

# MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The Department of Modern Languages and Cultures provides a rich portfolio of postgraduate courses. 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. The Translating Cultures MRes problematises the various processes and concepts of translation from a cross-cultural and trans-cultural perspective.

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.

Staff teaching on the Translating Cultures MRes are internationally recognised experts in cultural studies and language-based area studies.



96% of Modern Languages and Cultures students are satisfied with the overall quality of their course

Source: Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2016



## DIPLOMA IN TRANSLATION (INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTS EDUCATIONAL TRUST IOLET)

Our three Diploma in Translation (DipTrans) preparation courses aim to support students in passing the Diploma in Translation exam.

The DipTrans is the oldest professional qualification of its kind, widely recognised by employers in the UK and around the world, and 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 IoL Educational Trust (IoLET).

### Our courses

We offer the following three DipTrans courses:

- **Course 1** (11 weeks, January – April):  
General Translation Techniques
- **Course 2** (8 weeks, May – July):  
Specialised Translation Strategies
- **Course 3** (11 weeks, September – December):  
Exam Skills

The courses run consecutively but independently. While each course has a specific focus, all courses aim to give you training in the various skills needed by translators. They offer you a unique opportunity to enhance your career prospects as a professional translator.

You can also register for the DipTrans exam independently of taking any of the courses.

Before fully enrolling onto any of the three courses, all candidates are required to pass an admissions test. Please read our Diploma in Translation admissions test FAQ.

**Length of course:** three separate but consecutive courses; starting in January, May and October

**Location:** Central London (Regent)

**Faculty:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/diptrans](http://westminster.ac.uk/diptrans)

**Entry requirements:** see [westminster.ac.uk/diptrans](http://westminster.ac.uk/diptrans)

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/diptrans](http://westminster.ac.uk/diptrans)

### Course content

This course offers a hands-on approach to translation and brings in underpinning theory where necessary to develop your ability to analyse and assess translation issues arising from the source text prior to selecting appropriate strategies within the given context.

You will learn to:

- analyse and assess a variety of texts or text types in the source 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

### Teaching methods

Our lecturers use a variety of effective teaching methods to equip you with the skills needed to further your translation techniques, such as:

- sight translation
- group translation
- text analysis
- strategy discussion
- research methods
- glossary building and editing
- past exam papers and reports

### Cancellations

Please 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.

## 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.

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

**Location:** Central London (Regent)

**Faculty:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/international-liaison-and-communication-ma](http://westminster.ac.uk/international-liaison-and-communication-ma)

### Core modules

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

### Option Modules

- Analysing Spoken and Written Discourse
- Intercultural Communication
- International Organisations and Institutional Discourse
- Migration and Cultural Encounters
- Sociolinguistics
- Translating Cultures
- 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

The Specialised Translation MA is open to native and non-native speakers of English, who combine English with any of the following languages: French, German, Italian, Polish or Spanish. If you are a native speaker of English, you can elect to study translation with one or two of the above source languages. If you are a non-native speaker of English, you will study translation both from English into your first language and from your first language into English.

The course 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 commercially usable translations of specialised technical and institutional texts, applying insights drawn from the study of linguistics and translation theory as well as from professional practice.

You will be able to 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. You will be allocated a personal tutor and be given academic guidance by the course team.

The University of Westminster is a member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting, the Conférence Internationale permanente d'Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et Interprètes (CIUTI), Elia Exchange, and the UN MoU Network, a group of international signatories to a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on cooperation in the training of language professionals for the UN language competitive examinations.

### Course content

The course emphasis is on practical training in translation, developing your skills to a high level and learning about the professional environment.

**Length of course:** one year full-time or two years part-time (daytime attendance), starting in September

**Location:** Central London (Regent)

**Faculty:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

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

### Core modules

- Main Language Institutional Translation (into your first language)
- Main Language Technical Translation (into your first language)
- Second Language Institutional Translation and Second Language Technical Translation (native speakers for French, German, Italian, Polish, or Spanish only)
- Translation Project or Thesis

### Option modules

- Analysing Spoken and Written Discourse
- Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT)\*
- Editing: Principles and Practice\*
- Intercultural Communication
- International Organisations and Institutional Discourse
- Introduction to Audiovisual Translation
- Introduction to Translation Project Management
- Sociolinguistics
- Subsidiary Language (languages subject to annual confirmation)
- Translating Cultures

\*For native speakers of English studying translation with one source language only, these modules are core. You will choose your option modules from the range of non-core options for your pathway.

