

Between Two Worlds? Translators and Interpreters in History

HISD05H3

Tuesday, 12pm-2pm, AA 209

Instructor	Prof. E. Natalie Rothman	Phone	(416) 287-7159
Office	H324	E-mail	rothman[at]utsc.utoronto.ca
Office Hours	Tuesdays 2pm-4pm	Course Website	http://portal.utoronto.ca

Description:

This D-level seminar will explore the social history of translators, interpreters, and the texts they produce. Through several case studies from Ireland and Istanbul to Québec, Mexico City, and Goa, we will ask how translators shaped public understandings of "self" and "other," "civilization" and "barbarity" in the wake of European colonization.

Goals:

- To learn about the history of translation and translators;
- To explore the various approaches historians have taken to the study of translation and cultural mediation more broadly;
- To develop analytical reading and writing skills;
- To plan and carry out independent research.

As a senior-year research seminar, this course aims to provide you with the skills you need in order to develop and carry out an independent research project in history, including critical reading of secondary literature, compiling an annotated bibliography, developing an original argument using evidence from primary documents, and writing a research statement, an outline, and, eventually, a research paper.

Readings: All required readings will be available on Blackboard at least a week in advance. **You should print out your own copies and have them with you for class.**

Response papers: Every week, you should post on Blackboard a short (1 page max) response to the weekly readings **by Monday at noon** (i.e. 24 hours before class) to allow everyone to read each other's responses. Your response should not be a summary of the readings but rather a set of questions or comments that will serve as the basis for class discussion.

In-class presentations: Based on a schedule to be determined at the beginning of the semester, you will be in charge of presenting a set of readings (usually 2-3 items). Your presentation should consist of a 10-minute introduction that will situate the authors, summarize the arguments, and clarify key terms and concepts. You may also prepare a handout with some questions for the discussion.

Assignments: All assignments should be submitted through the Blackboard drop box by the stated deadline. Be prepared for computer outages and glitches—I will not accept late submissions due to any technical problems. If you foresee a medical/family emergency that will prevent you from submitting your assignment on time, it is your responsibility to contact me in advance in order to seek an extension.

Office hours & email etiquette: I highly recommend that you come to my office hours several times during the semester (Tuesdays 2pm-4pm @ H324 and by special appointment) to introduce yourself and to discuss your research interests and the progress of your research project. If you need to contact me outside office hours, it's best to use email (I do not check my office voicemail). **I also expect you to email me in advance if you must miss class due to medical/family emergency.** Do understand that I cannot always respond promptly to your queries. Responsibility for making up materials covered in missed classes lies with you.

Writing: The University offers a great range of services to help develop your writing skills. I strongly encourage you to visit the Writing Centre (AC 210) and/or the English Language Development website at <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/%7Etlswweb/ELD>.

For excellent advice on writing, including tips on reading, summarizing, citing sources, and **how not to plagiarize**, check out <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/advise.html>. If ever in doubt about plagiarism, please consult me or the excellent staff at the Writing Centre **before** submitting your assignments.

For a primer on research, check out the *Research Basics* page at: <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~libweb/ResearchBasics.htm>

Many additional resources for historians are compiled at: http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~humdiv/History/his_elec_new.htm

AccessAbility: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in **S302**) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Requirements:

Full attendance and active participation in class discussions, careful reading of all assigned texts, two in-class presentations, and timely submission of all assignments, including weekly one-page response papers.

