



Professorship in Translation Studies

This document sets out the information for appointment to a Professorship in Translation Studies at UCL. The Professor will act as Director of the Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS).

Page

Job Description and Person Specification	2
Application Procedure	5
The Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS) and its environment	6
About UCL	9

Job Description

Title: Professor of Translation Studies

Role: Director of the Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS)

Department: Centre for Translation Studies, part of the Centre for Multidisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CMII) and of the School of European Languages, Culture and Society (SELCS)

Grade: UCL professorial grade (10), competitive according to experience, minimum £69,031 per annum

Responsible to: Director of SELCS

Responsible for: Teaching Fellows and Post Graduate Teaching Assistants

Introduction

Applications are invited for a full-time Professor of Translation Studies and Director of the UCL Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS), from 1 September 2018. The successful applicant will succeed the current CenTraS Director, Professor Theo Hermans, on his retirement.

We encourage applications from scholars with expertise in translation theory and history, especially as regards translation in the humanities and social sciences.

Main purpose of the role

To bring world-leading expertise in translation studies to enhance the work of CenTraS in all areas (research, teaching, administration and knowledge transfer); to provide strong academic leadership to CenTraS.

Main duties and responsibilities

1. To provide intellectual and academic leadership to CenTraS.
2. To conduct original and ambitious research of the highest quality.
3. To maintain an outstanding publication record.
4. To deliver imaginative and inspirational teaching and carry out teaching-related tasks as necessary.
5. To attract and supervise doctoral students to successful completion.
6. To strengthen the Centre's profile in knowledge transfer (communication with non-academic audiences) and 'impact' as defined by the Research Excellence Framework (REF).

7. To collaborate with colleagues to develop and enhance the Centre's work and reputation in all respects.
8. To carry out any other duties that are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the post, as requested by the SELCS Director or the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.
9. To follow all UCL policies, including Equal Opportunities policies, and to maintain an awareness and observation of Fire and Health & Safety Regulations.

Please note that as duties and responsibilities change, the job description will be reviewed and amended in consultation with the postholder.

Requirements

Applicants will be expected to have a reputation as a world leader in the field; a broad view across the spectrum of translation studies; an outstanding record of research and publication; extensive experience of postgraduate teaching; a strong track record of research supervision and of capturing external research funding; a proven capacity for academic and intellectual leadership; and a demonstrable commitment to knowledge transfer (communication of your work to non-academic audiences) and 'impact'.

Research and publication

The successful candidate will be expected to pursue and publish research of the highest quality within their field. Permanent members of staff can usually expect one term of study leave every third year. There are funds available to help meet the cost of research and attending conferences, but all academic staff are expected to apply for additional external grants as appropriate. Applications to UK and other research councils for major research projects are particularly encouraged. All academic staff are expected to take part in research supervision.

Teaching

We are committed to excellence not just in research but also in teaching, and we believe that high-quality teaching is both research-led and research-based. As such, members of staff are encouraged to design courses relating to their specialist research interests, and to introduce students to principles of research and to a wide range of aspects of translation. All academic staff are expected to contribute to teaching.

Administration, Academic Citizenship and Knowledge Transfer

The successful candidate must be able to provide leadership, vision and strategic planning to the UCL Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS). He or she will be expected to play a full part in the life of UCL and the wider research community, including administrative duties, pastoral care of students and contributions to research seminars and conferences. A demonstrable commitment to knowledge transfer is part of the role.

Person specification

1. Knowledge

Essential

- Recognition as a leading authority in the field of translation studies
- Fluency in written and spoken English and at least one other language

Desirable

- Sophisticated understanding of theoretical and methodological debates in translation and intercultural studies.
- Familiarity with translation across media and with translation technology

2. Skills and Abilities

Essential

- Outstanding record of original research
- Outstanding record of peer-reviewed publication, including a strong submission for REF 2021
- Capacity to develop exciting future research projects
- Proven capacity to attract external funding for research
- Capacity for intellectual leadership

Desirable

- Capacity for undertaking research which has demonstrable 'impact' in line with HEFCE's REF guidelines.

