Diverse Capstone Projects Reflect Breadth of CTS Program Participants

Students seeking a certificate in translation studies tend to be primed for a multicultural education through past experiences that have opened their eyes to the interconnectedness of a global society. Most began learning a foreign language at a very young age, and many have visited or lived in other countries, either with their families or through study abroad programs.

Senior Daniel Gutiérrez Mena, who grew up in Lima, Peru, and Chicago, knew when entering the University of Illinois that he wanted to capitalize on his native bilingualism in Spanish and English. In May, he will graduate with a BS in Interdisciplinary Health and a minor in Sociology. During the past few years, Gutiérrez has acquired significant experience in Spanish translation and interpreting through various practical experiences, such as an internship at McKinley Health Center on campus and employment at the Prevention and Treatment Services program in Urbana.

Gutiérrez’s capstone project through the translation studies program is another valuable addition to the portfolio of work he’s building. Through the Health Justice Project, a clinical social work program sponsored by Loyola University, Gutiérrez is helping translate letters and brochures for patients/clients from English into Spanish.

“’I have long noticed an imbalance in levels of literacy in different ethnic groups,’” said Gutiérrez. He hopes his work contributes to alleviation of that problem. “’I try to find a balance between providing full information and ensuring that it is digestible,’” he added. Gutiérrez emphasized the importance of using general Spanish terms in his work, while always remaining aware of differences in dialect and education that the user may be incorporating in their comprehension.

Becoming familiar with the vernacular takes some time, agreed senior Justin Suevel of Des Plaines, Ill., who will graduate this spring with a BA in German and Commercial Studies.

Suevel began studying German as a freshman in high school and settled upon a related major when he applied to the University of Illinois. In taking a first-year Discovery course on translation taught by Center for Translation Studies Director Elizabeth Lowe, Suevel was inspired to apply for the certificate program, which he began in earnest his junior year.

Suevel said his study abroad in Vienna, Austria, for six months in 2014 truly provided him the language fluency he needed to be successful in literary translation. Since then, he’s also learned to use TRADOS software, which he finds indispensable.

Suevel receives his capstone project assignments—procedural manuals and other technical documents—from ThyssenKrupp Presta, a camshafts manufacturer, electronically. Robinson reviews and edits Suevel’s translations, and the feedback has expanded Suevel’s technical vocabulary and process knowledge, he said.

“The work is hard to understand even in my native language. It’s like an enormous research project,” said Suevel. “But the work feels very professional; it’s hands-on, not just theoretical. I know when I graduate from the program, I’ll be equipped to seek work as a translation professional.”

Carly Goranson, a senior from Glenview, Ill., who is about to earn bachelor’s degrees in both Spanish and Portuguese along with the translation certificate, concurs. Part-time jobs in both high school and college allowed Goranson frequent contact with native Spanish speakers, allowing her frequent practice developing second language skills. Meanwhile, she is completing bi-weekly, same-day translations of Mexican newspaper articles for the blog, Mexico Voices, for her capstone project.

“The capstone project is the real deal,” said Goranson. “There is a whole new layer of responsibility with this project, and it is very refreshing to know that our work is benefiting others. I believe the capstone project is a wonderful transition between being a student translator and becoming a professional translator. I feel like I can apply every bit of knowledge and experience gained to my future career.”

Diverse Capstone Projects Reflect Breadth of CTS Program Participants

Students seeking a certificate in translation studies tend to be primed for a multicultural education through past experiences that have opened their eyes to the interconnectedness of a global society. Most began learning a foreign language at a very young age, and many have visited or lived in other countries, either with their families or through study abroad programs.

Senior Daniel Gutiérrez Mena, who grew up in Lima, Peru, and Chicago, knew when entering the University of Illinois that he wanted to capitalize on his native bilingualism in Spanish and English. In May, he will graduate with a BS in Interdisciplinary Health and a minor in Sociology. During the past few years, Gutiérrez has acquired significant experience in Spanish translation and interpreting through various practical experiences, such as an internship at McKinley Health Center on campus and employment at the Prevention and Treatment Services program in Urbana.

Gutiérrez's capstone project through the translation studies program is another valuable addition to the portfolio of work he's building. Through the Health Justice Project, a clinical social work program sponsored by Loyola University, Gutiérrez is helping translate letters and brochures for patients/clients from English into Spanish.

“I have long noticed an imbalance in levels of literacy in different ethnic groups,” said Gutiérrez. He hopes his work contributes to alleviation of that problem. “I try to find a balance between providing full information and ensuring that it is digestible,” he added. Gutiérrez emphasized the importance of using general Spanish terms in his work, while always remaining aware of differences in dialect and education that the user may be incorporating in their comprehension.

Becoming familiar with the vernacular takes some time, agreed senior Justin Suevel of Des Plaines, Ill., who will graduate this spring with a BA in German and Commercial Studies.