Evaluation:

Participation and attendance	10%
Weekly response papers	10%
First oral presentation	5%
Document analysis/Book review	10%
Annotated bibliography	10%
Proposal and outline	15%
Second oral presentation	5%
Final research paper	35%
<hr/> Total:	100%

Course Schedule

Week & Topic	Date	Readings
1 Introduction	9 Jan.	Williams, Roger. 1997 [1643]. "A Key into the Language of America, 1643." In <i>The English Literatures of America, 1500-1800</i> . Eds. Myra Jehlen and Michael Warner. New York: Routledge, pp. 494-497.
2 Translators: Speaking to Power; Speaking for Power	16 Jan.	<p>Lefevere, André et al. 1995. "Translators and the Reins of Power." In <i>Translators Through History</i>. Eds. Jean Delisle and Judith Woodsworth. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: J. Benjamins, pp. 131-55.</p> <p>Hermans, Theo. 2001. "Shall I Apologize Translation?" Revised version of a public lecture delivered at the Chinese University of Hong Kong on 31 March 2000. Available URL: http://eprints.ucl.ac.uk/archive/00000516/01/Ep_Apologizetrans.pdf.</p> <p>Robinson, Douglas. 1997. <i>Translation and Empire: Postcolonial Theories Explained</i>. Manchester: St. Jerome, pp. 8-45 (chaps. 1-2).</p> <p>For further reading:</p> <p>Blommaert, Jan. 2005. "Bourdieu the Ethnographer: the Ethnographic Grounding of Habitus and Voice." <i>Bourdieu and the Sociology of Translation and Interpreting. Special Issue of The Translator</i> 11 (2): 219-36.</p> <p>Cheyfitz, Eric. 1997. <i>The Poetics of Imperialism: Translation and Colonization</i>. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.</p> <p>Tymoczko, Maria and Edwin Gentzler. Eds. 2002. <i>Translation and Power</i>. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press.</p> <p>Venuti, Lawrence. 1995. <i>The Translator's Invisibility: A History of Translation</i>. London, New York: Routledge.</p>
3 Medieval Translators Look Back: Greek, Latin, and the Emergence of Vernacular Languages of Empire	23 Jan.	<p>Pratt, Karen. 1991. "Medieval Attitudes to Translation and Adaptation: the Rhetorical Theory and the Poetic Practice." In <i>The Medieval Translator</i>. Ed. Roger Ellis. London: Centre for Medieval Studies, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, pp. 1-27.</p> <p>Twomey, Michael W. 2006. "Middle English Translations of Medieval Encyclopedias." <i>Literature Compass</i> 3 (3): 331-40.</p> <p>Spiegel, Gabrielle M. 1993. "Past Politics and the Politics of the Past: Ancient History I." In <i>Romancing the Past: The Rise of Vernacular Prose Historiography in Thirteenth-Century France</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 99-151.</p> <p>Sherman, Claire Richter. 1995. "Royal Patronage of Vernacular Translations." In <i>Imaging Aristotle: Verbal and Visual Representation in Fourteenth-Century France</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 3-12.</p> <p>For further reading:</p> <p>Beer, Jeanette M. A. 1989. <i>Medieval Translators and Their Craft</i>. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications.</p> <p>Beer, Jeanette M. A. 1997. <i>Translation Theory and Practice in the Middle Ages</i>. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications.</p> <p>Bischoff, Bernhard. 1961. "The Study of Foreign Languages in the Middle Ages." <i>Speculum</i> 36 (2): 209-24.</p> <p>Kelly, Louis G. 1979. <i>The True Interpreter: a History of Translation Theory and Practice in the West</i>. New York: St. Martin's Press.</p> <p>Reiner, Frederick M. 1989. <i>Interpretatio: Language and Translation From Cicero to Tytler</i>. Amsterdam: Rodopi.</p>
4 Renaissance Translators Look Beyond: Old and New Knowledge	30 Jan.	<p>Grendler, Paul F. et al. 1999. "Translation." In <i>Encyclopedia of the Renaissance</i>, vol. 6. Ed. Paul F. Grendler. New York: Scribner, 1999, pp. 157-162.</p> <p>Burke, Peter. 2005. "The Renaissance Translator As Go-Between." In <i>Renaissance Go-Betweens: Cultural Exchange in Early Modern Europe</i>. Eds. Andreas Höfele and Werner v. Koppenfels. Berlin, New York: Walter de Gruyter, pp. 17-31.</p> <p>Pfister, Manfred. 2005. "Inglese Italianato-Italiano Anglizzato: John Florio." In <i>Renaissance Go-Betweens: Cultural Exchange in Early Modern Europe</i>. Eds. Andreas Höfele and Werner von Koppenfels. Berlin, New York: Walter de Gruyter, pp. 32-54.</p> <p>Bartlett, Kenneth R. 2006. "Thomas Hoby, Translator, Traveler." In <i>Travel and Translation in the Early Modern Period</i>. Ed. Carmine Di Biase. Amsterdam, New York: Rodopi, pp. 123-142.</p>

