

Translation and Intermediality: Dynamics of Exchange and Conflict in the History of Art



Installation view of the exhibition "Après Babel. Traduire". Marseilles, MUCEM, 14 December 2016 - 20 March 2017.

Lecturer: Dr. Giovanna Targia Course language: English

Study level: Bachelor (undergraduate) and Master (graduate)

Course number: V-Nr. 4617

Time / Room: Thursday 16.15–18.00, Room RAA-E-27

Course description:

Travel, mobility and migration of objects and actors are recurrent paradigms in research on the cultural and artistic exchange across times, regions and cultures. A central issue to this kind of research is that of translation, broadly defined in the light of the multiple registers it encompasses: from textual to cultural translation, from transposition in technique and media to geographic migration and transportation. Although acts of translation are crucial for mutual understanding, they are also inevitably ambivalent, complex and potentially bearers of conflict. They can be both revealing and disruptive processes that generate misrepresentations or perpetuate hegemonic power relations.

The aim of this module is to introduce learners to current issues in the transdisciplinary field of translation studies. Organized around selected case studies, this module will subsequently focus on different approaches and insights to the translational processes (interlingual, intermedial, intercultural) found in art and visual culture as well as in competing narratives within and beyond the discipline of art history itself.

Learning objectives:

Participants will learn about the most important theoretical issues in the field of translation studies. They will be able to analyze and interpret a number of case studies of textual, intermedial and intercultural translation and to critically reflect on the potentials and ambivalences of



translation in the light of contemporary challenges. They will enhance awareness of the historical and cultural situatedness of every act of translation and self-translation.

Module enrolment:

This module awards 6 ECTS. The assessment and the assignment of presentation topics will be discussed in the first session.

Selected Bibliography (introduction):

Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies, ed. by Mona Baker and Gabriela Saldanha, Third edition, London and New York: Routledge, 2020.

Mona Baker, Translation and Conflict. A Narrative Account, London and New York: Routledge, 2006.

Susan Bassnett, Translation Studies, Fourth edition, London and New York: Routledge, 2014 [1980].

Barbara Cassin (dir.), Après Babel. Traduire, Arles, Marseilles: Actes Sud, Mucem, 2016.

Barbara Cassin, Emily Apter (eds.), *The Dictionary of Untranslatables: A Philosophical Lexicon*, Princeton: Princeton University press, 2014.

James S. Holmes, «The Name and Nature of Translation Studies» [1972], in *The Translation Studies Reader*, ed. by Lawrence Venuti, London and New York: Routledge, 2000, pp. 172–185.

Irina O. Rajewsky, «Intermediality, Intertextuality, and Remediation: A Literary Perspective on Intermediality», in: *Intermédialités/Intermediality*, 6 (Autumn 2005), pp. 43–64 (https://doi.org/10.7202/1005505ar).

George Steiner, After Babel. Aspects of Language and Translation [1975], Third ed., Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

The Translation Studies Reader, ed. by Lawrence Venuti, London and New York: Routledge, 2000.