Aston University

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

2012-2013

Programme Title	TRANSLATION STUDIES: GERMAN
UCAS/JACS Code	R210
School/Subject Area	LANGUAGES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Interim Award(s)	Certificate of Higher Education (after 120 credits) Diploma of Higher Education (after 240 credits) Ordinary Degree
Mode(s) of Study	FULL TIME or PART TIME
Normal Length of Programme	4 YEARS (Full time, with integrated placement year) or 7-8 YEARS (Part-time, with one year or two half year placements in two separate years)
Total Credits	480 credits
Programme Accredited By	
Dates Programme Specification Written and Revised	August 2012

Educational Aims of the Programme	The programme combines the study of German with theoretical and professional aspects of translation. It aims to develop the learner's interest in and knowledge and understanding of German-speaking countries. It focuses on German language, culture and history as well as on society, politics and the economy. In addition, it aims to develop translation competence as well as insights into the wider socio-cultural context of translation. Through teaching in the target language for all language-related modules, the programme follows an integrated approach where language- and subject-teaching/learning are inter-linked and reinforce one another. Graduates will have acquired a broad understanding of the contexts and the background to the main German- speaking environment. The programme produces graduates who will be capable of mediating, through understanding and knowledge, between German- speaking and British cultures, enhanced by translation competence. Through the integrated year abroad and immersion in the target culture, participants in the programme gain first-hand experience by living in a German- speaking country either as students, teaching assistants or in a work-placement. This, in turn, leads to confidence, fluency and the ability to interact in a credible manner, with native speakers, in a wide range of professional and/or academic situations. Transferable skills are practised in every module at all levels, to equip students to meet the demands of a range of post-graduation, academic and professional situations.

Relevant Subject Benchmark Statements and other External and Internal Reference Points used to inform programme outcomes	• QAA Benchmark statement for Languages and related studies (2007) • QAA Benchmark Statement for Area Studies (2002) • European Framework of Reference for Languages • Aston University Learning and Teaching Strategy • Staff expertise • National Occupational Standards in Translation (CiLT 2007), a professional benchmark for translators • The Chartered Institute of Linguists' criteria for the Diploma in Translation

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits **Stage I**				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
(X) German Language Skills	20	4	LG1001	CORE
German History and Society	20	4	LG1050	CORE
Introduction to Contemporary Film OR UWLP	10	4	LG1008	OPTION
German Language Past & Present	10	4	LG1011	CORE
UWLP	10			CORE
German Current Affairs	10	4	LG1023	CORE
Introduction to Language & Communication	10	4	LI1003	CORE
Introduction to Translation	10	4	LI1004	CORE
Translation Workshop	20	4	LI1006	CORE
X) means that this module cannot be condoned and is a pre-requisite for progression to the next level				
TOTAL	120			

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits **Stage II**				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/ Elective
(X) German Language Skills	20	5	LG2002	CORE
Post-war Germany	10	5	LG2016	CORE
Translation and Textual Skills	10	5	LG2015	CORE
Austrian Cultural History OR Current Trends in German Cinema OR UWLP	10 10 10	5 5	LG2014 LG2009	OPTION OPTION
Current Trends in German Cinema	20	5	LG2013	OPTION
Stylistics	10	5	LE2009	CORE
Metropolis Berlin OR Politics and Society in Contemporary Germany OR UWLP	10 10 10	5 5	LG2018 LG2017	OPTION OPTION
European Translation Traditions	10	5	LI2001	CORE
Translation and Technology	20	5	LI2009	CORE
Communication Across Cultures	10	5	LI2008	CORE
(*X) means that this module cannot be condoned and is a pre-requisite for progression to the next level*				
TOTAL	120			

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits **Level P YEAR ABROAD:**				
Module Title	Credits	Level	Module Code	Core/Elective
Work Placement	120	P	LUP001	CORE
OR				
Study Placement	120	P	LUP002	CORE
OR				
Combined Work Placement	120	P	LUP003	CORE
OR				
Combined Work/Study Placement	120	P	LUP004	CORE
OR				
Combined Study Placement	120	P	LUP005	CORE
TOTAL	120			

Programme Structures and Requirements: Levels, Modules and Credits **Level III**				
German Written Language Skills I and II	20	6	LG3003	CORE
German Research Dissertation (GRD) - GRD Viva	20	6	LG3204	CORE
German Popular Culture	10	6	LG3006	CORE
German Contemporary Culture	10	6	LG3007	CORE
History & Society Reflected in German Film OR UWLP	10	6	LG3004	OPTIONAL
German-Jewish Biographies OR UWLP	10	6	LG3013	OPTIONAL
Contemporary Translation Theories	10	6	LI3206	CORE
Advanced Translation: German	10	6	LI3205	CORE
Specialised (LSP) Translation	10	6	LI3005	CORE
Interpreting (German)	10	6	LI3001	CORE
TOTAL	120			

Programme Outcomes, Learning and Teaching and Assessment Strategies			
A. Knowledge and Understanding			
	On successful completion of their programme students, are expected to have knowledge and understanding of:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	written German language in a range of contexts and text types (Level C2-C1 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages)	• small group interactive seminars • pair and group work • presentations • guided study • individual topic selection and research	• end of year examination • oral examination • extended research project • essay • annotated bibliography • translation tasks • LSP portfolio
2	all aspects of oral communication in German (Level C2-C1 according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages)		
3	the contemporary situation in German-speaking countries (linguistics, economy, culture, politics)		
4	key concepts and approaches of linguistics, textlinguistics, Translation Studies, cultural exchange		
5	differences in linguistic behaviour and its products according to parameters of communicative contexts in socio-cultural settings		
6	the complexity of translation (as process and product)		
7	the wider political, cultural, and ethical context of translation (as process and product)		
8	the role of the professional translator and interpreter in different types of mediated intercultural communication in various socio-political contexts		

