

# SCHOOL OF Languages, Literature & Cultural Studies

## MPhil in Literary Translation



**Trinity College Dublin**  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

## About the degree

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Translation, and especially literary translation, has been a subject of huge interest in recent years, both within academia and in industry. At the same time, the demand for well-qualified translators continues to grow internationally.

The MPhil in Literary Translation equips you with the skills to apply translation theory to your literary translation practice in creative and original ways.

You will craft a unique portfolio of translations under the guidance of academic and professional mentors. You will take part in team projects, aimed at simulating the realities of the translation industry, and you will be trained in the latest specialist translation tools.

On this varied and demanding course, you will be provided with a wealth of opportunities to develop your understanding of translation, expand your practical translation skills, and prepare either to work in translation or to undertake advanced research.

As one of our MPhil students, you will have a unique workspace inside the Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation, which as the focus of literary translation activity in Ireland, houses leading professional translators, translation researchers, publishers, and promoters of translation.





## How this degree will benefit me

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The MPhil in Literary Translation aims to develop eight key competences that build the practical, professional, and theoretical skill base of students:

- 1. Transfer competence:** The ability to identify issues in translating texts, and to formulate strategies to achieve identified goals.
- 2. Language competence:** The ability to use many variations of both the source and target languages to a very high standard.
- 3. Textual competence:** The ability to distinguish and reproduce literary genres and styles.
- 4. Heuristic competence:** The ability to gather the linguistic and thematic knowledge needed to translate.
- 5. Literary-cultural competence:** The ability to apply knowledge about differences between source and target cultures, literary movements and genres while producing translations.
- 6. Professional competence:** The ability to gather knowledge and understanding of working in the field of literary translation.
- 7. Evaluative competence:** The ability to assess and evaluate translation choices and translations' impacts.
- 8. Research competence:** The ability to conduct methodical and rigorous research in translation studies.



## Degree overview

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English is the common language for all of our students, and students must have a demonstrably very high level of English. We do our best to accommodate as broad a range of working languages as possible for our student translators. Our students regularly work with the following languages:

Places are limited. Therefore, you are encouraged to contact us as early as possible to see whether your working language(s) can be accommodated. We are happy to accept queries from applicants working with languages not listed here, though we cannot guarantee availability.



# Structure

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## Core Modules

Theory and History of Translation  
Linguistic and Textual Analysis  
Aspects of the Profession  
Interlingual Technologies  
Research Training Seminar  
Portfolio

## Optional Modules

Discovering the Other: East-West Encounters in Translation History  
Dantean Echoes  
Cultures of Memory and Identity in Central Europe  
Translation Studies Methodologies  
The Russian Avant Garde  
Postmodernist Literature in East and Central Europe  
Cultures and Representations of the Mafia  
The Semiotics of the Alphabet  
Medieval Translation Theory and Practice

## Supervised Projects

Portfolio of Translation  
Dissertation

Please note that availability of optional modules may vary from year to year.



## Course Summary

### Degree Structure

Eight modules, a portfolio of 8 to 10 translations, and a dissertation of up to 20,000 words.

### Mode of Study

12 months full-time

### Fees 2018 - 2019

Home and EU students: €7,063

Overseas students: €14,778

### Further Details

Visit our website:

[www.tcd.ie/langs-lits-cultures/  
postgraduate/literary\\_translation/](http://www.tcd.ie/langs-lits-cultures/postgraduate/literary_translation/)