"The worth of a skilfull and worthy translator is to obserue the sentences, figures, and formes of speech proposed in his author, his true sence and height, and to adorne them with figures and formes of oration fitted to the originall in the same tongue to which they are translated."
(George Chapman, 1598)

- Zhiri, Oumelbanine. 2006. "Leo Africanus and the Limits of Translation." In *Travel and Translation in the Early Modern Period*. Ed. Carmine Di Biase. Amsterdam, New York: Rodopi, pp. 175-186.
- Black, Crofton. 2002. "Leo Africanus's Descrittione Dell'Africa and Its Sixteenth-Century Translations." *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes* 65: 262-72.
- Davis, Natalie Zemon. 2006. "Translation, Transmission, and Distance." In *Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim Between Worlds*. New York: Hill and Wang, pp. 223-244.

For further reading:

- Beer, Jeanette M. A. and Kenneth Lloyd-Jones. 1995. *Translation and the Transmission of Culture Between 1300 and 1600*. Kalamazoo, MI: Medieval Institute Publications.
- Blumenfeld-Kosinski, Renate and others. 2001. *The Politics of Translation in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press.
- Botley, Paul. 2004. *Latin Translation in the Renaissance: The Theory and Practice of Leonardo Bruni, Giannozzo Manetti and Desiderius Erasmus*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Burke, Peter. 2005. "Lost (and Found) in Translation: A Cultural History of Translators and Translating in Early Modern Europe." [A slightly more detailed version of the author's other article you read for this week] Available URL: http://www.nias.knaw.nl/en/new_3/new_1/new_26/.
- Davis, Natalie Zemon. 2006. *Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim Between Worlds*. New York: Hill and Wang.
- DeLater, James A. 2002. *Translation Theory in the Age of Louis XIV*. Manchester, UK, Northampton MA: St. Jerome Pub.
- Denton, John. 1998. "Renaissance Translation Strategies and the Manipulation of a Classical Text. Plutarch From Jacques Amyot to Thomas North." In *Europe et traduction*. Ed. Michel Ballard. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, pp. 67-78.
- Di Biase, Carmine. Ed. 2006. *Travel and Translation in the Early Modern Period*. Amsterdam, New York: Rodopi.
- Hermans Theo. 1997. "The Task of the Translator in the European Renaissance: Explorations in a Discursive Field."
- Norton, Glyn P. 1984. *The Ideology and Language of Translation in Renaissance France and Their Humanist Antecedents*. Geneva: Droz.
- Woolard, Kathryn A. 2002. "Bernardo de Aldrete and the Morisco Problem: A Study in Early Modern Spanish Language Ideology." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 44 (3): 446-80.
- Worth, Valerie. 1988. *Practising Translation in Renaissance France: The Example of Étienne Dolet*. Oxford: Clarendon.

Assignment 1 (book review/text analysis) due by 8am on Friday, 2 Feb.