Suevel began studying German as a freshman in high school and settled upon a related major when he applied to the University of Illinois. In taking a first-year Discovery course on translation taught by Center for Translation Studies Director Elizabeth Lowe, Suevel was inspired to apply for the certificate program, which he began in earnest his junior year.

Suevel said his study abroad in Vienna, Austria, for six months in 2014 truly provided him the language fluency he needed to be successful in literary translation. Since then, he’s also learned to use TRADOS software, which he finds indispensable.

Suevel receives his capstone project assignments—procedural manuals and other technical documents—from ThyssenKrupp Presta, a camshafts manufacturer, electronically. Robinson reviews and edits Suevel’s translations, and the feedback has expanded Suevel’s technical vocabulary and process knowledge, he said.

“The work is hard to understand even in my native language. It’s like an enormous research project,” said Suevel. “But the work feels very professional; it’s hands-on, not just theoretical. I know when I graduate from the program, I’ll be equipped to seek work as a translation professional.”

Carly Goranson, a senior from Glenview, Ill., who is about to earn bachelor's degrees in both Spanish and Portuguese along with the translation certificate, concurs. Part-time jobs in both high school and college allowed Goranson frequent contact with native Spanish speakers, allowing her frequent practice developing second language skills. Meanwhile, she is completing bi-weekly, same-day translations of Mexican newspaper articles for the blog, Mexico Voices, for her capstone project.

“The capstone project is the real deal,” said Goranson. “There is a whole new layer of responsibility with this project, and it is very refreshing to know that our work is benefiting others. I believe the capstone project is a wonderful transition between being a student translator and becoming a professional translator. I feel like I can apply every bit of knowledge and experience gained to my future career.”
New Spaces of Translation:  
Third International Conference on Translation and Related Disciplines

In the third iteration by joint sponsors, the Center for Translation Studies at the University of Illinois and the Université Diderot Paris, the International Conference on Translation and Related Disciplines examined the changing landscape of the field through the concept of “New Spaces.” Conference participants who visited Champaign-Urbana on April 10 and 11 considered how “globalization and advances in technology have profoundly influenced how we think about and practice translation and interpreting,” according to conference co-chairs Elizabeth Lowe, CTS director at Illinois, and Antoine Cazé, CTS director at Université Diderot.

Keynote presentations were provided by Douglas Hofstadter, director of the Center for Research on Concepts and Cognition at Indiana University, and David Bellos, director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University. Faculty representing several universities participated in panel discussions.

Hofstadter, a past recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction for his book *Gödel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid*, gave a talk called “Does Pattern Matter? What is the Purpose of Translating a Poem?” Hofstadter, who described himself as having “one foot in the sciences and another in the arts,” said in his talk he emphasized the importance of translating imagery—not just words. “Hear ideas, and render them in your language,” is advice Hofstadter offered to literary translators. “Translation really gets tricky when you pay strict attention to form.”


The conference included a book exhibition and readings by guest authors/translators, and the University of Illinois Modern Languages and Literatures Libraries sponsored an exhibition of translation materials. Conference proceedings will be published by the Dalkey Archive Press Scholarly Series. Please visit the conference [website](http://www.conferences.illinois.edu/translation) for more details.

---

**Keynote Presentations**

Douglas Hofstadter  
Professor of Computer Science at Indiana University  
David Bellos  
Professor of French and Italian and Comparative Literature, and Director of the Program in Translation and Intercultural Communication at Princeton University

**Registration Deadline**

April 1, 2015 • 1 avril 2015

**Sponsors**

The Center for Translation Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Université Paris Diderot  
Paris, France  

**Co-Sponsors**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, George A. Miller Visiting Professors and Scholars Program, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, Department of Comparative and World Literature, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of English, Department of French and Italian, Department of Linguistics, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, European Union Center, Russian and East European Center, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and Center for African Studies

**Université Paris Diderot**

Paris, France  
Interdiciplinary Research Program on Translation and the Humanities, Research Center on Comparative Linguistics, Lexicology and Corpus Linguistics, and UFR d Etudes Anglophones

---

**ILFIS**

Illinois Fire Service Institute  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  

**PUBLICATIONS**

New Spaces of Translation  
Translating Cultures: A Reader  

**WEB SITE**

www.conferences.illinois.edu/translation
The State of the Center for Translation Studies

Since I will depart from the position of founding Director of the Center for Translation Studies in August 2015, I would like to share my assessment of what we have accomplished since 2008, when I arrived at the University of Illinois. It has been the capstone of my career to have the privilege of founding the Center and its programs: the undergraduate and graduate certificates in Translation Studies and the M.A. in Translation and Interpreting, in both its online and campus iterations.