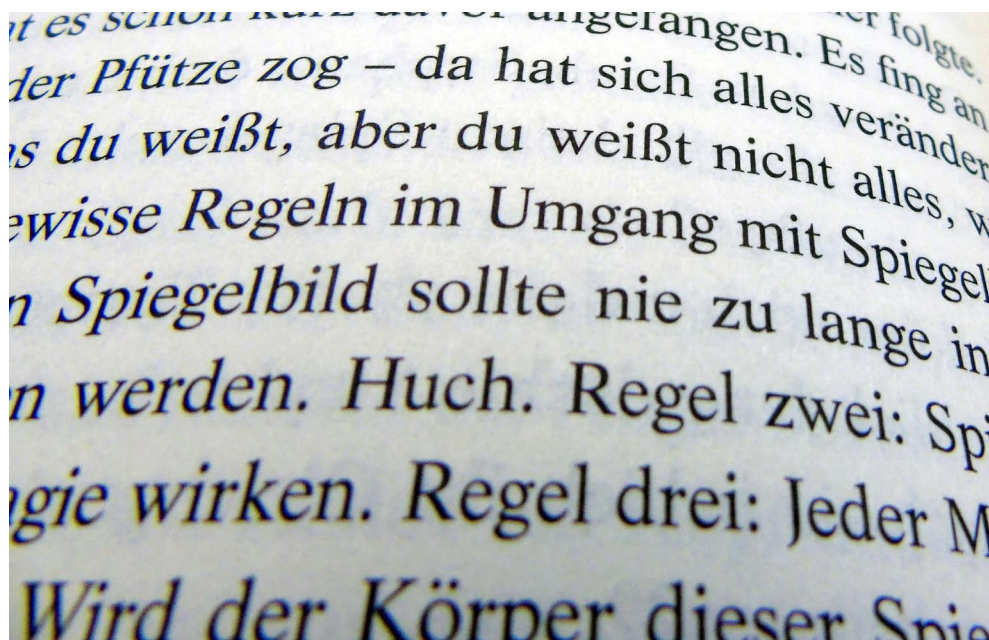
## Lecturing & Teaching

This course is taught in person by Trinity College Dublin's academic staff, practicing translators, editors, and publishers of translation.

Faculty members have published with leading academic presses and journals, have translated a wide range of literary texts, and have close working relationships with professional translators.

The course is housed at the Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation, where students work alongside literary translation professionals.





## Why choose this degree?

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Specialist courses in literary translation are rare in the English-speaking world, and very few have the breadth of language expertise available at Trinity College Dublin, the wealth of professional experience held by its staff, or the facilities and opportunities offered by the Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation.

This MPhil focuses specifically on the translation of literary and cultural translations, and builds an extremely broad range of skills. Students are responsible for their own progress, and take charge of their own learning and developing their creativity.

Students produce portfolios of translations under the supervision of academic mentors. In these portfolios students select a set of texts they wish to translate, the audiences they wish to translate for, and the strategies they wish to apply in translating.

Students also produce a dissertation, which can either take the form of a theoretical essay, in which students examine some case study or philosophical concept, or a translation and commentary, in which students propose a translation strategy or solution, and exemplify this with the production of a translation of substantial length.

The **School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies** is committed to delivering high quality programmes that prepare our graduates for exciting and rewarding careers in a broad variety of fields. We also equip our graduates with the linguistic and intercultural competencies to be successful in an interconnected world and to make their mark as global citizens.

In 1776 Trinity College was the first university in the world to introduce the study of modern continental languages. Over the centuries we have produced generations of high-achieving graduates, including, in Samuel Beckett, one Nobel Prize winner. Graduates who combine advanced linguistic and cultural competencies with specialist skills are in very high demand across a range of attractive professional fields. In our globalized world this demand will only continue to grow.

We strongly believe in a student-centred and empowering approach to teaching and learning. We educate our students to be intellectually reflective, historically and culturally aware, critical and questioning, imaginative and socially responsible. We put a strong focus on small group teaching and pastoral care. Our teaching is research-led in order to enable deep learning and to be fresh and responsive to the challenges of our times.

The **Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation** develops, promotes and supports translation from and into the languages of Ireland through education, publication and partnership. It engages with all stages of the translating process, trains student translators and provides resources and opportunities for established translators and researchers. The Centre champions translators as creative practitioners who connect the languages and cultures of the world.

For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website or contact us at:

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