3. Experience

Essential

- Proven track record of academic leadership
- Extensive experience of postgraduate teaching and research supervision
- Experience of academic administration

Desirable

- Leadership of major research projects
- Experience of senior administrative roles in a Department or Faculty

4. Aptitudes

Essential

- Willingness and ability to assume senior administrative roles
- Willingness and ability to undertake knowledge transfer work
- Commitment to equal opportunities and the ability to work with colleagues and students of all cultures and backgrounds

Desirable

- Demonstrable commitment to interdisciplinary work

Application Procedure

Applications for the position should be made online at www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs. Any candidates unable to apply online should submit an electronic copy to academic.services@ucl.ac.uk or a hard copy to the Director of Registry and Academic Services, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Applications should include:

- a full curriculum vitae (including a list of publications and other outputs)
- a statement of research interests and plans, alongside an evaluation of the significance of your research
- a statement about your approach to teaching and supervision, and about your educational interests and plans
- the names and addresses of three referees who are leading figures in the relevant subject, including at least one referee based outside the candidate's country of residence
- details of current salary

Within the online application you should include a clear statement in response to each of the selection criteria which shows how your qualifications, training and experience fit the criteria. Your response to the criteria is an essential part of the selection process and a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as "Please see attached CV" will not be acceptable.

Please note that the online system will accept up to two attachments, so you should be prepared to merge your documents if necessary.

UCL is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from female, disabled and BAME/BME candidates.

Salary will be at a level commensurate with the academic standing of the appointee, and will include £3,031 London Allowance per annum and potentially a relocation package.

The post is available from 1st September 2018. Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date, regrettably it will normally not be possible to offer an alternative date.

For academic enquiries about the post, please contact Professor Theo Hermans, Director, Centre for Translation studies (CenTraS), UCL, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, UK, email: t.hermans@ucl.ac.uk

Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS)

Both nationally and internationally, CenTraS is a major centre for translation studies. With a sizeable student body, various types of academic and teaching staff, and a vibrant research culture, CenTraS houses expertise across virtually the entire spectrum of translation studies. We currently operate at graduate level only.

CenTraS was set up in its current form in 2016 as a result of a merger involving staff in the School of European Languages, Culture and Society teaching an MA in Translation and a separate unit which had moved to UCL from Imperial College in 2013 and which offered an MSc in Specialised Translation.

Masters Programmes

CenTraS currently runs both these Masters programmes, i.e. the MA Translation and the MSc Specialised Translation. The programmes take one year and have a combined total of just under 100 students. Student numbers have been stable for several years but have the potential to grow. Around 60% of Masters students are from outside the UK and EU.

The two programmes are interlinked and similar in structure, but they remain distinct. The MSc in particular makes intensive use of a range of specialised technologies and has a broadly professional orientation, unusual in the humanities. While the choice of languages on the MA is largely free, the MSc works with a fixed number of language combinations.

Each programme has three routes. The three MA Translation routes are: Translation and Culture, in which theory and practical translation are combined; Translation Studies, which is more theoretical and critical in nature; and the Research route, which involves less tuition and a more extensive dissertation. The MSc Specialised Translation routes are: Audiovisual Translation, including subtitling and dubbing; Technical, Scientific and Medical Translation, which includes a large element of computer-assisted translation; and the 'with Interpreting' route, which provides an introduction to liaison interpreting. A fourth MSc route, Accessibility to the Media, with a focus on translation for the deaf and hard-of-hearing and for the blind and partially sighted, is due to start recruiting in September 2018 and to run from September 2019 onwards.

The MA and the MSc share a common core course. The dissertation, too, is taught jointly across the two programmes. Students can take additional modules in the other programme, depending on the route they take.

Staff

CenTraS has 6.3 FTE academic staff (as of February 2018), spread over 8 individuals. It also has more than a dozen part-time Teaching Fellows, who teach primarily on the MSc Specialised Translation in particular language combinations and specialist areas like machine-aided translation, translation memories, liaison interpreting, and technical, medical and various forms of audiovisual translation. The Teaching Fellows also run the CenTraS professional translation and training services, about which more below.

