attend a comprehensive programme of professional development activities and be able to complement the knowledge and skills acquired on the core modules by choosing either Translation as Cultural Practice or International Organisations and Institutional Discourses as an option module.

You will benefit from our wide range of resources, including an extensive collection of volumes and electronic materials in our library, specialised software applications, and additional resources made available through the University's Virtual Learning Environment. Our teaching staff include full and part-time lecturers, all with professional expertise in translation and other specialist fields.

Course content

The course emphasis is on practical training in translation, developing your skills to a high level and learning about the professional environment. Your core Specialised Translation modules will involve both direct and inverse translation training between English and Chinese, French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish. All students will translate institutional texts (such as economic, political, legal and EU/UN texts) and technical material, and acquire a wide range of additional skills, including career building and professional development skills, through the remaining core and option modules.

You will also complete a research-based MA Thesis or an MA Translation Project. Your studies are further supported by weekly lectures on the theoretical concepts and principles of translation, introductory workshops to a range of translation memory tools, and guest lectures and workshops delivered by external speakers from industry and international institutions, and the opportunity to take part in a post-graduation mentoring programme.

Core modules

- Specialised Translation 1 & 2
- Audio-visual and Computer-assisted Translation*
- Quality Assurance and Project Management for Translators*
- Professional Development
- MA Translation Project or MA Thesis

Option modules

- International Organisations and Institutional Discourse
- Translation as Cultural Practice

Associated careers

Graduates of the Specialised Translation MA go on to work as in-house translators within industry, commerce, international organisations and translation companies, as freelance translators, as translation project managers, or as editors, revisers, proofreaders, terminologists, or specialists in translation tools.

*Native speakers of English studying the Specialised Translation MA with two foreign languages will take Specialised Translation 1 & 2 in their second foreign language instead of Audio-visual and Computer-assisted Translation and Quality Assurance and Project Management for Translators.

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page:
westminster.ac.uk/translation-and-interpreting-ma

Course content

The course emphasis is on practical training in translation and interpreting, developing your skills to a high level and learning about the professional environments. Your core Specialised Translation modules will involve both direct and inverse translation training between English and Chinese, French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish. The majority of your translation assessments, including the final translation exam, will, however, be conducted into your mother tongue only. All students will translate institutional texts (such as economic, political, legal and EU/UN texts) and technical material, and acquire a wide range of additional skills, including career building and professional development skills, through the remaining core and option modules.

You will also study conference and public service interpreting, into and out of English, in your core Interpreting modules, and acquire a range of additional skills, including career building and professional development skills, through the remaining core and option modules.

You will also complete a research-based MA Thesis or an MA Translation or Interpreting Project. Your studies are further supported by regular student-led interpreting practice sessions and mock conferences, weekly lectures on the theoretical concepts and principles of translation and interpreting, introductory workshops to a range of translation memory tools, guest lectures and workshops delivered by external speakers from industry and international institutions, and the opportunity to take part in a post-graduation mentoring programme.

Core modules

- Interpreting 1 & 2
- Specialised Translation 1 & 2
- Professional Development
- MA Interpreting Project, MA Translation Project, or MA Thesis

Option modules

- International Liaison
- Translation as Cultural Practice

Associated careers

Graduates of the course go on to develop careers as freelance and in-house translators in the corporate sector and in national and international organisations, or as freelance interpreters, editors and revisers, subtitlers, terminologists, translation project managers, and specialists in translation tools.

The Translation and Interpreting MA is open to native and non-native speakers of English, who combine English with any of the following languages: Chinese, French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish. The course will provide you with extensive professional training aimed at the translation and interpreting markets, building on your existing language skills to develop a career in those sectors.

The course involves translation as well as conference and public service interpreting between one main language (Chinese, French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish) and English. You will learn how to research specialised subjects for professional translation and interpreting purposes and hone your translation and interpreting skills by extensive practice, applying insights drawn from linguistics and translation and interpreting theory as well as from professional practice. You will also engage with a comprehensive programme of professional development activities and will further complement the knowledge and skills acquired on the core modules by choosing either Translation as Cultural Practice or International Liaison as an option module.

You will benefit from our wide range of resources, including an extensive collection of volumes and electronic materials in our library, state-of-the-art conference interpreting facilities, and additional resources made available through the University's Virtual Learning Environment. Our teaching staff includes full and part-time lecturers, all with expertise in translation and interpreting and in other specialist fields.

