Course Description:

This course provides an in-depth exploration of translation as both a theoretical discipline and a practical skill. Students will engage with foundational theories, learning how historical and cultural contexts impact translation practices, and develop hands-on experience through translation exercises and projects. By analyzing various text types—literary, legal, technical, and multimedia—students will hone their linguistic abilities, develop critical thinking, and learn essential techniques for accurate, culturally sensitive translation. Additionally, the course will introduce tools for translation and localization, including computer-assisted translation (CAT) tools.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will understand key theoretical concepts in translation studies, such as equivalence, domestication vs. foreignization, and functionalism. They will develop skills in evaluating and producing translations across genres, considering factors like audience, purpose, and stylistic fidelity. Students will also gain an understanding of ethical considerations and intellectual property issues in translation. Through practice with CAT tools, students will leave the course prepared to tackle real-world translation challenges in a variety of professional contexts.

Course Structure and Assignments:

The course is divided into three main sections: theory, practical skills, and specialization in specific text types. Students will engage in weekly readings, discussions, and short translation exercises to apply theoretical concepts. Midway through the semester, students will complete a practical project, translating a selected text and providing an analysis of their approach. The course will culminate in a final project where students will present a full-length translation of a text of their choice, accompanied by a reflective essay on the translation strategies used.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Grades will be based on participation (10%), weekly translation exercises (20%), the midterm project (30%), and the final project (40%). Active engagement in discussions is crucial, as peer feedback will form a core part of the translation refinement process. Students are expected to maintain academic integrity, and translations must be original work. The course encourages collaboration and peer learning, preparing students to approach translation with a critical, informed perspective.