

THE MINOR IN TRANSLATION STUDIES

WHAT IS THE MINOR IN TRANSLATION STUDIES?

The Minor introduces students to diverse histories, theories, and practices of translation, through a flexible sequence of four courses. A final capstone project gives students an opportunity to pursue individual interests in literary, legal, medical, technical, film, or business translation, as well as translation across media, interdisciplinary projects or creative performances related to translation, student internships, and other translation activities, both on and off campus.

GOALS OF THE MINOR

- Develop language skills through translation
- Explore interdisciplinary approaches to translation
- Promote critical and creative reflection on translation
- Reflect on global cultural differences through translation
- Engage translation through an individualized capstone project
- Integrate translation into student internships and study abroad
- Highlight translation in coursework, on campus, and in the community
- Encourage student involvement in "Translation at Michigan"

CONTACT

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WHO CAN MINOR IN TRANSLATION STUDIES?

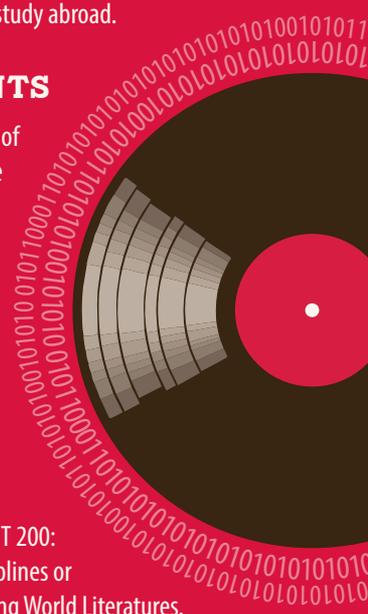
The Minor is open to undergraduates across all departments. It has no prerequisites and is easy to integrate into different programs of study, including student internships and study abroad.

REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 15 credits of courses, with at least one course in Comparative Literature and a minimum of 12 credits in upper-level courses.

Coursework must be approved by the Translation Studies Adviser, according to the following plan:

- 3 credits: either COMPLIT 200: Translation Across Disciplines or COMPLIT 322: Translating World Literatures.
- 3 credits: an upper-level course (taught at the University of Michigan or taken for credit during Study Abroad) that develops skills in a language or medium that the student will use for the capstone translation project.
- 6 credits: two upper-level courses with a central component on translation (taught at the University of Michigan, or taken for credit during Study Abroad).
- 3 credits: a capstone project or internship in translation, completed either while taking COMPLIT 495: Senior Seminar (offered every fall) or as a 3-credit Independent Study (with prior approval).



"IF YOU TALK TO A MAN IN A LANGUAGE HE UNDERSTANDS, THAT GOES TO HIS HEAD. IF YOU TALK TO HIM IN HIS OWN LANGUAGE, THAT GOES TO HIS HEART." – NELSON MANDELA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I declare a Minor in Translation Studies?

We would love to meet with you! Email complit.info@umich.edu to make an appointment and get started.

Do I have to specialize in a foreign language?

Most approved course plans for the Minor will include at least one upper-level course in a second language. However, students interested in translating across different media, technologies, or disciplines may petition for an exception to the language rule, by proposing an upper-level course that develops other skills relevant to the capstone translation project.

Do I have to specialize in literary studies?

No! The Minor is designed with flexibility for students to explore and engage translation in many disciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts. Our minors pursue the relationship between text and dance, they work towards social justice by helping immigrants navigate the complex cultural and legal challenges of living in the US, they think about the relationship between translation and artificial intelligence – the possibilities are endless!

Are there internship opportunities?

Students can propose internships as the basis of a capstone project. The Dept. of Comparative Literature will assist you in finding leads for internships in many professional settings.

Can I work on the Minor during study abroad?

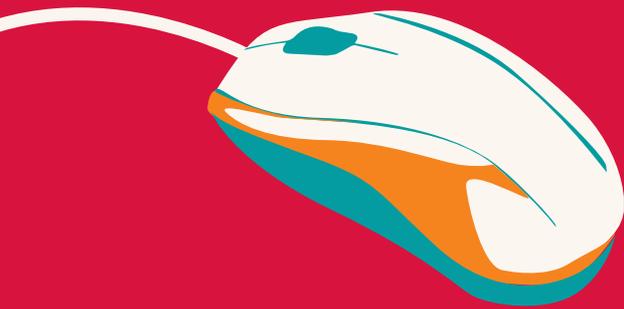
Yes! Students are strongly encouraged to pursue language training and translation activities during study abroad. Some courses are even counted toward your requirements for the Minor. You can also consult with the adviser about working on your capstone project during study abroad.

How do I plan for my capstone project?

Students consult with the Translation Studies adviser to submit a proposal for the capstone project. A checklist is provided to complete each phase of the project and to register for three credits (usually during the fall or winter term of the senior year).

What can I do with a Minor in Translation Studies?

Our minor gives students the opportunity to develop original work, and the flexibility to set them apart in a competitive market and countless career paths. While the Minor is not intended to certify students as professional translators or interpreters, it may prepare students to pursue certification or other professional credentials in translation after graduation. According to the Department of Labor, translators and interpreters are expected to be one of the 15 fastest growing occupations in the nation. Fortune 500 companies are desperately seeking to hire employees with excellent foreign language skills – as are a growing number of federal and state government agencies.



WHY MINOR IN TRANSLATION STUDIES?

In an age of growing global interconnection, knowing how to translate requires more than just language skills. Successful translation -- broadly construed as the mediation between languages, media, cultures, and disciplines -- is the very condition of possibility when it comes to addressing global, national, and regional challenges. The Minor in Translation Studies prepares students to engage a wide world of translations.