THE MANY 'VALUES' OF EQUIVALENCE: BA SEMINAR ON TRANSLATION

About this seminar

This BA seminar is dedicated to the practice and theory of translation, with a special focus on English-Polish and Polish-English translation. The main objective of this seminar is to provide space for students to develop BA papers on translation that draw on the linguistic tradition of translation studies.

The papers developed in the seminar will engage with classic discussions in translation studies:

- Translation as seeking equivalence (non-fiction and fiction);
- Translating the singular: proper names, neologisms, culture-bound items;
- Loss and compensation in translating;
- Translating the verbal and the non-verbal (multimodal translation).

The projects will build mostly on the (broad) linguistic tradition. Since not all experimental material qualifies for a BA study, given time and scope constraints that we face, the student proposals will have to be approved by the seminar supervisor and some ideas may be rejected.

The work languages in this seminar are English and Polish. (Also possible: DE, FR, RU, EL)

DELIVERABLES (as basis for grading; provisional schedule)

Winter semester (provisional deadlines)

- 3rd November 2025: a provisional project description, including research questions (or hypothesis) and the key words, as well as a provisional reading list that the project calls for;
- 22nd December 2025: the first draft/essay of the theoretical part of the BA thesis;
- 24th January 2026: the revised project description, including the hypothesis, research questions, bibliography, table of contents and a note on methodology.

Spring semester (provisional deadlines)

- 28th February: the first draft of the experimental chapter;
- 28th March: the first draft of the entire thesis submitted for comments;
- 25th April: the revised draft of the entire BA paper submitted for comments.

Note: the list of deliverables covers such elements as are required for you to get your credit points for this seminar. It does not include non-graded writing assignments, such as recommended reading, response paragraphs, mini-essays, and essays. Non-graded assignments may, and for the most part will be assigned each week.

Other information

- Class attendance rules follow the faculty regulations: three or more absences (regardless of reasons) mean that the student needs to re-take the course the following year.
- Class content will include group work and individual work around the deliverables set out above.
- There will be a lot of work from the start, but the proposed schedule guarantees that graduation would be smooth and on time. We want to face typical thesis development problems in October, November and December, rather than late April or May, when it's often too late to be on time.