



TRAN821

Interpreting Practice 1

S2 Day 2019

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Shiyi Ye

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Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MCONFINTE or MTransInter or MTransInterMIntRel or MTransInterMAppLingTESOL or MAdvTransInterStud and GradDipTransInter or GradCertCommInter

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is designed to introduce the basic concept of interpreting and help students develop key interpreting techniques such as listening skills, text analysis, memory retention, note-taking and oral translation skills. The unit will build on theoretical principles introduced in TRAN870, and will enable students to apply theory to practice, helping students to recognise factors that influence the effective use of different interpreting techniques in different contexts, as well as the decision making involved in selecting one interpreting technique over another. Participants will be expected to perform individual, peer and group evaluations.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.

4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

General Assessment Information

How to apply for a late submission of an assignment

All requests for special consideration, including extensions, must be submitted via <https://ask.mq.edu.au/> and provide suitable supporting documentation. Contact your unit convenor first for advice, especially in the case of an emergency or if you are unsure about the extension policy.

Late Assignment Submission

- Late submissions without an extension will receive a penalty of 5% of the total mark available for the assignment per day
- Late submission of an assignment without an extension will not be permitted after marks have been released to the rest of the class.
- Extensions will only be given in special circumstances and can be requested by completing the Special Consideration request at ask.mq.edu.au and providing the required supporting documentation. For more information on Special Consideration, see the university website <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>
- Assignments submitted after the deadline, regardless of the reason, will be marked and returned at a date determined by the unit convenor.
- Extensions cannot continue beyond the start of the following semester except under exceptional circumstances, and students should be aware that long extensions may impact graduation dates.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Dialogue Interpreting Exam	25%	No	Week 7
Reflective Journal	25%	No	Week 8
Video Presentation	25%	No	Week 13
Final Interpreting Exam	25%	No	Week 14

Dialogue Interpreting Exam

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are required to interpret part of a live dialogue between an English speaker and a LOTE (Language Other Than English) speaker. An assignment brief will be sent to students to enable preparation beforehand and students are required to record their own interpreting performance and write a reflective journal.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.

Reflective Journal

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are required to write a reflective journal of approximately 800 to 1000 words following the dialogue interpreting exam in Week 7. In the journal, students should provide a diagnostic assessment of individual performance in the exam, analyse any problems or difficulties encountered and propose ways to address such.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Video Presentation

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **25%**

In this task, students are required to choose one of the topics introduced during the lectures and make a video presentation. Each student shall provide an introduction of the topic chosen, review her/his own learning process and propose further actions to further consolidate one's knowledge and/or enhance skills.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Final Interpreting Exam

Due: **Week 14**

Weighting: **25%**

Students are required to sit for this interpreting exam at the end of the semester. The exam consists of one sight translation task of approximately 200 words and one consecutive passage interpreting task of approximately 300 words (delivered in 3 segments), both of which shall be from one's B language (first acquired language) into A language (native language). Students will be provided with an assignment brief for the consecutive passage interpreting task in advance to enable preparation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.

Delivery and Resources

Three major interpreting modes, namely dialogue interpreting, consecutive interpreting, and sight translation will be introduced. While students are taught consecutive interpreting into A language (i.e. their mother tongue), they are engaged in practice in delivering sight translation and dialogue interpreting in both language directions (A↔B).

Teaching materials are selected from various sources including TV and radio news and current

affairs programs, newspaper and magazine articles, scripted and recorded dialogues, and speeches from the Internet. These materials deal with a spectrum of topics such as Education, Government, Welfare, Immigration, and Health. Students are expected to do preparation work at home before each class and to practice their interpreting skills between classes during the week. Self-monitoring and self-assessment are essential in improving individual interpreting performance quality. Students should reflect on their learning process. Students are required to participate in regular online tasks through iLearn (see details below), which are to help them to keep track of their progress, identify their strengths and weaknesses and work toward improving their competence. At the end of the semester, students should submit a learning portfolio which includes all the in/out of class activities, self-reflection, and glossaries on different domain-specific topics.

iLearn facility is available to assist learning (go to <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>, MQID and PW needed), where students can have discussions on various topics related to the course, and self-practice materials are also provided there for some language streams. Please discuss with your tutors regarding effective study plans and how to use iLearn for teaching and learning.

More information will be published and updated on a weekly basis on the TRAN821 iLearn page.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Assessment tasks

- Dialogue Interpreting Exam
- Reflective Journal
- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.

- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Assessment tasks

- Dialogue Interpreting Exam
- Reflective Journal
- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Assessment tasks

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- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.
- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Assessment tasks

- Dialogue Interpreting Exam
- Reflective Journal
- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 1. Demonstrate the ability to accurately transfer messages from B language to A language in different modes.
- 2. Develop essential interpreting techniques: segmentation, reformulation, prediction and note-taking.
- 3. Understand the discourse for the purpose of interpreting.

- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.

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- Reflective Journal
- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- 4. Develop an understanding of extra-linguistic and cultural aspects of discourse.
- 5. Develop domain-specific knowledge.
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of interpreter roles in practice.
- 7. Establish self-directed learning skills to enhance professional skills.
- 8. Demonstrate reflective and critical practice to become life-long learners.

Assessment tasks

- Dialogue Interpreting Exam
- Reflective Journal
- Video Presentation
- Final Interpreting Exam