

## M.Phil Courses

<b>Course No.</b>	<b>GR 607</b>
<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Translation as Writing Culture</b>
<b>Course Credits:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Course Level:</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Course-in-charge:</b>	<b>Rekha Vaidya Rajan</b>

### **Course Contents:**

For some years now the concept of *cultural translation* has been widely debated in different disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. These debates have extended the meaning of the word “translation” beyond the ambit of texts and languages into a more metaphorical domain. Doris Bachmann-Medick talks of the *translational turn* in culture studies, which has led to a rethinking of the concept of culture itself. Apart from the *reflexive turn* in translation and cultural studies, disciplines like sociology, ethnology and history have also debated the epistemological framework and methodological questions involved in applying the term *cultural translation* to their respective fields. The migrant experience of cultural translation also plays a major role in these debates, especially in the case of authors living in cultures and writing in languages other than that of their deemed origins.

The course will engage with the theoretical and methodological perspectives thrown open through these debates. It will apply these perspectives to texts that are broadly divided into three categories:

- India in mission reports of the 18<sup>th</sup> century
- Travel writing
- German literature by authors of non-German background

Since a large number of the theoretical texts foreground the aspect of difference it would be interesting to see how the application of the notion of similarity (Ähnlichkeit) could provide a different perspective and whether similarity can be applied in questions of cultural translation.

### **Bibliography: (Essential Readings)**

1. Bachmann-Medick, Doris: Cultural Turns. Neuorientierungen in den Kulturwissenschaften. 2. Aufl. Reinbek b. Hamburg; Rowohlt, 2007 (2006). Darin v.a. Kap. 5 Translational Turn.
2. Bachmann-Medick, Doris (Hg.): Übersetzung als Repräsentation fremder Kulturen. Berlin; Erich Schmidt, 1997.
3. Bhatti, Anil/Dorothee Kimmich (Hg.): Ähnlichkeit. Ein kulturtheoretisches Paradigma. Konstanz; Konstanz University Press, 2015.
4. Bassnet, Susan and Harish Trivedi (eds.): Post-Colonial Translation: theory and practice. London/New York: Routledge, 1999.

5. Hoskote, Ranjit u. Ilija Trojanow: *Confluences. Forgotten Histories from East and West*. New Delhi; Yoda, 2012.
6. Lässig, Simone: Übersetzungen in der Geschichte – Geschichte als Übersetzung? Überlegungen zu einem analytischen Konzept und Forschungsgegenstand für die Geschichtswissenschaft. In *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*, 38. Jg., H.2, Übersetzungen (April-Juni 2012). S. 189-216. (JSTOR)
7. Lefevere, Andre and Susan Bassnet (eds.): *Translation, history and culture*. London: Routledge, 1990.
8. Liebau, Heike: „Alle Dinge, die zu wissen nöthig sind“. Religiös-soziale Übersetzungsprozesse im kolonialen Indien. In: *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*. 38.Jg. H.2, Übersetzungen (April-Juni 2012). S. 243-271. (JSTOR)
9. Renn, Joachim, Jürgen Straub, Shingo Shimada (Hg.): *Übersetzung als Medium des Kulturverstehens und sozialer Integration*. Frankfurt/New York; Campus, 2002.
10. Sousa Riberio, Antonio: Translation as a Metaphor for our Times: Postcolonialism, Borders and Identities. In: *Portuguese Studies*, Vol. 20 (2004). S.186-194. (JSTOR)
11. Trepp, Anne-Charlott: Von der Missionierung der Seelen zur Erforschung der Natur. Die Dänisch-Hallesche Südindienmission im ausgehenden 18. Jahrhundert. In: *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*, 36. Jg., H 2, Mission und kulturelle Globalisierung (April-Juni 2010). S. 231-256. (JSTOR)
12. Trivedi, Harish: *Translating Culture vs. Cultural Translation*.
13. Wagner, Birgit: *Kulturelle Übersetzung. Erkundungen über ein wanderndes Konzept*. In: *Kakanien Revisited*. (<http://www.kakanien.ac.at/beitr./postcol/BWagner2.pdf>)
14. Yamamoto, Hiroshi, Christine Ivanovic (Hg.): *Überstzung – Transformation. Umformungsprozesse in/von Texten, Medien, Kulturen*. Würzburg; Königshausen u. Neumann, 2010.

Apart from these essential theoretical readings the students will also engage with primary texts from the three categories mentioned above.

### **Semester Evaluation:**

One presentation- 20%

One mid-semester test- 30%

Term paper in lieu of end-semester examination: 50%

**Course No. : GR-609**

**Course Title: History of Literature: A theoretical and critical approach**

**Course Credits: 4**

**Course Level: A**

**Course-In-Charge: Madhu Sahni**

**Course Contents:** What is the 'History of Literature'? When one studies literary history, does one study canonical texts that define a 'national' literature? Does one study literature by looking at the changes in and evolution of different genres? What are the different kinds of literary histories that have been written? Is it the notion of 'epochs' that explain 'history' in literary history? Is it even relevant to study the history of literature today or is it an anachronism? In this course we will be reading certain theoretical texts that engage with these questions amongst others and we will also be tracking one particular literary form – the autobiographical literary text from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present.

Course Evaluation: Continuous Evaluation (25%) + 1 Presentation (25%) + Term Paper (50%)

End-Semester Examination: None

