Audiovisual Translation
TRSP/SPAN 6348
(This document is tentative and subject to change at any time during the semester.)

Class Schedule: This course is 100% online
Hours: Whenever you can
Estimated weekly workload: 7 hours weekly
Room: Blackboard
Instructor: Dr. Nazaret Fresno Cañada
E-mail: nazaret.fresno@utrgv.edu
Phone: (956) 882-7450
Office hours: Mondays from 9:00 to 12:00 and Tuesdays from 12:00 to 2:00 or by email. Please allow 24 hours for e-mail response in the weekdays and 48 hours in the weekends.
Office location: Main 1.528, Brownsville campus

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

No textbook is needed for this course. The instructor will provide the theoretical contents as well as the audiovisual texts to be translated.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of this course is to provide a theoretical and practical overview of the most common audiovisual translation modes and techniques. The focus will be laid on subtitling, dubbing and audio description. When necessary, students will learn how to use software frequently related to these activities. At the end of this course:

1. Students will get to know the insights of the audiovisual translation practice and will develop a critical attitude towards the quality of the current dubbed, subtitled and audio described products.

2. Students will gain hands-on experience in the fields of dubbing, subtitling and audio description through comprehensive practical work.

3. Students will learn the tricks and secrets to give their translation a better and more professional touch.
4. When possible, students will learn how to use specific software to turn their translation scripts into comprehensive audiovisual products.

In order to take this course, students must have completed TRSP 3342 or TRSP 3343 or TRSP 6342 or TRSP 6343.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

The above objectives are aligned with the following program's Student Learning Outcomes:

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 be able to apply the latest field-related technologies to their production of translated texts.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

This course has 6 biweekly units, which will cover 6 topics. The following list of topics is TENTATIVE and subject to change:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td>08/28/2017 – 09/03/2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 2-3</td>
<td>09/04/2017 – 09/17/2017</td>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Audiovisual Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 4-5</td>
<td>09/18/2017 – 10/01/2017</td>
<td>Unit 2</td>
<td>Dubbing (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 6-7</td>
<td>10/02/2017 – 10/15/2017</td>
<td>Unit 3</td>
<td>Dubbing (II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 8-9</td>
<td>10/16/2017 – 10/29/2017</td>
<td>Unit 4</td>
<td>Subtitling (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 9-10</td>
<td>10/30/2017 – 11/12/2017</td>
<td>Unit 5</td>
<td>Subtitling (II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS 11-12</td>
<td>11/13/2017 – 11/26/2017</td>
<td>Unit 6</td>
<td>Audio description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 13</td>
<td>11/27/2017 – 12/03/2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 14 (I)</td>
<td>12/04/2017 – 12/07/2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Personal study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 14 (II)</td>
<td>12/08/2017 –</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final exams (Audiovisual Translation exam date TBA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 15</td>
<td>12/11/2017 – 12/14/2017</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final exams (Audiovisual Translation exam date TBA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A detailed calendar showing important dates and the deadlines for all the activities that students must complete in this course can be found under the CALENDARIO tab in Blackboard.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSESSMENT**

For each topic students will have to complete the following activities:

1. **Theory Readings**
   
   They constitute a theoretical approach to the different topics covered in this course. Students will need to read and understand them in order to complete the translation assignments. Theory readings can be found under the TEORÍA tab in Blackboard.

2. **Participation and Debate**
   
   These will take the form of online discussion boards, which can be found under the Blackboard tab called FOROS. They are intended as a clearinghouse for doubts, consultation, research, and debate. Two discussion boards will be available for each unit, one for theory and one for practice:

   - **Discussion board on theory:** it will be aimed at discussing the theoretical contents of each unit. PARTICIPATION IN THIS DISCUSSION BOARD IS OPTIONAL. Students who wish to participate are expected to do so before day 7 of each unit (before Sunday at midnight).
   - **Discussion board on practice:** it will be aimed at discussing the translation assignment of each unit. PARTICIPATION IN THIS DISCUSSION BOARD IS MANDATORY. Students are expected to participate by day 10 of each unit (before Wednesday at midnight).