We have achieved important benchmarks since we began the process of building the Center in 2008. The Center is now firmly established as a peer among distinguished institutions in the United States and internationally. Our first MA cohort of twelve is graduating in May 2015, and we are in the process of selecting the candidates for admission to the class of 2017. We have awarded certificates to over 200 undergraduate and graduate students from many different degree programs at the University of Illinois who work in a plethora of world languages. Our graduates, both at the certificate and MA levels, are finding employment worthy of their education and training at the University of Illinois. We have built one of the best translation libraries in the world. The online Translation Resource Portal managed by the Literatures and Languages Library is the envy of our peer programs.

Here are some of the highlights of the past eight years:

- We have designed a state-of-the-art translation and interpreting curriculum, for delivery online and on-site, that is aligned with international standards for translation and interpreter education as defined by organizations such as the International Standards Organization, the American Translators Association, and the European Master of Translation. This is the product of intensive work of our teaching staff in collaboration with the instructional design team at the UIUC Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning.

- The Center has forged international partnerships with important translation centers around the world, notably, with the Université Paris VII (Denis Diderot), the University of Vienna, Stockholm University, the Institut Supérieur de Traduction et Interprètes in Brussels, Hong Kong Chinese University, and the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil. Our Center has a partnership with the European Union Directorate General of Translation.

- Our faculty have presented and played a leadership role at major national and international conferences, including the annual American Translators Association (ATA) conference, the American Literary Translators Association (ALTA) annual conference, the American Translation and Interpreting Studies Association (ATISA), and the Monterey Forum, hosted by Middlebury Institute of International Studies. Faculty have also published in peer-reviewed translation journals and produced prizewinning literary translations.

- We have entered into partnership with the Illinois Fire Service Institute, having just installed state-of-the-art interpreting equipment in the professional interpreting booths in the IFSI international conference center auditorium. Our interpreting classes are taught at IFSI.

- The Center has co-sponsored three international translation conferences with our “privileged partner” Université Paris Diderot, the most recent currently underway. We have also collaborated with consulates and international cultural organizations in organizing special events around the theme of translation.

- We were awarded an NEH grant for a summer institute for college and university teachers in summer 2013, around the theme of “The Centrality of Translation to the Humanities.” Chris Higgins (College of Education) was a co-PI on the grant. This program assembled 25 talented faculty members from institutions around the country at the University of Illinois campus for three weeks of intensive dialogue with prominent translation scholars. The results included new translations, scholarly articles, and the introduction of translation courses into the participants’ respective programs.

Most importantly, our students are succeeding. The members of our graduating

(Director’s corner continued on page 4)
class, who live and work across the United States and in countries as distant as Japan, China, and Brazil, are fully employed. Their jobs include supervising translation services in management positions in major hospitals, translating legal documents for law firms, starting up freelance translation companies, performing literary translation for prominent presses, managing projects for localization companies, translation and interpreting work for international companies, advancing teaching careers by incorporating translation into high school curricula, and teaching at the MA level.

There are many challenges ahead. More translation and interpreting programs are emerging around the United States and abroad. The strength and integrity of the curriculum must be maintained, and this is a function of recruiting and retaining a highly trained and dedicated faculty. It is essential for program managers to track the rapidly changing needs of the job market and its evolving technologies. The program has an obligation to continue to nurture and mentor its students, so as to assure their success in a burgeoning and rapidly diversifying profession.

It has been an enormous privilege to have been given the opportunity to establish the Center for Translation Studies at the University of Illinois. It has been a collaborative effort, involving the time and talent of many colleagues. The School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, and the rich resources of the University of Illinois, have played a major part in the success and potential of our efforts.

The future is bright for our students. The Center is strong.

Meet a CTS Faculty Member

Paula Mae Carns is head of the Literatures and Languages Library, librarian for Western European Studies, and associate professor and librarian for the Center for Translation Studies. She has been affiliated with CTS since 2011.

“My work for the center is two-fold,” said Carns in a recent interview in her office at 200 South Main Library. “I obtain the books, journals, and databases necessary for faculty and students in the program to do their work. I also work directly with students to access library materials.”

Learning to navigate the comprehensive library system at the University of Illinois can be a daunting experience, Carns said, but after a training session with her, CTS students will be much more information-savvy. Carns gives attention to our online, off-campus students as well, shipping books “all over the place,” she said, and identifying a growing number of electronic resources that are readily accessible.

Visit www.library.illinois.edu/llx and click on “Translation Studies” in the lefthand column for a look at all the helpful resources Carns has collected for translation students and professionals. These include information about the digitization of print materials, term banks, and links to professional organizations.

