

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN ENGLISH
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

Title of the Course	Elective BEN-DSE3B: INTRODUCTION TO TRANSLATION STUDIES		
Category of the Course	Year & Semester Third Year & Sixth Semester	Credits 5	Subject Code
Hours:	90		
Objectives:	<p>The course intends to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •introduce the key concepts in Translation Studies •enable the students to appreciate and apply the basic tools of translation •acquire basic skills to pursue translation as research and career 		
Course Introduction (to be considered for internal assessment only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is ‘source language’ and ‘target language’? • What is the purpose of translation and training translators to translate texts into a second language? • What were the changing attitudes to translation throughout time? • What is the relevance of translation in a multi-lingual country like India and across the world? • What are the different domains where translation is employed? • What are the career prospects for a translator? 		
Course Components	<p>Unit 1: Introduction to Translation Studies Unit 1: Introduction to Translation Studies 1.1 Definition and scope of Translation 1.2 History of Translation 1.3 Types of Translation 1.4 Decoding and Recoding 1.5 Cultural issues in Translation 1.6 Problems of Equivalence and Untranslatability 1.7 Loss and Gain 1.8 Formal and Dynamic Equivalence</p> <p>Unit 2: Poetry 2.1 “What Her Girl Friend Said” - Kovatattan, Kurunthokai 66 (Tamil) 2.2 “What Her Girl Friend Said” -Anon, Narrinnai 172 (Tamil) (Translation of Sangam Age Poetry by A.K.Ramanaujan) 2.3 A Comparative Study of select couplets from Two Translations of Thirukkural by G .U Pope and Rajaji *(Selected verses as attached below)</p> <p>UNIT – 4 Short Stories 3.1PudumaiPithan - “Teaching” 3.2 Chudamani - “ Herself” 3.3 Sundaram Ramasamy -”Sita Brand Soapnut Powder” 3.4 Ambai - “In a Forest, a Deer”</p> <p>Unit 4: Drama 4.1 <i>Water!</i> - Komal Swaminathan</p>		

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	Unit 5: Fiction 5.1 <i>Vaadivaasal</i> - C.S Chellappa
Learning Outcomes:	By the end of the course, the students will be able to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ trace the history and evolution of translation studies ➤ understand the complex concepts and issues in translation ➤ apply the theoretical concepts in analysing translated texts ➤ make a comparative study of the two prominent translations of Thirukkural at the linguistic level ➤ evaluate the process of translation using the prescribed texts ➤ use the acquired skills for research and career

Prescribed Texts/ Web Sources

Unit 1: Bassnett, Susan. Translation Studies. London: Methuen, 1980.

https://nptel.ac.in/content/storage2/courses/109104050/pdf_version/lecture4.pdf

Unit 2.1 & 2.2 - Ramanujan, A.K. Trans. *Poems of Love and War*. New Delhi: OUP, 1985.

2.3 *Selected verses as attached below

1. இல்வாழ்வான் என்பான் இயல்புஉடைய மூவர்க்கும்
நல்ஆற்றின் நின்ற துணை

Pope: The men of household virtue, firm in way of good, sustain
The other orders three that rule professed maintain.

Rajaji: The householder so-called helps the other orders in the proper fulfillment of their duties.

2. குழல்இனிது யாழ்இனிது என்ப தம்மக்கள்
மழலைச் சொல் கேளாதவர்.

Pope: 'The pipe is sweet,' 'the lute is sweet,' by them't will be averred,
Who music of their infants' lispings lips have never heard.

Rajaji: They speak of the sweet tones of the flute and of the harp, who have not had children and heard them lisp their newly learnt words.

3. ஈன்ற பொழுதில் பெரிது உவக்கும் தன் மகனைச்
சான்றோன் எனக் கேட்டதாய்

Pope: When mother hears him named 'fulfill'd of wisdom's lore,'
Far greater joy she feels, than when her son she bore.

Rajaji: Hearing words of appreciation uttered by people about her son, the mother feels greater joy than what she felt on the day he was born.

4. மகன் தந்தைக்கு ஆற்றும் உதவி இவன்தந்தை
என் னோற்றான்கொல் எனும்சொல்.

Pope: To sire, what best requital can by grateful child be done?
To make men say, 'What merit gained the father such a son?'

Rajaji: The son's greatest filial service is so to conduct

5. அன்பிலார் எல்லாம் தமக்குஉரியர் அன்புடையார்
என்பும் உரியர் பிறர்க்கு

Pope: The loveless to themselves belong alone;
The loving men are others' to the very bone.

Rajaji: Those who have not a loving disposition, belong wholly to themselves. The tender-hearted belong to other even in their bones.

