

Machine Translation and Post-editing (A704028)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits	5.0	Study time	150 h	Contact hrs	45.0 h
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 1)	English	group work	10.0 h
		practicum	22.5 h
		self-reliant study activities	12.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Macken, Lieve	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Daems, Joke	LW22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

Postgraduate Certificate Computer-Assisted Language Mediation	crdts	offering
	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Machine translation, post-editing, controlled language

Position of the course

Machine Translation (MT) is the translation of text by a computer. To produce high-quality translations, humans still need to intervene in the process either by making the input more suitable for MT (pre-editing) or changing the output (post-editing).

Contents

The course deals with the following topics:

- Challenges for MT;
- Architecture of MT systems (rule-based MT, statistical MT, neural MT, interactive MT);
- Evaluation of MT output (automatic vs. manual evaluation methods);
- Pre-editing, post-editing and post-editing tools;
- Integration of MT in the translation workflow;
- Creation and evaluation of a customized MT engine.

Initial competences

The student has a basic knowledge of English and a basic knowledge of at least one of the following languages: Dutch, French or German.

Final competences

- 1 The student has advanced knowledge of different machine translation architectures and can, based on that knowledge, critically assess different machine translation systems;
- 2 The student has advanced knowledge of the evaluation methods that are used in the field of MT;
- 3 The student has advanced knowledge of the post-editing process and the typical MT errors;
- 4 The student has knowledge of how MT is integrated in translation workflows.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, practicum, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminars in the computer lab.

Guided self-study/team work in the computer lab or at home.

Learning materials and price

Handouts and materials on the electronic learning platform Minerva.

Geraamde totaalprijs: 0 EUR

References

- Koehn, P. *Statistical Machine Translation*. Cambridge University Press, 2010
- O'Brien, S., Balling L., Carl, M. , Simard, M., Specia, L. *Post-editing of Machine Translation: Processes and Applications*. Cambridge Scholar Publishing, 2014
- Somers, H. *Computers and Translation. A Translator's guide*. Benjamins, 2003

Course content-related study coaching

Discussion forum on Minerva

Possibility to contact lecturers via e-mail

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Assignment, skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

First session:

- Skills test (50%)
- Assignment (50%)

The skills test consists of several practical assignments that are completed during the classes. The assignment consists of a more elaborate task.

Second session:

- Assignment (50%): same assignment; students submit a new, improved version
- Written exam (50%)

Calculation of the examination mark

First session: skills test 50%; assignment 50%

Second session: assignment 50%; exam 50%

Facilities for Working Students

Class attendance is mandatory.

Limited possibility of feedback via e-mail, restricted to answering specific questions.