Events

The Center for Translation Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and Program in Medieval Studies are co-sponsoring a series of campus talks this semester. The first took place in January and featured scholar Bill Porter, who spoke on “Chinese Poetry and the Art of Translation.” Jenny Wang Medina lectured on April 1 (“Great Expectations: South Korea and the Making of Global ‘Korean’ Literature”) and Royall Tyler on April 17 (“Reflections on Translating Heike and Other Japanese Classics”).
Faculty News

• CTS Director Elizabeth Lowe taught a course in specialized domain translation at the Vienna (Austria) Center for Translation Studies from Nov. 20-Dec. 20, 2014.

• Associate professor Rosina Neginsky’s new book of poetry, *In the Garden of Luxembourg*, has been published. The book includes poems in three languages: French, English, and few poems in Russian. Neginsky will give a presentation, “Moving Between Languages,” on translating her own poetry at the Université Jean Moulin in Lyon, France, on May 20.

• Instructor Elias Shakkour was recently certified by the American Translators Association for Spanish-to-English translation. Shakkour was already certified in both Arabic- and German-to-English translation. Shakkour will be a presenter at the Chicago Area Translators and Interpreters Association annual conference in May.

Course Peek

**CHIN 490: Translating Culture and Daily Life: China and U.S.**

“Translating Culture and Daily Life: China and U.S.” is an experimental course which has its debut in the spring semester of 2015. Taught by Gehui Zhang, a Ph.D. candidate from the Department of Sociology, this course is geared toward undergraduate and graduate students with an intermediate to advanced level of English and Mandarin who wish to hone their speaking and writing skills in both languages. This course is offered both in Mandarin and English. Such an innovative design not only aims to advance students’ bilingual skills, but to deepen their understandings of the changing cultural and linguistic contexts of China and the U.S.

In the class, students will be engaged in dialogues on a broad selection of subjects about both societies, such as higher education, media, poverty, high technology, social networks, religion, dating cultures, and marriage. Through readings and discussions, this class will create a platform upon which students can develop a critical view on social and cultural contexts in which certain public opinions on chosen topics are embedded as well as how the complex and intricate interconnections between these two countries may have shaped those public opinions.
Ya en esos tiempos la vida social se nos había desdibujado y solo se encontraba una con sus amistades en las asambleas y en las gaseadas de las marchas, otras se fueron para siempre, y a Ella la perdí de vista. Pero un día pasé por el Mercado y la necesidad de un caldo de gallina para acallar la rabia que tenía contra los asesinos de Isis Obed Murillo, y el dolor por haber sido acusadas de cómplices morales de su muerte, me hicieron buscarla. El puesto estaba cerrado. Vi de lejos el candadote en la puerta.

¿Y qué se hizo?

Pregunté a su vecina, que palmeaba tortillas y cantaba una canción contra Satanás.

Pues usté mire, es que ella no es completa de la cabeza. Ahí dejó un papelito.

Cierto, me acerqué y vi en color azul un mensaje: Hoy no abrimos, nos fuimos a la Resistencia.

Ella vino con su fuerza.

Ella es la Resistencia.

Ella merece el nombre de su madre: Honduras.
It’s Time to Register for Fall Semester Courses!

ONLINE COURSES

FIRST EIGHT WEEKS
- TRST 410: Translation Theory and Practice
- TRST 500: Translation Methods and Ethics
- TRST 406: Translation for Professions
- TRST 542: Conference Interpreting
- TRST 502: Applied Literary Translation II

SECOND EIGHT WEEKS
- TRST 407: Terminology and CAT
- TRST 580: Localization
- TRST 580: Translation for Government and International Organizations

CAMPUS COURSES
- TRST 201: Intro to Translation Studies
- TRST 406: Translation for Professions
- TRST 407: Terminology and CAT
- TRST 408: Translation Tools & Practice
- TRST 412: Spanish-English Translation
- TRST 440: Translation Studies Capstone
- TRST 500: Translation Methods and Ethics
- TRST 502: Applied Literary Translation II
- TRST 542: Conference Interpreting

What We’re Reading

Nuremberg and Beyond: The Memoirs of Siegfried Ramler from 20th Century Europe to Hawaii

Hawaii (Ahuna Press, 2008)

Author Siegfried Ramler recounts his life, career, and world events beginning with his childhood in Austria and the subsequent terrors of growing up during World War II, including his role at war’s end as an interrogator and interpreter at the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials. Ramler’s marriage to a Hawaiian court reporter on the Nuremberg staff launched him on an incredible life’s journey from Europe, across America, and on to the island of Hawai‘i, where he has long served as an educator and administrator at the Punahou Academy, the largest independent school in the United States. Ramler continues to promote cross-cultural understanding as Senior Fellow at the East-West Center, based in Honolulu.

CENTER FOR TRANSLATION STUDIES
School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

4080 Foreign Languages Building
MC-171
707 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: (217) 244-7455
translation@illinois.edu
translation.illinois.edu

To submit content, contact:
Sheila Lammers, Editor
lammers@illinois.edu

This newsletter is produced by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Office of Communications and Marketing.