- Hannay, Margaret P. 1994. "'House-Confined Maids': The Presentation of Woman's Role in the Psalmes of the Countess of Pembroke." *English Literary Renaissance* 24 (1): 44-71.
- Pieretti, Marie-Pascale. 2002. "Women Writers and Translation in Eighteenth-Century France." *French Review* 75 (3): 474-88.
- Smith, Theresa A. 2003. "Writing Out of the Margins: Women, Translation, and the Spanish Enlightenment." *Journal of Women's History* 15 (1): 116-43.
- Novoa, James N. 2006. "From Incan Realm to the Italian Renaissance: Garcilaso El Inca and His Translation of Leone Ebreo's *Dialoghi D'Amore*." In *Travel and Translation in the Early Modern Period*. Ed. Carmine Di Biase. Amsterdam, New York: Rodopi, pp. 187-202.

For further reading:

- Agorni, Mirella. 2002. *Translating Italy for the Eighteenth Century: British Women Novelists, Translators and Travel Writers, 1739-1797*. Manchester: St. Jerome.
- Hannay, Margaret P. 1985. *Silent but for the Word: Tudor Women as Patrons, Translators, and Writers of Religious Works*. Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press.
- Krontiris, Tina. 1992. *Oppositional Voices: Women As Writers and Translators of Literature in the English Renaissance*. New York: Routledge.
- Pieretti, Marie-Pascale. 1998. "Women Writers and Translation in 18th-Century France." Unpublished PhD Dissertation. New York University.

5
Who Are the Translators?
6 Feb.

6		In-class workshop on research skills, identifying and using electronic resources
Research Skills Workshop	13 Feb.	Assignment 2: a 2-3 page annotated bibliography towards your final paper due by 10am on Monday, Feb. 19.
<hr/>		
	Reading week—20 Feb.	To be confirmed: Visit to the Thomas Fisher Library
<hr/>		
		Robinson, Douglas. 1997. "Translation as Empire: The Theoretical Record." In <i>Translation and Empire: Postcolonial Theories Explained</i> . Manchester: St. Jerome, pp. 46-55.
		Palmer, Patricia. 2003. "Interpreters and the Politics of Translation and Traduction in Sixteenth-Century Ireland." <i>Irish Historical Studies</i> 33 (131): 257-77.
		Voigt, Lisa. 2002. "Captivity, Exile, and Interpretation in <i>La Florida del Inca</i> ." <i>Colonial Latin American Review</i> 11 (2): 251-73.
		Fenton, Sabine and Paul Moon. 2002. "The Translation of the Treaty of Waitangi: a Case of Disempowerment." In <i>Translation and Power</i> . Eds. Maria Tymoczko and Edwin Gentzler. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, pp. 25-44.
7		
Translation and Empire I: Conquest	27 Feb.	For further reading: Kabir, Ananya Jahanara. 2005. "Analogy in Translation: Imperial Rome, Medieval England, and British India." In <i>Postcolonial Approaches to the European Middle Ages: Translating Cultures</i> . Eds. Ananya Jahanara Kabir and Deanne Williams. New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 183-204.
		Mignolo, Walter D. 1995. <i>The Darker Side of the Renaissance: Literacy, Territoriality, and Colonization</i> . Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
		Palmer, Patricia A. 2001. <i>Language and Conquest in Early Modern Ireland: English Renaissance Literature and Elizabethan Imperial Expansion</i> . New York: Cambridge University Press.
		Parker, John. 1965. <i>Books to Build an Empire: A Bibliographical History of English Overseas Interests to 1620</i> . Amsterdam: N. Israel.
<hr/>		
		Rafael, Vicente L. 1988. "The Politics of Translation." In <i>Contracting Colonialism: Translation and Christian Conversion in Tagalog Society Under Early Spanish Rule</i> . Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. 23-54.
		Rashkow, Ilona N. 1990. "Hebrew Bible Translation and the Fear of Judaization." <i>The Sixteenth Century Journal</i> 21 (2): 217-33.
		Barros, Maria Cândida D. M. 2001. "The Office of Lingua: A Portrait of the Religious Tupi Interpreter in Brazil in the Sixteenth Century." <i>Itinerario</i> 25 (2): 110-40.
		Silverman, David J. 2005. "Indians, Missionaries, and Religious Translation: Creating Wampanoag Christianity in Seventeenth-Century Martha's Vineyard." <i>William and Mary Quarterly</i> 62 (2): 141-74.
8		Zupanov, Ines G. 2005. "Twisting a Pagan Tongue: Portuguese and Tamil in Jesuit Translations." In <i>Missionary Tropics: The Catholic Frontier in India (16th-17th Centuries)</i> . Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp. 232-58.
Translation and Empire II: Missionaries as Translators; Translators as Missionaries	6 March	Bross, Kristina. 2004. "Wielding the Sword of God's Word: Translating and Reading the Indian 'Bible'." In <i>Dry Bones and Indian Sermons: Praying Indians in Colonial America</i> . Ithaca: Cornell UP, pp. 52-83.
		For further reading: Billings, Timothy. 2004. "Jesuit Fish in Chinese Nets: Athanasius Kircher and the Translation of the Nestorian Tablet." <i>Representations</i> 87: 1-42.
		Pardo, Osvaldo F. 2004. "The Mute and the Barbarian: Verbal and Nonverbal Communication in the Confession of the Nahuas." In <i>The Origins of Mexican Catholicism: Nahua Rituals and Christian Sacraments in Sixteenth-Century Mexico</i> . Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp. 104-130.
		Poirier, Lisa J. M. 2004. "Translators and Converts: Religion, Exchange, and Orientation in Colonial New France, 1608--1680." Unpublished PhD Dissertation. Syracuse University.
		Rafael, Vicente L. 1988. <i>Contracting Colonialism: Translation and Christian Conversion in Tagalog Society Under Early Spanish Rule</i> . Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