Each student must post, at least, THREE messages per unit as follows:

- At least **TWO** of them must refer to the translation assignment.
- At least **ONE** message must be an original question or comment, which may refer to the theory contents or to the translation assignment.
- At least **ONE** message must be a reply to someone else’s question or comment, which may refer to the theory contents or to the translation assignment.
This means that students are free to distribute their posts as best suits their interests: they can either participate in the theory discussion board or concentrate all their messages in the practice discussion board. In any case, doubts and comments are welcome. Posts offering thoughtful discussion based on critical assessment or additional research will be especially valued.

The instructor will moderate, add comments and clarify the doubts posted by students at least every Monday and Thursday.

BEFORE POSTING, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE READ ALL PREVIOUS MESSAGES: DO NOT DUPLICATE THE INFORMATION INNECESSARILY.
Please, write messages IN SPANISH, using complete sentences and proper orthography. If the message is a about doubt or a problem, do not just say “¿Qué significa X?”: please, provide what you found out, your options, your possible favorites solution and why you are not happy with what you got so far. When replying to somebody else's doubt, please, also provide supporting information for you options and solutions (Where did you find it? How do you rate its reliability?)

The participation in discussion boards is worth 15% of the course final grade.

3. Translation Assignments
Students will need to complete a translation assignment at the end of each unit. Specific instructions for each assignment will be provided by the instructor. Among other relevant information, those indications will include the objectives of each activity, what the expectations for each assignment will be, and the aspects that will be taken into account when grading each “práctica”. Please read the instructions carefully and ask any doubt that you may have before submitting your assignments. The assignments are to be done individually. However, students may consult with their classmates, and discussion is encouraged in the discussion boards. Translation assignments can be found under the PRÁCTICAS tab in Blackboard. The deadline to submit translation assignments will be the second Sunday of each unit at midnight.

Submittal procedure:
- Download the assignment
- Name files as follow: YourLastName-YourInitial-NumberOfAssignment.doc (Example, for Adriana Smith, assignment 3: "Smith-A-3.doc")
- Submit the assignment Using Save AssignOption BEFORE midnight on their due date
Please, make sure you:
- Use Microsoft Word files or Rich Text Format files.
- Use the Spell Check utility of your word processor.
- Use double spacing.
- Number pages.
- Write your name at the beginning of the assignment.

KEEP DEADLINES!

**Non-use of machine translation:** One of the purposes of this course is to help each student develop his or her own translation skills. This means that the translations of necessity must be to be carried out by each student individually. Consequently, students are strictly prohibited from running their source texts through machine translation engines such as Google Translate, Bing Translator, BabelFish, and others. Students who turn in a translation that has been partially or fully translated by a machine are in fact plagiarizing, cheating, and turning in someone or something else’s work (see section on scholastic integrity below). If the professor believes that machine translation was employed in the process of translating a text, the student will automatically receive a zero for that assignment. Disciplinary measures may be initiated in the case of repeated violations.

**Exceptions to this rule prohibiting the use of machine translation will be clearly signaled by the professor, should there be any.**

All assignments are worth **60%** of the course final grade.

**Revisions**

Submitted assignments will be reviewed by the instructor and retuned via the Blackboard messaging tool called DEVOLUCIONES (as Word Documents with comments and insertions showing the “Track Changes” utility). Students must attentively read these revisions and ask the instructor about any remaining doubt or comment.

**REVIEWS ARE DONE IN ORDER TO AVOID SIMILAR PITFALLS IN FURTHER TRANSLATIONS, SO MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND REVISIONS AND IMPLEMENT THEM IN SUBSEQUENT SUBMITTALS.**
In addition to the aforementioned activities, at the end of the course students will have to complete the following:

1. **Extra Credit Activities (Optional)**
   Students will have the chance to gain extra credits by completing one or more activities. The instructor will provide information regarding these activities during the course. The extra credit activities will increase the final weighted total of the course up to a maximum of 1%.

