

# THE CENTER FOR TRANSLATION STUDIES

School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics | College of Liberal Arts and Sciences | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## OUR COMMITMENT

University of Illinois is committed to world-class translation education and to the art and craft of translation. The goal the Translation Studies program is to provide a combination of rigorous academic study and substantive real-life experience.

## TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TRANSLATORS

The Center for Translation Studies and Dalkey Archive Press at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, are collaborating to train the next generation of translators and to make available to an American audience the most exciting contemporary fiction and poetry from around the world. Pairing Dalkey Archive's more than 25 years of award-winning publishing with the University's extensive language Departments, which include studies in more than 30 languages as well as dynamic linguistics and creative writing departments, the program of the University's Center for Translation Studies will provide world-class translation education and will offer students real-world opportunities to practice the art and craft of translation.

At the academic core is cooperation between the Center for Translation Studies, the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, and the Creative Writing Program—all in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The School has nine academic departments, with BA, MA and PhD programs covering a broad range of world literatures, and faculty with translation experience in languages from Baoulé to Zulu. These departments will offer language-specific workshops and general courses on translation theory and practice. The Department of Linguistics engages in all major areas of linguistic research, including computational linguistics. The Creative Writing Program, featuring National Book Award winner Richard Powers and recent Guggenheim

recipient Brigit Kelly, will supplement the Center for Translation Studies' program with workshop courses and the opportunity to work on the prize-winning literary magazine *Ninth Letter*. The broad interests of more than 100 faculty members in these departments ensures a wealth of literary understanding and background for future translators. This breadth and depth of knowledge of the world's literatures is supported by one of the foremost university libraries in the world, with more than ten million volumes. The Center will be establishing a state-of-the-art translation lab to train students in terminology research as well as in the management of the latest in computer-assisted translation tools.

At the heart of the program is a unique combination of rigorous academic study and substantive real-life experience. Students interested in pursuing careers in literary translation have the opportunity to learn about publishing and editing translated works. Dalkey Archive Press is the leading publisher of translated literature in the U.S., and a nonprofit organization with an educational mission. Students studying the theory and art of translation in the Center's program will have opportunities not only to see how publishing works, but also to create and publish their own translations while they are still enrolled. As part of their course of study, they will prepare book-length translations on the cutting-edge of world literary production for publication. No translation program in the world offers this unique synergy of study and experience.

The first stages of building this program began in Fall 2007, when Dalkey Archive Press moved to the University to begin working with students and laying the groundwork for this unique academic and professional partnership. Plans for an initial certificate program began with the naming of the director of the Center for Translation Studies, Dr. Elizabeth Lowe, former

director of Translation Studies at the University of Florida. A Graduate Certificate in Translation Studies will be launched in Spring 2009. In the coming years, the Center will develop a stand-alone MA/MFA degree program, which will allow students to pursue various translation specialties, including literary translation, translation theory and history, terminology studies, computer-assisted translation and language technologies, technical translation and translation for the professions. The partnership with Dalkey Archive Press will offer students the opportunity to specialize in the literary translation publishing business, including editing, marketing, production and sales. And finally, students will have opportunities to study and do internships abroad in collaboration with established translation schools in Europe, South America and Asia. In addition to academic and professional offerings, the Center will be a leading voice in the field of translation, organizing special events to raise the profile of translation and translation studies in the United States and around the world. In October 2008, the Center will co-host an inaugural conference with the Program in Medieval Studies titled "Translating the Middle Ages." This international conference will feature former U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky and Pulitzer-prize winning translator W.S. Merwin.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

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