9 Translation and Empire III: Colonial Interpreters	13 March	<p>Karttunen, Frances E. 1994. "To the Valley of Mexico: Doña Marina, 'La Malinche' (ca. 1500-1527)." In <i>Between Worlds: Interpreters, Guides, and Survivors</i>. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, pp. 1-23.</p> <p>Fayer, Joan M. 2003. "African Interpreters in the Atlantic Slave Trade." <i>Anthropological Linguistics</i> 45 (3): 281-95.</p> <p>Couto, Dejanirah. 2003. "The Role of Interpreters, or Linguas, in the Portuguese Empire During the 16th Century." <i>Electronic Journal of Portuguese History</i> 1 (2): 1-9.</p> <p>Aguilar Moreno, Manuel. 2002. "The Indio Ladino As a Cultural Mediator in the Colonial Society." <i>Estudios de cultura nahuatl</i> 33: 149-84.</p> <p>Christelow, Allan. 1985. "Algerian Interpreters and the French Colonial Adventure in Sub-Saharan Africa." <i>The Maghreb review Majallat al-Maghrib</i> 10 (4-6): 101-6.</p> <p>Kanya-Forstner, A. S. 1994. "French Missions to the Central Sudan in the 1890s: the Role of Algerian Agents and Interpreters." <i>Paideuma</i> 40: 15-35.</p> <p>Hagedorn, Nancy L. 1988. "'A Friend to Go Between Them': The Interpreter As Cultural Broker During Anglo-Iroquois Councils, 1740-70." <i>Ethnohistory</i> 35 (1): 60-80.</p> <p>Kawashima, Yasuhide. 1989. "Forest Diplomats: The Role of Interpreters in Indian-White Relations on the Early American Frontier." <i>American Indian Quarterly</i> 13 (1): 1-14.</p> <p>For further reading:</p> <p>Brooks, David C. 2001. "The Linguistic Conquest of Spanish America: First-Contact Interpreters and Translator Acquisition Strategy As Primary Cause of Military Conquest, 1492-1565." Unpublished PhD Dissertation. Auburn University.</p> <p>Karttunen, Frances E. 1994. <i>Between Worlds: Interpreters, Guides, and Survivors</i>. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.</p>
10 Translation and Circulation	20 March	<p>Rothman, E. Natalie. Unpublished. "Dalmatians, Dragomans, and Dignitaries: Trans-Imperial Subjects and Cultural Mediation between Venice and Istanbul."</p> <p>Price, Joshua. 2000. "Hybrid Languages, Translation, and Post-Colonial Challenges." In <i>Beyond the Western Tradition</i>. Ed. Marilyn G. Rose. Binghamton: State University of New York, Center for Research in Translation, pp. 23-50.</p> <p>Standaert, Nicolas. 2003. "The Transmission of Renaissance Culture in Seventeenth-Century China." <i>Renaissance Studies</i> 17 (3): 367-391.</p> <p>Borges, Jorge Luis. 2004 [1936] "The Translators of <i>The Thousand and One Nights</i>." In <i>The Translation Studies Reader</i>, 2nd Edition. Ed. Lawrence Venuti. New York: Routledge, pp. 34-48.</p> <p>For further reading:</p> <p>Hung, Eva. Ed. 2005. <i>Translation and Cultural Change: Studies in History, Norms and Image-Projection</i>. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: J. Benjamins.</p> <p>Liu, Lydia H. 1995. <i>Translingual Practice: Literature, National Culture and Translated Modernity—China, 1900–1937</i>. Stanford: Stanford University Press.</p> <p>Liu, Lydia H. 1999. <i>Tokens of Exchange: The Problem of Translation in Global Circulations</i>. Durham: Duke University Press.</p>
11	27 March	<p>Student presentations</p> <p>Paper outline due by noon on Monday, March 26</p>
12	3 April	<p>Student presentations</p>
<p>Final paper due by 8am Thursday, April 5</p>		