2. **Final assignment**
   Students will need to work in a final translation assignment covering one or more aspects studied during the course. Instructions will be published in due time under the tab EXAMEN FINAL. **Final assignments turned in after the deadline will NOT be considered for grading.**

   The final assignment is worth 25% of the course the final grade.

**GRADING POLICY**

All the activities in this course will be graded using a score from 0 to 100. The weight of each activity is shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debate and participation in discussion boards</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>For each unit, students must post THREE messages:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- At least one of them must be original.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- At least one of them must be a reply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- At least two of them must refer to the translation assignment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation assignments</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Six translation assignments (one per unit), each one worth 10% of the final grade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final assignment</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>A final translation project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra credit</td>
<td>(1%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100% (+1%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAKE UP WORK:** late assignments will receive a maximum grade of 80 points (B).

Absolutely no makeups on the final assignment.
## COURSE NAVIGATION

This course is made of several sections described below. Please become familiar with each of these sections as some may be regulated by time and date. This means content in some sections will only appear for the periods set up by your instructor (if you should need access to content no longer visible, please contact your instructor).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Avisos</strong></td>
<td>This section of the course provides updates with relevant information that students will need. Announcements may come from your institution or instructor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Programa</strong></td>
<td>This section provides the general requirements, expectations and outcomes for the course. Please review it thoroughly and become familiar with it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calendario</strong></td>
<td>This section shows a calendar indicating the deadlines for all the activities in the course, as well as other important dates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Profesorado</strong></td>
<td>Here you will find a link to your instructor’s Academia website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teoría</strong></td>
<td>This section contains the theoretical contents of the course organized in six units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foros</strong></td>
<td>This is where most of your online interactions will occur with both your instructor and fellow students. Check the participation requirements in the course syllabus and visit this section often. Make sure your assignments take into account the discussion covered in this section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prácticas</strong></td>
<td>This section provides details on your translation assignments. You will find specific instructions to complete the assignment required in each unit, as well as a definition of the objectives, expectations and grading criteria. Also, completed assignments are submitted through this section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explicaciones técnicas</strong></td>
<td>This section contains step-by-step instructions on technical aspects that will be needed during the course. For instance, what to do if you cannot visualize or hear a video correctly or how to zip and unzip files.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Materiales</strong></td>
<td>In this section you will find all the additional audiovisual texts and scripts that you will need to follow the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Software</strong></td>
<td>Through this section you will gain access to the software needed throughout the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Devoluciones</strong></td>
<td>Your instructor will send your revised assignments through “Devoluciones”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Examen Final</strong></td>
<td>The final exam will be posted in this section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>E-mail</strong></td>
<td>This section allows you to email the instructor and any other participant in the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calificaciones</strong></td>
<td>This section will show your progress in the course. You will be able to check any grades posted by your instructor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND COMPUTER LITERACY

Students will need the following technical requirements to complete this course:

- Reliable internet connection.
- Word processing software, such as MS Word, OpenOffice, LibreOffice or similar applications.
- PDF reader.
- Zipping and unzipping software, such as WinZip, WinRar or 7.zip, might be needed in case the student’s computer does not incorporate those features.
- A multimedia player, such as Windows Media Player, VLC or Quickplay.
- **Mac users will need a Windows computer to work in unit 5.**
- Skype might occasionally be needed.

Students should:

- Possess good knowledge of word processing software, including the spellcheck function.
- Know how to zip and unzip files.

If you require help to install any of the abovementioned software, please contact your instructor during the first week of the course.

SYLLABUS ADDENDA

**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. 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](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:

- **Fall 2017 Module 1**  
  Oct. 5 – Oct. 11
- **Fall 2017 Module 2**  
  Nov. 29 – Dec. 5
- **Fall 2017 (full semester)**  
  Nov. 15 – Dec. 6

**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 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.