Course Specification

(Bachelor)

Course Title	**Issues and Problems in Translation**
Course Code	**TRA470**
Program	• **Bachelor of English Language** • **Bachelor of English Language Online**
Department	**English Language & Translation**
College	**Science & Theoretical Studies**
Institution	**Prince Musaid bin Abdulrahman University (PMAU)**
Version	**2**
Last Revision Date	**5/13/2026**

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A. General Information about the course

1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours

3

2. Course type

a. ☐ University ☐ College ☑ Department ☐ Track ☐ Others

b. ☑ Required ☐ Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered

- Level8-Bachelor of English Language
- Level8-Bachelor of EngLanguage Online

4. Course General Description:

This course explores a wide range of translation issues and problems when translating from English into Arabic and vice versa. Some of the most pressing translation difficulties encountered by English-Arabic translation practitioners that are examined during the course include: (a) lexical and grammatical difficulties; (b) ambiguity of meaning; (c) problems related to aspects of the culture and arising from cultural referents; (d) textual differences, (e) rhetorical differences, and (f) pragmatic factors. Other related key issues are Arabization, objectivity and subjectivity in translation, literal vs. free translation, connotation and tone implications.

5. Pre-requisites for this course (if any):

ENG360 ENG401 TRA420 TRA330 ENG350

6. Co-requisites for this course (if any):

No Co-requisites

7. Course Main Objective(s):

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: Demonstrate the main principles of translating from English to Arabic and vice versa. Recognize cultural, conceptual, idiomatic, and grammatical difficulties in translation. Evaluate different translation approaches. Perform an analysis of stylistic and linguistic features of a translated text. Explain various translation models including author-centered traditional models, text-centered structural models, and reader-centered cognitive models. Illustrate the skills necessary for tackling a broad range of translation problems.

2. Teaching Mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage (%)
1	Traditional Classroom	0	0%
2	E-learning	0	0%
3	Hybrid Traditional classroom E-learning	45	100%
4	Distance Learning	0	0%

3. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	30
2	Others	15
	Total	**45**

B. Course Learning Outcomes(CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs Aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	**Knowledge and understanding**			
1.1	Demonstrate the main principles of translating from English to Arabic and vice versa.	ENG.K1	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs Aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.2	Recognize cultural, conceptual, idiomatic, and grammatical difficulties in translation.	ENG.K2	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam
2.0	**Skills**			
2.1	Perform an analysis of stylistic and linguistic features of a translated text.	ENG.S4	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam
2.2	Evaluate different translation approaches.	ENG.S1	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam
3.0	**Values, autonomy and Responsibility**			
3.1	Illustrate the skills necessary for tackling a broad range of translation problems.	ENG.V1	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs Aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
3.2	Explain various translation models including author-centered traditional models, text-centered structuralist models, and reader-centered cognitive models.	ENG.V1	• Group teaching (F2F Lectures) • Virtual sessions • Class Discussion	• Assignments • Online Quizzes • Discussion boards • Midterm Exam • Final Exam

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Week 1 topics:Introduction to the course	3
2	Week 2 Topics:Perspectives on Translation	3
3	Week 3 topics:Modelling the Translation Process	3
4	Week 4 topics: Equivalence at Word Level	3
5	Week 5 topics: Equivalence Above the Word Level	3
6	Week 6 topics: Equivalence Above the Word Level	3
7	Week 7 topics: Grammatical Equivalence	3
8	Week 8 topics: Revision	3
9	Week 9 topics: Midterm Exam	0
10	Week 10 topics: The role of Translation in Arabization	3
11	Week 11 topics: Textual Equivalence (Thematic and Information Sturcture)	3
12	Week 12 topics: Textual Equivalence (Cohesion)	3
13	Week 13 topics: Pragmatic Equivalence	3
14	Week 14 topics: The Ethics of Translation	3

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
15	Week 15 topics: Text Processing and Intercultural Translation	3
16	Week 16 topics: Revision	3
Total		45

D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities*	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Group Presentation	3-12	10%
2	Assignment 1	5-6	10%
3	Assignment 2	8-9	10%
4	In-Class Activity	13-13	10%
5	Midterm Exam	7-7	20%
6	Final Exam	15-17	40%

***Assessment Activities (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)**

E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1.References and Learning Resources

Essential References	Title: In other words: A course book on translation Author: Baker, M. Publisher: London: Routledge (2011) ISBN: 9780415467537 / 9780415467544 (print) Title: Translation and Translating: Theory and Practice Authors: Bell, R. Publisher: London: Routledge (1991) ISBN: 0582016487 (print)
Supportive References	None
Electronic Materials	Videos and Articles on Blackboard.
Other Learning Materials	None

2. Required Facilities and Equipment

Item	Resources
Facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms,simulation rooms, etc.)	Classroom
Technology equipment (projector, Smart Board, software)	Blackboard, Data show
Other Equipment (depending on the nature of the specialty)	None

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of students assessments	Faculty members	Direct
Quality of Learning Resources	Committee of learning resources & Elearning	Direct
Effectiveness of Teaching	Students	Indirect "Student-Survey"
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Quality committee	Direct

Assessors **(Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify)**
Assessment Methods **(Direct, Indirect)**

G. Specification Approval

Council / Committee	English Language and Translation Department Council
Reference No.	19
Date	5/13/2026