

**TRAD 6435**  
**Independent Study Seminar (into English)**

**Seminario: estudios independientes**

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January - May 2019  
Wednesday 9:00 – 11:50 AM  
And as agreed between the student and professor

Professor: David Auerbach  
Office Hours:  
Weds. 11:50 AM – 1:00 PM  
Thurs. 12:00 – 1:00 PM  
And by appointment  
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**Course Description**

This course is organized as a practical independent study seminar for guiding students in the translation of a range of texts focusing primarily on business, finance, and economics. The texts will be drawn a comprehensive selection of relevant documents including financial statements, financial outlooks and analyses, balance sheets, articles of incorporation, shareholders agreements, bid documents, advertising and marketing materials, as well as relevant magazine and newspaper articles relating to business, financial markets and commerce. Assistance will be provided in the professional presentation of translations, with an overview of some related translation technology tools, especially with regard to appropriate formatting. Financial glossaries will be consulted and distributed, and students will also be urged to use Internet resources. The course focus will range from the world of multinational corporate finance to microfinance and small businesses, sometimes including hybrid texts (legal/financial).

Since this is an independent study course, much of the work will be carried out by the student outside the framework of the classroom. The student will meet with the professor to review work completed and to discuss particular issues and problems that are encountered over the course of the semester. Guidance will be provided individually on the techniques of this particular niche of translation.

**Objectives**

Students completing this course will

- A. (Cognitive outcomes)
  - 1. Identify the specific translation problems related to the fields of business, finance and investment.
  - 2. Identify syntactic and stylistic structures particular to financial texts.
  - 3. Identify and apply specialized terminology related to the fields of business, finance and investment.
  - 4. Identify various research tools, databases and portals appropriate to financial translation.
- B. (Performance outcomes)
  - 1. Analyze source texts in order to develop the necessary skills to produce professional translations in a range of subjects and styles specifically related to finance.
  - 2. Analyze the inherent difficulties in translating from Spanish to English based on the syntactic, stylistic and morphological differences between the two languages, as well as cultural differences between source and target languages.
  - 3. Produce professional translations, using a variety of reference, research and assessment tools.
  - 4. Conduct effective translation-related research on the Internet.
  - 5. Create professional glossaries, geared toward specific legal applications or context-related translation work.
- C. (Affective outcomes)
  - 1. Adjust to the rapidly changing environment that currently defines the translation and language-processing field, by understanding the requirements inherent to various specializations.
  - 2. Respond to the prevalent trends in the translation and language-processing field.
  - 3. Develop ethical values and comporment that are appropriate to the translation and language-processing field.

**Approach**

Although this course will touch upon a range of financially related subjects and issues, the overall approach of this independent study seminar will be to examine the life of a company through its documents. The texts translated and analyzed will vary in terms of difficulty and specialization of language and terminology. Students will become familiar not only with the specialized terminology and style of the field but will also come to grasp fundamental ideas and theories that are relevant to the profession of financial translation. Financial and economic analysis, outlooks and commentary, as

well as sectors such as banking, markets and investment will also be discussed. The semester will also focus on the difficulties in rendering advertising and promotional texts.

The student will be given a style guide and instructed in the applicable use of a wide range of research tools, including specialized dictionaries, glossaries, related texts and documents, as well as online sources. Readings that are relevant to the source text will also be provided in the form of handouts. The student will also be guided in the appropriate formatting of texts, and in pertinent software programs that are currently being used in financial translation. Translations will be discussed and critiqued in class or reviewed online in order to better understand appropriate research and translation approaches.

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

January 16	Course introduction / discussion of course materials; financial overview
January 23, 30	Financial overview. News articles relating to finance, commerce and economics. Translation assignments - Discussion of translation approaches, style and terminology
February 6	Preparation for first examination / discussion of terminology and issues faced by students in translation work
February 13	First examination
February 20, 27 March 6	In-class translation of various texts- articles of incorporation, shareholders agreements. Glossaries. First translation assignment due (to be handed in)
March 13, 20, 27	In-class translation of texts – leases and contracts
April 3	Second examination
April 10, 17, 24	Contracts, advertising and marketing
May 1	Final Review

**Evaluation Criteria**

Translation examinations	50%
Assignments and presentations	40%
Class participation and attendance	10%

**Reasonable Accommodation**

Students receiving Vocational Rehabilitation services must inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester so that reasonable accommodation and any necessary equipment can be provided, in keeping with the recommendations of the Coordinating Office for People with Disabilities (Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimentos -- OAPI) under the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs. Students with special needs must also inform the instructor of any accommodation-related needs.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR General Student Bylaws (Certification No. 13, 2009-2010, of the UPR Board of Trustees ) establishes that “academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: fraudulent actions, obtaining grades or academic degrees using false or fraudulent pretexts, entirely or partially copying academic work from another person, entirely or partially plagiarizing the work of another person, entirely or partially copying responses from another person to examination questions, having another person take any test, oral or written examination on the student’s behalf, as well as assisting or facilitating any person to incur in the aforementioned conduct.” Fraudulent conduct refers to “behavior with the intent to defraud, including, but not limited to, malicious alteration or falsification of grades, records, identification cards or other official documents of the University of Puerto Rico or any other institution.” Any of these actions shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions in accordance with the respective disciplinary procedure, as stated in the current UPR Student Bylaws.

**Discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity**

The University of Puerto Rico prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in any of its forms, including that of sexual harassment. According to the Institutional Policy Against Sexual Harassment at the University of Puerto Rico, Certification No. 130, 2014-2015 of the Board of Governors, any student subjected to acts constituting sexual harassment should contact the Office of the Student Ombudsperson, the Office of the Dean of Students, and/or the Coordinator of the Office of Compliance with Title IX for further orientation and/or to file a formal complaint.

## Alternative Instruction Methods

Depending on the needs of the semester, alternative instruction methods may be used for a total of 20% of class contact hours. These may include individual research projects, online project assignments, or visits to related or pertinent institutions. Since this course is organized as an independent study seminar, research and translation projects carried out beyond the framework of the classroom will constitute a larger percentage of potential class contact hours.

## Language

The course will be taught in English. Clarifications and consultations will be provided in Spanish.

## Suggested Bibliography/ References

Acevedo Domínguez, Guadalupe and Patricia Edwards Rokowski. Implications in Translating Economic Texts. Translation Journal, Vol. 6 No. 3, July 2002. <https://translationjournal.net/journal/21clusters.htm>. Accessed 13 Jan 2019

Alcaraz Varó, E. *Diccionario de Términos Económicos, Financieros y Comerciales / Economic, Financial & Commercial Dictionary*, Editorial Ariel, 2000.

Alvarez, Enrique and Brian Hughes. *Legal Translation Explained*. St. Jerome Publishing, 2002.

Black, Henry Campbell and Bryan A. Garner. *Black's Law Dictionary*, Eighth Edition. West Publishing Co., 2004.

Debonis, Silvana. *Glosario para la empresa. Terminología contable, tributaria y de administración*. La Ley, 2003.

Downes, John and Jordan Elliot Goodman. *Dictionary of Finance and Investment Terms, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Barron's Educational Series, 2003.

Fowler, H.W. / Burchfield, R.W., *Fowler's Modern English Usage*, Oxford University Press, 2000.

Garner, Bryan A., *The Redbook: A Manual on Legal Style*. West Publishing Co., 2002.

Kevelson, Roberta, *The Law as a System of Signs*. Plenum Press, 1988.

Little, Jeffrey and Lucien Rhodes. *Understanding Wall Street, Fifth Edition*. McGraw-Hill, 2009.

Orellana, Marina. *Glosario internacional para el traductor*, 4a edición. Editorial Universitaria, 2003.

Robb, Louis A., *Diccionario de términos legales*. Editorial Limusa, S.A. de C.V., 1986

Rosado, Ana Cecilia. "Seminario – Traducción jurídica." Tercer Simposio sobre la traducción, Graduate Program in Translation, University of Puerto Rico, May 24, 1996.

Stockwell, R.P. *The Grammatical Structures of English and Spanish*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1965

Torresi, Ira. *Translating Advertising Texts*. New York: Routledge, 2014.

## Online Resources

For any broken links, please try using the wayback machine (<https://archive.org/web/>) All links accessed 13 Jan 2019

Bloomberg.com Financial Glossary. <https://www.isotranslations.com/resources/Bloomberg%20Financial%20Glossary.pdf>

Calvo Ferrer, José Ramón. La ironía en el discurso financiero y su traducción.

<https://translationjournal.net/journal/47financiero.htm>

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Glossary. <https://www.cmegroup.com/education/glossary.html>

Duhaime Encyclopedia of Law. <http://www.duhaime.org/>

Eurlex Legal Glossary. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli-register/glossary.html>

Forex Foreign Exchange Glossary. <https://www.forex.com/en/education/glossary/>

Guy Carpenter Reinsurance Glossary. <http://www.guycarp.com/the-company/media-resources/glossary/a.html>

Investopedia. <https://www.investopedia.com/>

Investopedia Glossary. <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/a/>

LC Warren Group Insurance Glossary. <https://www.lcwarrengroup.com/tools/glossary>

Power Thesaurus. <https://www.powerthesaurus.org/>

First assignment: [https://elpais.com/economia/2019/01/03/actualidad/1546503822\\_101409.html](https://elpais.com/economia/2019/01/03/actualidad/1546503822_101409.html)