B. **Intellectual Skills**			
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	communicate appropriately in written and spoken form in various communicative situations	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• end of the year examination • essay • in-class test • extended research dissertation • oral examination • translation tasks • LSP portfolio
2	analyse contemporary political and cultural affairs in the German- speaking countries		
3	apply key methods and concepts of literary, historical, social science and linguistic analysis in independent research		
4	plan, undertake and report a piece of research based on primary sources		
5	apply theoretical concepts and approaches from linguistics and Translation Studies to the analysis of a variety of texts		
6	base autonomous decision-making in the translation process on detailed analyses and reflection, backed up by research		
7	use manual and electronic tools, corpora, and the Internet effectively for a specified task		
8	act as a credible intermediary between members of source and target cultures through spoken and/or written medium		

	C. Professional Skills		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to be able to:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	demonstrate near-native competence in written and oral presentation skills in German and English	• seminars • guided study • individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• end of the year examination • essay • in-class test • extended research dissertation • oral examination • translation tasks • LSP portfolio
2	demonstrate translation competence		
3			
4			
5			
6			

	D. Transferable Skills		
	On successful completion of their programme, students are expected to show:	Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated	
		Learning and Teaching Methods	Assessment Methods
1	team working skills	• seminars • guided study • Individual research • lectures • group work • tutorial work	• continuous assessment • oral examination • extended research dissertation • translation tasks • LSP portfolio
2	independent application of research skills		
3	ability to engage in informed discussion, to accept constructive criticism and to criticise constructively		
4	ability to use communication and information technology for the selection, retrieval, presentation and evaluation of information		
5	ability to work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organization and time management		
6	autonomous skills of critical reading and reflective analysis		
7	ability to use a variety of tools efficiently (manual, electronic, corpora, Internet)		
8			

Entry Requirements	In addition to satisfying the general entry requirements, candidates must satisfy any specific entry requirements for each programme as approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee. These may include an interview and a diagnostic test. In certain circumstances, relevant prior experience and learning may be taken into account. Documentary evidence of relevant qualifications and experience will be required. Students already registered on another degree programme at Aston University may be allowed to transfer to this programme, subject to agreement of the Director of Undergraduate Programmes in each School concerned.

Programme Regulations	Attendance requirements 1. In order to qualify for the award of the degree a student must have attended the required proportion of tutorials, seminars, practical classes, and lectures specified by the School Executive Dean. The Programme Handbook provides details of procedures for monitoring attendance and dealing with poor attendance. **Specific Assessment Requirements for Modules** 1. Where applicable modules which may not be condoned are indicated by (X) in the programme specification tables of modules per stage. **Placement Year (for 480 credits programme)** 1. Students will be required to follow a course of study abroad for one academic year, on a programme approved by the School Executive Dean; or undertake a work placement approved by the School Executive Dean; or undertake an assistantship teaching English in a school in a French, German or Spanish speaking country (as relevant); or undertake a combination of these options. 2. Students will be required to undertake the following work during their time abroad, as specified by the School Executive Dean, a. EITHER to sit examinations at the approved institution at which the course of study was followed b. OR to submit a project on an approved subject c. AND/OR to sit a viva voce examination on return to the Final Year of the programme d. OR to undertake two or all of the above, depending on the country and subject of study placement e. which will be assessed by the Board of Examiners as one Module, worth 120 credits at Stage P. **Requirements for the Ordinary Degree (100 credits)** 1. <u>Transfer to Ordinary Degree</u> A change to a single-subject programme may be possible as specified in the General Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes and the relevant programme or subject specifications. Students may not normally study more than two subjects on an Ordinary Degree programme. *2.* <u>Required Modules</u> The Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes will determine which 100 credits, out of the 120 credits for the corresponding stage of the Honours programme, should be taken at each stage.

Programme Regulations	3. <u>Stage Two Assessment</u> The Ordinary Degree Stage Two assessment will be held at specified times before the final stage of the programme and will comprise 100 credits from the modules set out in the relevant programme or subject specifications (to be determined by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes). 4 <u>Final Assessment</u> The Ordinary Degree final assessment will comprise 100 credits from the modules set out in the relevant programme or subject specifications (to be determined by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes). **Failure** In cases of failure at Stage P assessment, the Examination Board may decide to award credits for that stage, depending on overall performance and consideration of factors described in the School's Examination Board Procedures (LES/129/03), in accordance with the condonement procedure specified in the General Regulations. For failed modules at Stage Three, the end of year Examinations Board may decide to award credits for that module, depending on overall performance and consideration of factors described in the School's Examination Board Procedures, in accordance with the condonement procedure specified in the General Regulations.
Further information	

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the threshold learning outcomes that a student might normally be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. **The individual modules included in the programme may differ from those included in this programme specification as our programmes are subject to continuous review.** Information on admissions requirements and career opportunities is available in the relevant prospectus. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the appropriate module guides and programme handbook(s) which are available to students on enrolment. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be audited by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.