

Course Description

FOT2826 | Legal Translation | 3.00 credits

This course further develops translation strategies and skills while familiarizing students with the characteristics of English and Spanish legal discourse. This includes knowledge of specialized legal terms and related linguistic structures so that students can accurately translate legal documents from English to Spanish and Spanish to English. Terminology research and glossary development through the use of pertinent sources will also be addressed in depth.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will develop translation strategies by:

1. Transferring all nuances contained in the Source Language text to the target text with their corresponding equivalencies
2. Transferring all cultural references contained in the source language text to the target text with proper target language equivalencies

Competency 2: The student will learn to analyze and translate legal documents into both English and Spanish by:

1. Examining and discussing the main grammatical, lexical and stylistic features of legal discourse
2. Comparing the characteristics of legal documents in English and Spanish
3. Understanding dynamic equivalences contained in the Source and Target Language texts

Competency 3: The student will learn to deverbilize legal documents by:

1. Understanding the difference between meaning and sense
2. Identifying the intended meaning underlying a text
3. Conceptualizing the content to be translated

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate knowledge of legal terminology by:

1. Providing (in the target text) Spanish- language or English-language equivalents of agreement/contract-related terms
2. Employing (in the target text) Spanish- language or English-language equivalents of will/testament related terms
3. Using (in the target text) Spanish-language or English-language equivalents of, including but not limited to, transcript, degree, and certificate-related terms
4. Providing (in the target text) English- language or Spanish-language equivalents of, including but not limited to, power of attorney- related terms

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate proficiency in vocabulary research by:

1. Compiling glossaries of specialized legal terms through efficient lexicographical skills
2. Developing a terminology file before engaging in the actual translation task

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information