

METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING TRANSLATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.13928090>

Abstract. Translation studies have evolved significantly in higher education, with methodologies that bridge theoretical foundations and practical applications. This article explores the dominant teaching methodologies in translation programs, emphasizing their importance in developing competent and versatile translators. These methods include task-based learning, translation workshops, contrastive analysis, project-based learning, technology integration, genre-specific training, and the use of corpus linguistics. By examining each approach, the article sheds light on how institutions prepare students for the complexities of translation in professional contexts.

Key words: Task-based learning (TBL), Translation workshops, Project-based learning (PBL), Contrastive analysis, Translation theory, Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT) tools, Machine translation, Translation memory systems, Cultural nuances.

МЕТОДОЛОГИЯ ПРЕПОДАВАНИЯ ПЕРЕВОДА В ВЫСШИХ УЧЕБНЫХ ЗАВЕДЕНИЯХ

Аннотация. Исследования перевода значительно развились в высшем образовании, с методологиями, которые связывают теоретические основы и практическое применение. В этой статье рассматриваются доминирующие методики обучения в программах перевода, подчеркивая их важность в развитии компетентных и разносторонних переводчиков. Эти методы включают обучение на основе задач, семинары по переводу, сопоставительный анализ, проектное обучение, интеграцию технологий, жанрово-специфическое обучение и использование корпусной лингвистики. Рассматривая каждый подход, статья проливает свет на то, как учреждения готовят студентов к сложностям перевода в профессиональных контекстах.

Ключевые слова: обучение на основе задач (TBL), семинары по переводу, проектное обучение (PBL), сопоставительный анализ, теория перевода, инструменты компьютерного перевода (CAT), машинный перевод, системы памяти перевода, культурные нюансы.

Translation is a vital skill in today's globalized world, requiring a deep understanding of both linguistic structures and cultural nuances. Higher education institutions are at the forefront of developing translators who can navigate the intricacies of this profession. The methodologies used in teaching translation not only provide students with the theoretical knowledge needed but also equip them with practical skills that mimic real-world challenges. This article aims to present and analyze the primary methodologies employed in higher education institutions to train future translators.

1. Task-Based Learning in Translation

Task-based learning (TBL) places translation students in scenarios that replicate professional environments, encouraging them to work on authentic tasks such as translating contracts, technical manuals, or literary texts. This method is practical and outcome-driven, focusing on how students approach and solve real translation problems. In a TBL classroom, students are often presented with a source text and are expected to work individually or in groups to produce an accurate and culturally sensitive translation. The key advantage of this approach is that it exposes students to the pressures and expectations of the translation industry. Feedback sessions are integral to TBL, allowing students to refine their skills based on constructive criticism from both instructors and peers.[2]

2. Translation Workshops

Translation workshops are an interactive and collaborative method, where students work together to translate texts and engage in group discussions. These workshops offer a unique opportunity for peer learning, as students can see alternative solutions to translation challenges and compare strategies. Workshops typically involve group critiques, where students present their translations, and the group, led by the instructor, discusses the choices made. This method enhances critical thinking, as students learn to justify their translation decisions and evaluate different approaches. It also encourages a deeper understanding of translation as a process, not just a product.

3. Project-Based Learning

Project-based learning (PBL) is a longer-term approach that requires students to undertake substantial translation projects over the course of a semester or academic year. These projects can range from translating books to managing multilingual websites, and they often mimic real-world tasks that translators encounter in their professional lives. The emphasis in PBL is on time management, research, and revision—key skills for any professional translator. Students are encouraged to approach translation holistically, paying attention not just to linguistic accuracy but also to cultural appropriateness, the needs of the client, and the intended audience. PBL often culminates in a presentation or defense of the translation, providing students with valuable experience in communicating their decisions to a broader audience.[3]

4. Contrastive Analysis and Translation Theory

Understanding the linguistic and cultural differences between the source and target languages is fundamental in translation. Contrastive analysis involves the comparative study of these differences, with a particular focus on grammatical structures, idiomatic expressions, and cultural references. In a classroom setting, students are guided through key translation theories, such as equivalence, skopos theory, and dynamic translation, which provide frameworks for understanding how and why translation decisions are made. Theoretical knowledge is crucial for students to critically assess their translations and to adapt their strategies to different types of texts and audiences.

5. Technology and Computer-Assisted Translation (CAT) Tools

In the modern translation industry, technology plays a crucial role. Therefore, many translation programs incorporate training in CAT tools, machine translation software, and translation memory systems. These tools help students understand how technology can enhance efficiency and consistency in translation, but also the limitations of machine-generated

translations. Students are taught to use tools such as Trados, MemoQ, and Wordfast, which are standard in the translation industry. This training prepares them for the demands of a fast-paced work environment, where speed and accuracy are essential. Additionally, students learn how to manage translation memories and terminologies, skills that are increasingly important in sectors like legal and technical translation.

6. Genre-Specific Translation Training

Translation is not a one-size-fits-all process, and different genres—such as legal, medical, literary, and technical texts—require distinct approaches. Many translation programs offer genre-based training, where students specialize in a particular type of translation. This specialization allows for a deeper understanding of the conventions, terminology, and ethical considerations involved in specific genres. For example, legal translation requires precision and adherence to specific legal frameworks, while literary translation demands creativity and a deep understanding of the source culture's literary traditions. By focusing on genres, students develop niche expertise that can make them more competitive in the job market.

The methodologies used in teaching translation at higher education institutions are varied and comprehensive, designed to equip students with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. By combining approaches such as task-based learning, workshops, project-based learning, and the use of technology, students are prepared to meet the demands of the translation industry.

Additionally, the integration of contrastive analysis, genre-based training, and corpus studies ensures that students have a deep understanding of the complexities involved in translation.

As the translation field continues to evolve, so too must the methodologies used to teach the next generation of translators, ensuring they are ready for the challenges and opportunities of the profession.

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