	PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION (Taught Postgraduate)	Newcastle University

1	Awarding Institution	Newcastle University
2	Teaching Institution	Newcastle University
3	Final Award	MA
4	Programme Title	Translating and Interpreting Translating Interpreting Translation Studies
5	Programme Code	4040F 4041F 4042F 4059F
6	Programme Accreditation	N/A
7	QAA Subject Benchmark(s)	N/A
8	FHEQ Level	7
9	Last updated	

10	Programme Aims

The broad educational aims of the programme are:

- to develop and widen students' knowledge and understanding of translating and/or interpreting both as a profession and an academic discipline

- to provide students with knowledge of what it means to be a translating/ interpreting professional in terms not only of practical techniques, but also of attitudes and ethics

- to provide students with substantial translating and interpreting experience to reach starter – professional level standard

- to provide students with advanced language training in both A and B languages[1]

- to address national and international needs for cross- cultural communication

The programme aims to produce graduates with the following qualities:

- competence in the skills of translating and interpreting which they will be able to consolidate and develop further in their professional fields as translators and /or interpreters

- the ability to exploit available resources such as internet information, library books, and informants to solve problems specific to both language and subject areas

- proficiency in both source and target languages

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[1] The B-language is a translator's "second" language. The A-language is his/her language of best command (usually the mother tongue).

- competence in critical analysis and translating and/or interpreting work, and the application of theory to practice
- the ability to develop an interest in translating or interpreting as a topic of academic study and research

To provide a programme which satisfies the expectations of a Level 7 programme in the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and complies with prevailing University policies and QAA codes of practice.

11   Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes have references to the benchmark statements for Translation.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should have gained a knowledge of:

A1   the generic skills appropriate to advanced study in arts and humanities, both theoretical and practical, at Masters level

A2   the demands of a wide range of translating or interpreting situations and the various strategies and approaches that can be taken to meet these demands

A3   the key concepts in translating and/or interpreting theory, criticism, processes and professional practice

A4   expert, systematic and critical knowledge in independent and self-chosen study relating to translating and interpreting

Teaching and Learning Methods

The primary means of imparting knowledge and understanding is a combination of lectures, seminars, tutorials and hands-on practice. Lectures will provide students with basic background knowledge, which will be explored further in seminars, and will direct them toward further reading and study material which they will use to consolidate and develop their knowledge and understanding. Seminars follow up the lectures and focus on specific topics to provide opportunities for further discussion and exchange of ideas. Tutorials provide students with opportunities for in-depth guidance on self-study. Students and staff access materials on Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) platforms such as Blackboard. Materials are available in digital speech banks and term banks. In some cases, feedback is given via VLE platforms.

Assessment Strategy

A1 – A4 skills are assessed by means of continuous assessment in the form of seminar presentations, submitted written translation with commentary and interpreting tasks (formative), and by means of written (word-processed) translation examinations and live panel interpreting examinations, and a final translating or interpreting project, or dissertation carried out independently, under the supervision of specialist staff members.

Intellectual Skills

On completing the programme, students should have the following subject-specific/ professional skills :

B1	sufficient language proficiency to undertake translation and interpreting tasks to starter- professional standard (Language B to Language A), and to a good non-native professional standard (Language A to Language B)
B2	skills to complete and analyse translation tasks in a wide range of text types to starter- professional standard, and to a good non-native professional standard (Language A to Language B)
B3	starter- professional skills in consecutive and/or simultaneous interpreting in a wide range of text types
B4	the ability to choose from and use a wide range of strategies and approaches to tackle different translation and interpreting tasks
B5	the ability to use informants to improve translation/interpreting output
B6	familiarity with and ability to use state of the art translation and interpreting technology
B7	knowledge of the key aspects of career management in translating and/or interpreting

Teaching and Learning Methods

These skills will be developed through translating/interpreting, language, and information technology classes. Students will be enabled to develop their translation and interpreting skills through private study, tandem learning, the use of self-study facilities available in the Robinson Library and the Language Resource Centre, and the use of informants in both language and subject areas.

Assessment Strategy

B1 is assessed by formative written assessment and oral presentations. B2-7 are assessed by formative and summative assessment.

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Practical Skills

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On completing the programme students should be able to:

C1   gather data, synthesise and evaluate complex information

C2   undertake independent, critical analysis, and make optimal decisions

C3   identify the key issues, organise and present ideas convincingly, and draw well-reasoned conclusions

C4   apply appropriate methodologies including IT to specific areas of study

Teaching and Learning Methods

These skills will be developed though seminars with associated reading. The assessed pieces of work combining practical translating/interpreting tasks and essays also provide a significant further opportunity to develop cognitive skills. The dissertation or translating/interpreting projects consolidate and reinforce students' cognitive skills through undertaking independent and in-depth research in a specific area.

Assessment Strategy

C1-4 are assessed formatively by continuous assessment and summatively by submitted written work, examination and the final translating/interpreting project or dissertation.

Transferable/Key Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: D1   independently manage their time, make plans, and set priorities to achieve a complex objective D2   exploit library and bibliographic research resources D3   use email, databases, and information-technology as research and professional tools D4   identify and solve problems D5   communicate effectively D6   work with others as part of a team both online and face to face to achieve an objective
Teaching and Learning Methods
Lectures, seminars, tutorials, with the associated reading and study encourage the acquisition of key skills. Practical translating/interpreting tasks, classroom presentations, assessed work, and finally the project/dissertation, will further develop the students' key skills.
Assessment Strategy
D1-4 is assessed through submitted written assignments and the translating/interpreting projects or dissertation. D5-6 are not specifically assessed, but their development contributes towards obtaining higher-level results in all types of assessment.

12   **Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features**
Basic structure of the programme

Duration of the course: 2 years
 	
Number of Stages:
Stage 1 is a common first year.
 	
Stage 2 students are able to follow one of four pathways:
    -   MA in Interpreting (4042),
    -   MA in Translating (4041),
    -   MA in Translating and Interpreting (4040), or
    -   MA in Translation Studies (4059)
 	
Overall credit arrangements:
    -   120 credits for Stage 1 (or Year 1)
    -   180 credits for Stage 2 (or Year 2)

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)
The MA in Translating and Interpreting is a two-year course of postgraduate study, balanced between professional and academic training. The study programme consists of a common first year, followed by another year of study leading to the MA. In Stage 2, students are able to follow one of four pathways: the more professionally-oriented MA in Interpreting (4042), MA in Translating and Interpreting (4040) and MA in Translating (4041), or the more academically oriented MA in Translation Studies (4059).

The choice of pathway depends on the recommendations of the Board of Examiners after reviewing students' performance in the first year, and students' own strengths and interests.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

[4040, 4041, 4042, 4059 Programme Regulations 23-24](#)

| 13 | Support for Student Learning |

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[Generic Information](#)

| 14 | Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning |

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[Generic Information](#)

| 15 | Regulation of assessment |

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

[Generic Information](#)

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/

Degree Programme and University Regulations: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.