GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CRITICAL TRANSLATION

Rutgers University, New Brunswick

graduate student handbook

RUTGERS
TRANSLATION
STUDIES
INITIATIVE

contents

overview

The Graduate Certificate in Critical Translation provides training to Rutgers graduate students in a) the history, theory, and practice of literary translation and its contemporary racial, political, and aesthetic significance around the globe; b) prepares students who study the significant role played by translation in literary history and the many uses of translation in critical practice; and c) trains students in translation activism, language justice, or how translation may be leveraged as an important part of community engagement. This tripartite platform offers our graduate students a solid, but varied, training in Translation Studies as a critical lens in literary and cultural studies, a millennia-old artform, and a fulcrum and tool for urgent new forms of engagement with communities in and beyond the academy.

This graduate certificate offers a formal space for wider intellectual exchange, debate, and production of new knowledge about the history, theory, practice, and future of literary and critical translation. It responds to the now urgent national need to train our graduate students in the Public Humanities by facilitating internships, organizing community outreach, and platforms of literary activism that will open up career tracks for our students, perhaps in particular from the smaller national literatures and languages departments. And it responds to the demonstrable and rapidly increasing national and international interest, need, and demand for skilled, trained literary translators in our globalized world.

The implementation of the certificate in Spring 2024 exemplifies Rutgers' commitment to supporting innovation in doctoral study in the Humanities; offers doctoral student training in interdisciplinary, multilingual, and public-facing work; and prepares our students to participate in national and international conversations about the ways in which translation—a multifaceted, intermedial, and complex practical, theoretical, and ethical concern—actively shapes our larger human community. The work our graduate students complete in the certificate will become an important part of their research and teaching profiles on the academic job market as well as an integral component of their training and expertise on the non-academic job market.

The Graduate Certificate in Critical Translation is housed out of the Program in Comparative Literature, and falls under the purview of the Rutgers Translation Studies Initiative. Professor Karen Elizabeth Bishop directs the certificate.

requirements

The certificate offers two tracks that each require students complete three courses (9 credits) in Translation Studies.

TRACK A requires that students take three courses, one of which must be the certificate's core course, "Theory and Practice of Literary Translation." The remaining two courses will be selected from a list of approved graduate seminars from across the Humanities that deal with translation in practice or subject matter (list of courses available).

TRACK B requires that students take three courses, one of which must be the certificate's core course, "Theory and Practice of Literary Translation." The remaining two courses will be one selected from a list of approved graduate seminars from across the Humanities that deal with translation in practice or subject matter. The second will be a practicum, which may take the shape of completing a longer critical literary translation; a longer work of translation scholarship; or an internship in community engagement, translation activism or social/language justice.

Both the required coursework and the practicum ask that students spend significant time reading, researching, and producing original translation scholarship and original critical translations. Students are afforded the flexibility in deciding if their interests are geared more toward producing theoretical work on translation; training as practitioners in literary translation; or honing their skills as translation activists that serve a wider non-academic community. Our esteemed participating faculty train and evaluate our students in all three possibilities.

admissions

Students interested in pursuing a graduate certificate in Critical Translation will, at their earliest convenience in their course of graduate studies, arrange a meeting with the current Director of the Rutgers Translation Studies Initiative. The Director will walk each student through the requirements of the program, and advise how to proceed according to the student's interest in completing Track A or Track B of the certificate. The student then submits the attached application for formal admission to the certificate.

questions

Please reach out to Karen Elizabeth Bishop at kebishop@rutgers.edu with questions or for further information.

core course offferings

Rutgers offers a rich array of graduate seminars dedicated to conceptualizing, understanding, practicing, and reimagining translation. World-renowned faculty and practitioners teach our graduate courses in critical and literary translation, as well as seminars that routinely use texts in translation.

What follows is a list of recently and regularly taught graduate seminars that form the core of the graduate certificate's offerings. But because all of our national literature and language departments routinely teach courses using texts in translation and integrate sustained analysis and commentary on the historical, political, and cultural fact of that translation into their inquiries, this list ends up being not an exhaustive collection of courses that students may end up petitioning to count toward the certificate. Course lists are updated regularly.

Students hoping to take or count a course toward the certificate that is not on this list should reach out to the certificate's director for approval.

Department of Asian Literatures and Culture (ALC)
History of East Asian Writing Systems (217:510)
Interdisciplinary Topics in East Asia (217:512)
History of Chinese Literature: 1300 to 1900 (217:521)
Tang Poetry (217:528)
Modern Chinese Literature in Translation (217:531)
Advanced Topics in Korean Language & Linguistics (217:565)
The Tale of Genji as World Literature (217:570)
Seminar on Modern Japanese Literature (217:576)

Program in Comparative Literature
World Literature and the Challenge of Translation (195:515)
The Literatures of the Americas (195:605)
A World to Gain: Translation/World Literature (195:610)
Theory and Practice of Literary Translation (195:660)

Department of English
World Literature and Postcolonialism: Intersections, Diversions, New Directions (350:511)
The Long Poem in Literature of the African Diaspora (350:588)
Literatures of the Americas (350:594)
South African Literature (350:595)
What is World Literature (350:608)
A World to Gain: Translation/World Literature (350:663)

Translation, Circulation, and Difference: Africa in World Literary Culture (350:660)

Department of French
Translation as Cultural Method (420:504)

Department of German, Russian, and East European Literatures and Languages (GREELL)
Lessons from a Laboratory in Literary Translation (470:671)

Department of Italian
Langauge and Nation in Italian Thought (560:640)

Department of Linguistics
Special Topics in Current Linguistic Theory (615:660)

