GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide beginning instruction and practice in English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English translation. During the course, students will be working with translation at the sentence level. Additionally, the course includes theoretical notions to help guide students develop their translation skills.

The course aims are aligned with the following Student Learning Outcomes the BA Major and Minor program in Spanish Translation and Interpreting.

# 1 Students will develop critical reading skills both in English and Spanish by learning to differentiate stylistic, formal, denotative and connotative aspects within a text.
# 2 Students will develop superior writing skills both in English and Spanish by producing stylistically and grammatically cogent textual materials in both languages without strong reciprocal interference.
# 3 Students will attain advanced knowledge in the theory and practice of translating a text from English into Spanish and vice versa by considering cultural, morphosyntactical and formal differences between both languages.
# 4 Students will learn how to translate general texts from English into Spanish and vice versa at a professional level by successfully dealing with major syntactical and lexical problems while accurately conveying meaning both at a denotative and at a connotative level.
Course assignments and evaluation

Readings
In this course you will be reading from two books: Green and Lunn/Lunsford. Additionally, you will read segments from an unpublished book: Green Huie. The readings must be done before coming to class, according to the class schedule (see below). Failure to do the readings will affect your ability to learn and to do well in this class.

Additionally, you will be asked to read a novel in English. You will take a quiz every other week on specific chapters (see schedule below). This will be the very first thing we will do on quiz days, so do not be late!

Translation homework
In this course you will learn the basics of translation by working at the sentence level. In other words, you will be translating lots of sentences. All translation assignments must be done before coming to class.

Lessons in the Green, Green Huie, and Lunn/Lunsford textbooks includes one or several translation exercises. In the case of the Green or Green Huie readings, you will have to do all translation exercises. In the case of the Lunn/Lunsford readings, you will have to do only those translation exercises indicated in the course schedule below.

You will do these exercises before coming to class on the day that particular lesson’s reading is due. All such exercises are take-home assignments and must be completed outside the classroom individually. This means they are not to be done in groups with other students and they are not to be done by machine translation software. Failure to do your own translation will result in diminished learning and a loss of points! (Exceptions to this rule prohibiting collaboration in the drafting of translations, if there be any, will be clearly signaled by the professor.)

You will bring two copies of each homework assignment to class. As you walk in, you will give one of those copies to the professor. The other copy you will keep to review in class. Failure to turn in a copy to the professor will be penalized. Failure to turn in full exercises (i.e., every sentence has been translated) will also be penalized.

Quizzes
In this course, quizzes are designed to test your understanding of the novel. Each chapter in the novel will have its own quiz. Make sure you read the novel carefully.

Quizzes will be the first item of business, so be on time! There will be no make-up for the quizzes.

Tests
In this course you will take two tests. The first one will test your knowledge of material covered during the translate-into-English portion of the class, and the second one will test your knowledge of material covered during the translate-into-Spanish portion of the class. The first

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test will be held about halfway through the semester and the second will be held during our assigned time for finals. Please note that there is no final exam per se; instead we will have two midterms.

Be on time! There will be no make-up for the tests.

Blackboard and online communications
Please make sure you are able to access the Blackboard platform.

Do not use Blackboard for communicating with the instructor; please use this e-mail address: Gabriel.GonzalezNunez@utrgv.edu.

Extra credit
Students wishing to earn extra credit, may earn up to an additional 5% in this course. To earn this extra credit, the student must complete a translation project as follows:

The student must select a 300-word text in Spanish or English that has not been translated before. This text may be extracted from a newspaper, a magazine, a novel. The professor must okay the text before the student begins translating. By the last day of class, the student will turn in his or her translation project. The translation project will consist of three parts: 1) the source text in Spanish or English, 2) the translation into English or Spanish, and 3) a two-page report describing a) exactly what the translation procedure was like, b) the difficulties found, and c) how the translator solved them.

Course languages
This course will be taught in two languages. The first half (translation into English) will be in English, and students will be expected to use English in class. The second half (translation into Spanish) will be in Spanish, and students will be expected to use Spanish in class.

Course materials

Required:

Textbooks:


Dictionary:


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University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Novel: Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Word for World is Forest*. (Any edition will do.)

Strongly recommended:


You will need more than a mere “pocket” dictionary. A good dictionary is a life-time professional tool for a translator. Please, make sure you acquire “professional” size dictionaries. (Low-priced, second-hand, good-quality dictionaries are available at sites like Amazon.com and Half.com.)

Grading

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Roll will be taken. <strong>One</strong> undocumented absence will be allowed. Your final grade will be lowered for every additional, unjustified absence. Absences due to religious holidays will be accepted upon previous notice. <strong>Every tardy</strong> will also diminish your attendance/participation grade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation assignments</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>See above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>See above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>See above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra credit</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>See above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total possible percentage</td>
<td>105%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Schedule

The following is the class schedule. If something does not make sense to you, ask the professor to clarify it:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>In-class work</th>
<th>Readings/Homework due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 Aug</td>
<td>Course introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Translation into English</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Sep</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Exam 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Oct</td>
<td><em>Traducción al español</em> Asuntos formales Prueba cap. 4, <em>Word for World</em></td>
<td><strong>Green Huie</strong>: Acentos escritos; mayúsculas y minúsculas; Puntuación</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Oct</td>
<td>Asuntos formales Asuntos léxicos</td>
<td><strong>Green Huie</strong>: Formas inglesas con apóstrofo; Cognados, calcos y anglicismos <strong>Lunn/Lunsford</strong>: C1. “Los cogandos y los falsos amigos” [hacer ejercicio: Estudie los falsos amigos…]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nov</td>
<td>Estructuras del español Prueba cap. 5, <em>Word for World</em></td>
<td><strong>Wheatley</strong>: Concordancia adjetival; concordancia verbal <strong>Green Huie</strong>: Artículo determinado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>Estructuras del español</td>
<td><strong>Lunn/Lunsford</strong>: C3. La descripción I [hacer ejercicios 2 y 3]; C4. La descripción II [hacer ejercicios 1, 2, 4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Nov</td>
<td>Estructuras del español</td>
<td><strong>Green Huie</strong>: Voz pasiva <strong>Lunn/Lunsford</strong>: C5. La impersonalidad [hacer ejercicio 4]; C9. “Gramática: Repaso de la voz pasiva” [sin ejercicio] <strong>Green Huie</strong>: Gerundivos; Formas inglesas en –ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Dec</td>
<td>Repaso para el examen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Dec</td>
<td>Día de estudio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–13 Dec</td>
<td><strong>Examen 2</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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*Remember, you must do the translation exercises *before* class.

Please see UTRGV’s semester calendar for additional dates concerning administrative issues: [https://my.utrgv.edu/home](https://my.utrgv.edu/home).

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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services.

Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting (reasonably immediate postpartum period) are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services for additional information and to request accommodations.

Student Accessibility Services
Brownsville Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.
Edinburg Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available on or about:

Module 1 October 4 – 10
Module 2 November 29 – December 5
Full Fall Semester November 15 – December 5

ATTENDANCE:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials

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that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for
another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to
commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the
integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced
(Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All
scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee”
for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance,
occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence,
domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this
course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found
at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The
faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living
environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free
from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS:
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade
of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter
grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be
aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped
classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that
dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their
undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education
institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to
additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

STUDENT SERVICES:
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to
paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students
should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central
is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by
email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U
Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to
an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing
Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring,
writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment.
Locations are:

- Learning center: BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- Writing center: BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- Advising center: BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- Career center: BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)

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