In the last three years CenTraS has hosted a Marie Curie Fellow, and we are currently also hosting a British Academy postdoctoral fellow (2016-20). CenTraS regularly attracts visiting academics (known as Affiliate Academics); on average we have about four at any one time.

Research

The main research interests of CenTraS academic staff stretch across the spectrum of translation studies, from historical, social, cultural, cognitive and pedagogical aspects to translation technology and audiovisual translation. Geraldine Brodie works primarily on theatre translation and on indirect and collaborative forms of translation. She recently co-edited *Adapting Translation for the Stage* (2017) and just published the monograph *The Translator on Stage* (2018). Rocío Baños and Jorge Díaz-Cintas are interested in audiovisual translation, the former working mostly on dubbing, the latter on subtitling. They jointly edited *Audiovisual Translation in a Global Context* (2015). Christophe Declercq combines an interest in translation technology with research on refugee communities around the First World War. He co-edited *Languages and the First World War: Representation and Memory* (2016). Federico Federici has research interests in translation in regional contexts, news translation and translation in international crisis situations. He is currently in receipt of a Horizon 2020 research grant, and co-edited *Translators, Interpreters and Cultural Negotiators* (2014). Claire Shih writes on translation pedagogy and on cognitive aspects of the translation process. Mark Shuttleworth has worked on metaphor translation and cognitive linguistics as well as on translation technology. He recently published *Studying Scientific Metaphor in Translation* (2017).

CenTraS currently has around 25 research students, two thirds of them from Overseas. Their research involves a wide variety of languages and topics, from subtitling and translation technology to literary and historical issues in translation. All research students have two supervisors, one of whom may come from outside CenTraS and indeed from outside UCL. Both CenTraS and the Centre for Multidisciplinary and Intercultural Inquiry run regular research seminars, and CenTraS organises a series of public lectures jointly with the nearby School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS).

Translation services and professional training

A particular feature of CenTraS is that we also offer translation and training services across languages and media.. These are largely separate from our teaching and research, and are run by Teaching Fellows. They add to the visibility of CenTraS, help to maintain links with the profession, and provide a source of income. We offer two types of service: professional training and a small translation agency. Professional training comprises two summer schools of four weeks' duration each, four online courses of 11 weeks' duration each, and currently 9 one-day courses. The translation agency, 'Translation and Media Accessibility Service' (TraMAS), is run as a small business by one TF who subcontracts freelance translators, some of them former students.

The CenTraS environment: CMII, SELCS and the Arts and Humanities Faculty

[CenTraS](#) forms part of the Centre for Multidisciplinary and Intercultural Inquiry (CMII). Both Centres are also administrative units of UCL's School of European Languages, Society and Culture (SELCS) and all are part of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, one of eleven Faculties at UCL.

[CMII](#) brings together a range of graduate programmes that cut across cultures and disciplines. These are – in addition to the programmes offered by CenTraS – MA/MSc and research programmes in comparative literature; film studies; gender and sexuality studies; European studies; European culture and thought; health humanities; philosophy, politics and economics of health; African studies; creative critical writing; and Early Modern studies.

[SELCS](#) is a world-leading centre for teaching, research and public engagement, made up of the traditional language departments of Dutch, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian Studies, and Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies, all of which offer undergraduate as well as graduate degrees. .

The [Faculty of Arts and Humanities](#) comprises, apart from SELCS, the departments of English, Philosophy, Information Studies, Greek and Latin, European Social and Political Studies, and Hebrew and Jewish Studies, as well as the Slade School of Fine Art and various research centres (including CMII). All of these interact with the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (IAS), which was set up in 2015 and has its own space and resources. Beyond this, the UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) houses expertise and resources in the languages and cultures of Eastern Europe.