Department of Spanish and Portuguese
in literature
Theory and Practice of Literary Translation (940:597)
in translation & interpreting
Introduction to Translation of Specialized Texts (940:502)
Community and Introduction to Simultaneous Interpreting (940:575)
Theory and Practice in Translation (940:563)
Translation, Media, and Technology (940:579)
Computer-Assisted Translation (617:531)

Department of Classics
Graduate Latin Prose Literature Survey (190:679 | 190:680)

participating faculty and research interests

Baba Badji
Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow in Comparative Literature
Comparative Literature and Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice
translation theory and practice; craft of translation; Négritude translation; invisibility within; translation in context

Karen Elizabeth Bishop
Associate Professor
Department of Spanish & Portuguese and Comparative Literature | Director, Rutgers Translation Studies Initiative
theories of translation; radical translation; pseudotranslation; self-translation; translational poethics; translation and printing arts

Jae Won Edward Chung
Assistant Professor of Korean Studies
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
intermediality; modern and contemporary literature in translation; literature as translingual practice

Nicole Houser
Associate Teaching Professor
English Language Institute
translation and translingual pedagogies, critical language awareness, and social justice
Miguel Jiménez-Crespo

Professor
Department of Spanish & Portuguese | Director of Program in Spanish Translation & Interpreting
translation theory; translation technologies; corpus-based Translation Studies; translation training; translation and cognition

Ryan Kernan
Associate Professor
Department of English and Comparative Literature
history of translation; diaspora and translation; poetics and translation; theory of translation

Chloe Kitzinger
Associate Professor
Department of German, Russian, and Eastern European Languages and Literatures
translation theory; intercultural translation, translation and Russia/former Soviet Union; literary translation and adaptation

David Kurnick
Associate Professor
Department of English
translation theory; Latin America; translation and anachronism

Jeffrey Lawrence
Associate Professor
Department of English and Comparative Literature
literary translation; Latin American literature in translation; US literature in Spanish

Michael Levine
Professor and Chair
Department of German, Russian, and Eastern European Languages and Literatures
translation and transference; translation and psychoanalysis; translational slips and parapraxes; multilingual poetry; Benjamin and translatability

Preetha Mani
Associate Professor
Department of African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature
theory and practice of translation; history of translation; multilingualism and translation; gender and translation

Nela Navarro
Assistant Teaching Professor
Associate Director of the Rutgers English Language Institute

Anjali Nerlekar
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian Literatures and Languages and Comparative Literature
Translation Studies; multilingualisms and translation; translation and South Asian literatures; theory of translation

Imani Owens
Associate Professor
Department of English
performance; empire; blackness; experimentalism/aesthetics

Andrew Parker
Professor
Department of French and Comparative Literature
translation and language philosophies; translation and media studies; untranslatability

Laura Ramírez Polo
Assistant Teaching Professor
Department of Spanish and Portuguese | Coordinator, Spanish Program in Translation & Interpreting
translation pedagogy; medical translation; translation technologies; community translation

Stéphane Robolin
Associate Professor
Department of English
theory and practice of translation; transnationalism, diaspora, and translation; African literatures

Paul Schalow
Professor of Japanese Literature
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
translation and the status of the "original"; the untranslatable/incommensurable; translating text to image; Japan and translation; translation as domestication of the other

Marcy Schwartz
Professor
Department of Spanish & Portuguese
translation in/and Latin America; translation and exile/displacement; translation as postcolonial/decolonial strategy; visual culture and translation

Richard Serrano
Professor
Department of French and Comparative Literature
literary translation; intercultural transmission; translation and China, Korea, and the Arab world

Weijie Song
Associate Professor of Chinese Literature
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
translation and Sinophone literature; cultural translation; (un)translatability and multimedia

Thomas Stephens
Professor
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
lexicography

James Swenson
Professor
Department of French and Comparative Literature
French; political philosophy; history of translation; style

Alessandro Vettori
Professor and Chair
Department of Italian and Comparative Literature
translation and editing; translation and publishing; Other Voices of Italy (RUP series)

Rebecca Walkowitz
Distinguished Professor and Dean of Humanities
Department of English
theory of translation; history of translation; translation and contemporary fiction

Xiaojue Wang
Associate Professor of Chinese
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and Comparative Literature
translation and the cultural cold war; translation and transmedia studies; multilingualism and (un)translatability; gender, diaspora, and translation in global Asias

Azzan Yadin-Israel
Professor
Department of Jewish Studies and Classics
biblical translation, language contact, and translation and knowledge dissemination

Young-mee Yu Cho
Professor of Korean Language and Culture
Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
translation and language pedagogy; translanguaging; task-based translation

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CRITICAL TRANSLATION

Rutgers University

Admissions Form

updated 4.24

Please fill out the following information for admissions to the Graduate Certificate in Critical Translation. Kindly return to Professor Karen Elizabeth Bishop at kebishop@rutgers.edu.

I.
name:

home department or program:

year admitted to PhD:

expected date of graduation:

PhD advisor or chair of dissertation committee:

II.
Please attach to this form a brief 300-word expression of interest that outlines your interest in pursuing a certificate in Critical Translation; how the certificate will complement and further your dissertation project; and a brief overview of the kind of work you hope to complete in the certificate.

III.
After reviewing the graduate certificate handbook, and the requirements for each, please select which track you would like to pursue:

_____ Track A _____ Track B

IV.
If completing Track B, please offer the names of two or three faculty members that might serve as advisors to your practicum.

1.

2.

3.

V.
Please list the graduate seminars you've already taken, and would like to take, to fulfill the certificate requirements. This list is not binding, but will serve as a point of departure for best crafting your study in the certificate.

1.

2.

3.