Assignment 1: Due by 8am on Friday, 2 Feb.

Option 1: Text analysis

In 3-5 double-spaced pages, analyse a translator's preface and/or dedication (a list will be provided at a later date). Using the analytical tools and strategies discussed in class, and building on your additional research in the secondary literature, identify the author, discuss the audience and purpose of the preface & dedication, as well as of the book as a whole, and address any pertinent issues relating to translation based on our weekly discussions.

Option 2: Book review

In 3-5 double-spaced pages, review one of the books below, or another scholarly book on the history of translation (by prior consultation with me):

Davis, Natalie Zemon. 2006. *Trickster Travels: A Sixteenth-Century Muslim Between Worlds*. New York: Hill and Wang.

Karttunen, Frances E. 1994. *Between Worlds: Interpreters, Guides, and Survivors*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press.

Rafael, Vicente L. 1988. *Contracting Colonialism: Translation and Christian Conversion in Tagalog Society Under Early Spanish Rule*. Ithaca: Cornell UP.

Roland, Ruth A. 1999. *Interpreters As Diplomats: a Diplomatic History of the Role of Interpreters in World Politics*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press.

Rose, Marilyn G. Ed. 2000. *Beyond the Western Tradition*. Binghamton: State University of New York, Center for Research in Translation.

Zupanov, Ines G. 2005. *Missionary Tropics: The Catholic Frontier in India (16th-17th Centuries)*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

For helpful suggestions on how to write a scholarly book review, see:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/bkrev.html>

General reference works and primary text collections:

Baker, Mona and Kirsten Malmkjær. Eds. 1998. *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*. London, New York: Routledge.

Delisle, Jean and Judith Woodsworth. Eds. 1995. *Translators Through History*. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: J. Benjamins.

Lefevere, André. Ed. 1992. *Translation, History, Culture: A Sourcebook*. New York: Routledge.

Rener, Frederick M. 1989. *Interpretatio: Language and Translation From Cicero to Tytler*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Robinson, Douglas. Ed. 2002. *Western Translation Theory: From Herodotus to Nietzsche*. Manchester: St. Jerome Pub.

Venuti, Lawrence. Ed. 2004. *The Translation Studies Reader*, 2nd Edition. New York: Routledge.