CenTras is supported by a team of administrative staff who work across SELCS and CMII as well as for CenTras with total FTE currently at 16. Work is carried out according to function (for example, finance, teaching support or space management) and there are also dedicated points of contact for individual centres and departments.

Future Plans

The future activities of CenTraS are a matter for negotiation between CenTraS, CMII, SELCS and the Faculty, but possible future developments include the involvement of CenTraS in teaching translation studies at undergraduate level in SELCS, and the creation of a Masters programme delivered via distance learning.

About UCL

Background Information

UCL is one of the world's top universities. Based in the Bloomsbury area of central London, UCL is an inclusive, multidisciplinary university situated at the heart of one of the world's greatest cities. At its establishment in 1826, UCL was radical and responsive to the needs of society, and this ethos – that excellence should go hand-in-hand with improving society – continues today.

UCL's excellence extends across all academic disciplines, from one of Europe's largest and most productive hubs for biomedical science interacting with several leading London hospitals, to world-renowned centres for architecture (UCL Bartlett), fine art (UCL Slade School) and its museums including the Petrie and the Grant Museum of Zoology. The British Museum and the British Library are within easy walking distance, as are several specialist libraries such as those of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and the Warburg Institute.

UCL is in practice a university in its own right, although constitutionally a college within the federal University of London. With an annual turnover of around £1.6 billion, it is financially and managerially independent of the University of London, and awards its own degrees.

UCL's central campus is within easy reach of Euston, Kings Cross and other mainline train stations, the new Eurostar terminal at St. Pancras and several Underground stations (Euston Square, Warren Street, Goodge Street and Russell Square). Road connections to the M1 and M40 motorways give easy access to the north and west road networks. There are good public transport links to all London airports.

The UCL community

UCL's staff and former students include 29 Nobel prizewinners. It is a very international community. More than one-third of our 40,000 student body come from 150 countries and nearly one-third of staff are from outside the UK.

UCL offers postgraduate research opportunities in all of its subjects, and provides more than 200 undergraduate programmes and more than 400 taught postgraduate programmes. Approximately 54% of the student community is engaged in graduate studies, with about 29% of these graduate students pursuing research degrees.

Quality of UCL's teaching and research

UCL is independently ranked as the most productive research university in Europe (SIR). It has almost 1,000 professors – the highest number of any university in the UK – and the best academic to student ratio of any UK university (*The Times*, 2014), enabling small class sizes and outstanding individual support.

In 2017 UCL's Faculty of Arts and Humanities was ranked among the top 5 in the world. The Research Excellence Framework 2014 (REF2014), rated UCL as the top university in the UK for 'research power' (the overall quality of its submission multiplied by the number of FTE researchers submitted). It was rated top not only in the overall results, but in each of the assessed components: publications and other research outputs; research environment; and research impact. REF2014 confirmed UCL's multidisciplinary research strength, with many leading performances across subject areas ranging from biomedicine, science and engineering and the built environment to laws, social sciences and arts and humanities.

Equality

UCL is proud of its longstanding commitment to equality and to providing a learning, working and social environment in which the rights and dignity of its diverse members are respected. [The Equalities website](#) has everything you need to know about Equalities at UCL and some initiatives are highlighted below:

- *Sabbatical Leave following maternity* - UCL provides one term of sabbatical leave without teaching commitments for research-active academics returning from maternity, adoption or long-term carer's leave. This support for returners enables staff to re-establish their research activity.
- *Achievement of five Athena SWAN awards* - for good employment practice for women working in science, engineering and technology (SET) in higher education and research.
- *Tackling underrepresentation* - UCL has two workforce equality targets: to increase the employment of black and minority ethnic (BME) support staff in grades 1-8 to 31% in line with the economically active BME population of Greater London; and to incrementally equalise the representation of men and women in senior grades, with the ultimate aim of a 50:50 split of women and men at this level.
- *Encouraging flexibility* - 82% of respondents to the 2009 UCL staff survey felt that their working time could be flexible. [UCL's Work Life Balance policy](#) gives employees the right to request a flexible working pattern.