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**6. இனியுளவாக இன்னாத கூறல்
கனிஇருப்பக் காய் கவர்ந்தற்று.**

Pope: When pleasant words are easy, bitter words to use,
Is, leaving sweet ripe fruit, the sour unripe to choose.

Rajaji: When gentle words are available, why do men choose the words that hurt? Is it not foolish to pick unripe berries when ripe ones can be had for the plucking?

**7. காலத்தினால் செய்த நன்றி சிறிதுஎனினும்
ஞாலத்தின் மாணப் பெரிது.**

Pope: A timely benefit, -though thing of little worth,
The gift itself, -in excellence transcends the earth.

Rajaji: By itself the help rendered may be a trifle, but the hour of need when it was given makes it bigger than the whole world.

**8. அகழ்வாரைத் தாங்கும் நிலம்போலத் தம்மை
இகழ்வார்ப் பொறுத்தல் தலை**

Pope: As earth bears up the men who delve into her breast,
To bear with scornful men of virtues is the best.

Rajaji: Does not the earth support the man that is engaged in digging it? It is proper that we too bear with those who wrong us.

**9. வாய்மை எனப்படுவது யாது எனின் யாதுஒன்றும்
தீமை இலாத சொல்ல.**

Pope: You ask, in lips of men what 'truth' may be;
'Tis speech from every taint of evil free.

Rajaji: Truthfulness is attained if one's speech is such that it harms no being in the world.

**10. இன்னாசெய்தாரை ஒறுத்தல் அவர்நாண
நன் நயம் செய்து விடல்.**

Pope: To punish wrong, with kindly benefits the doers ply;
Thus shame their souls; but pass the ill unheeded by.

Rajaji: The best punishment for those who do evil to you, is to shame them by returning good for evil.

3.1 Viswanatha, Vanamala, *Routes: Representations of the West in Short Fiction*,
Macmillan, 2000

3.2 Chudamani, R *The Solitary Sprout*, Orient Blackswan, 2019

3.3 *Waves*, Manas Publications

3.4 Ambai, Holmstorm, Lakshmi, *In a Forest, a Deer*, Oxford India Paperback, 2011

4.1 Komal Swaminathan - *Water!*, Seagull Publications.

5.1 *Vaadivaasal* C.S. Chellappa - *Arena*, OUP India

FURTHER READING (to be considered for internal assessment tasks only)

- Love Stands Alone : Selections from Tamil Sangam Poetry -A.R.Venkatachalapathy
- Solitary Sprout - Chudamani
- A Kitchen in the Corner of the House - Ambai
- Nandhan Kathai - Indira Parthasarathy
- Mole - Ashokamithran
- Nagammal -R.Shanmugasundaram

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BOOKS & WEB SOURCES FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

- Bassnett, Susan. Translation Studies. London: Methuen, 1980, Unit I & II.
- Bassnett, Susan, & Harris Trivedi, eds. Postcolonial Translation: Theory and Practice. London: Routledge, 1999.
- Standard edition of the texts.
- Viswanatha, Vanamala, et al, eds. Routes: Representations of The West in Short Fiction from South India in Translation. Chennai: Macmillan, 2000.
- The Translator's Invisibility : A History of Translation – Lawrence Venuti
- The Translation Studies Reader – Lawrence Venuti
- Mouse or Rat? Translation as Negotiation – Umberto Eco
- In These words (A Course book on Translation) – Mona Baker, Routledge
- A Linguistics theory of Translation : AN Essay in Applied Linguistics – John C Catford : OUP
- Translation - R A Brower, Cambridge (On Linguistic aspects of translation – Roman Jakobson Pages 232 – 239 only)
- Towards a Science of Translating – Eugene Nida (EJ Brill)
- The theory and practice of Translation – Eugene Nida and C R Taber (EJ Brill)
- Translation/History/ Culture : A Sourcebook – Andre Lefevre, Routledge Publishers (1992)

RECOMMENDED MOOC

- NPTEL – Translation Studies and Theory –IIT Kanpur
<https://nptel.ac.in/courses/109/104/109104050/>
- SWAYAM- Modern Indian Writing in Translation
https://swayam.gov.in/nd1_noc20_hs36/preview

TEDx TALKS

- The art of literary translation | Natasha Sondakh | TEDxJIS
<https://youtu.be/P0mySDFojZY>
- Why I Translate? Ted Talks
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lxEgJIMwbfc>
- Bei Jin·TEDxTrumanStateU: Is Translation Easy?
https://www.ted.com/talks/bei_jin_is_translation_easy
- Patricia Ryan|Tedx Dubai: Don't Insist on English
https://www.ted.com/talks/patricia_ryan_don_t_insist_on_english?language=en