### 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.

## TRANSLATING CULTURES MRes

This interdisciplinary course offers you the rare opportunity to study how cultures translate across a wide range of fields. Critically combining the disciplines of translation and cultural studies, it breaks new ground both practically and theoretically in exploring a variety of different issues across the humanities and social sciences. It gives you the opportunity to shape the emerging field of translating cultures through independent in-depth research, and will appeal if you aspire to work at the cutting edge of debates and practices dealing with cultural interaction and transformation in the contemporary world.

We welcome applications for collaborative research projects and are happy to exploit our links with public and third sector partners to assist students in developing projects that fit with both the partners' research needs and the demands and expectations of a Masters dissertation. The student will take the lead in the development of any such collaborative research project, but will be guided and assisted by the supervisory team and, where appropriate, other members of the course team.

### Course content

You will take two core modules: Translating Cultures, which establishes frameworks for the close analysis of transcultural and translation concepts; and the Research Dissertation module, which provides training and personal supervision for the writing of an in-depth dissertation on an appropriate topic of your choice.

The Research Dissertation module offers you the innovative possibility to develop your research project through an internship with a relevant external organisation. You will also choose an option module that matches your interests from a selection of modules offering advanced study in specialised areas, including translation, intercultural communication, diaspora, cultural identity, globalisation, democratisation and restorative justice. You are encouraged to attend the research seminars in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, particularly the Translating Cultures series run by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures.

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

**Location:** Central London (Regent)

**Faculty:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: [westminster.ac.uk/translating-cultures-mres](http://westminster.ac.uk/translating-cultures-mres)

### Core modules

- Research Dissertation
- Translating Cultures

### Option modules

#### Choose one from:

- Capitalism and Culture
- Ethnographic Ways of Knowing
- Globalisation, Democratisation and Post-Authoritarian Transition
- Intercultural Communicative Competence
- Migration and Cultural Encounters
- Postcolonial International Relations
- Representing World Cultures
- The Chinese Media
- Translation Studies

### Associated careers

The course is tailor-made to enhance skills relevant to either professional or academic (research) careers in the fields of translation and knowledge transfer across cultures.

The course prepares for employment in a local, national or international context where individuals with an intimate knowledge of specific cultural areas and an awareness of cross- and transcultural processes and phenomena, coupled with strong and rigorous language and research skills, are required. It prepares for work in the civil service, national or international organisations as well as NGOs, think tanks and charitable organisations; arts councils and cultural institutes, the publishing or advertising industry, and museums and galleries; graduates will also find work as researchers in media organisations and in journalism, or, typically following further postgraduate (Doctoral-level) training, in higher education.



## TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING MA

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, Italian, Polish or Spanish.

The course will provide you with 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, 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 the study of linguistics and translation and interpreting theory as well as from professional practice.

You will be able to benefit from our wide range of resources, including an extensive collection of volumes and electronic materials in our library, a state-of-the-art language lab and extensive 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. You will be allocated a personal tutor and be given academic guidance by the course team.

The University of Westminster is a member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting, the Conférence Internationale permanente d'Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et Interprètes (CIUTI), Elia Exchange, and the UN MoU Network, a group of international signatories to a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on cooperation in the training of language professionals for the UN language competitive examinations.

### Course content

The course emphasis is on practical training in translation and interpreting, developing your skills to a high level and learning about professional environments.

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

**Location:** Central London (Regent)

**Faculty:** Social Sciences and Humanities

**Course fees and funding:** see course web page and [westminster.ac.uk/fees](http://westminster.ac.uk/fees)

**Entry requirements:** see page 216

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

### Core modules

- Conference interpreting
- Main Language Institutional Translation (Into Your First Language)
- MA Interpreting Project or MA Translation Project or MA Thesis
- Main Language Technical Translation (Native Speakers of English Only)
- Public Service Interpreting
- Second Language Institutional Translation (Native Speakers of Chinese, French, Italian, Polish or Spanish Only)

### Option modules

- Analysing Conference and Public Speeches
- Analysing Spoken and Written Discourse
- Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT)
- Editing: Principles and Practice
- Intercultural Communication
- International Liaison
- International Organisations and Institutional Discourse
- Introduction to Audiovisual Translation
- Introduction to Translation Project Management
- Main Language Technical Translation (Native Speakers of French, Italian, Polish Or Spanish only)
- Second Language Technical Translation (Native Speakers of French, Italian, Polish or Spanish only)
- Sociolinguistics
- Subsidiary Language (Languages Subject to Annual Confirmation)
- Translating Cultures

### 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.

