

Messages from MA Translation tutors to prospective students

[Chege Githiora](#) (Swahili Translation)

The objective of the course is to train students in the practical skills and techniques of translation from English into Swahili and vice versa; to help students acquire an understanding of a variety of approaches, methods, history of translation, and the place of linguistics in translation. By the end of the course, the students should be able to translate a variety of text-types including modern prose and academic texts into the target language. They should also become familiar with relevant translation technology.

Hi, I am [Nana Sato-Rossberg](#).

I am teaching two MA translation modules: “Translating Cultures” and “Practical Translation from English into Japanese”.

In “[Translating Cultures](#)” we enjoy learning and discussing new perspectives relating to cultural translation in both theory and practice. This class is very interactive, profiting from the various cultural backgrounds students bring into it.

Students enjoyed going to fieldwork to practice cultural translation, which is one of the assignments for this module. Field work with visits to a museum and a London ethnic community is compulsory.

“[Practical Translation from English into Japanese](#)” offers a different topic for translation every week: recipe, journalism, theatre, literature, academic writing, etc. Students translate by themselves and also do a team translation. As a team, they discuss to complete their translations together. The students and I interact a lot in class.

My research expertise is translating orality, cultural translation, intergeneric translation, novelization as translation, and the history of Japanese Translation Studies. For my publications, [please click here](#).

If you have any questions regarding my modules, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Prof. [M.A.S. Abdel Haleem](#) (Arabic Translation)

The course aims at familiarising students with the process and techniques of translating between these two languages, developing their skills to a high level of proficiency and providing them with much practical experience of translation. The texts covered will be religious, national and institutional; these latter could cover national and international organisations, as well as political, economic, legal and cultural institutions. The texts focus, where possible, on specific areas of interest to students in any given year. The method of teaching will include introductory lectures on the process and technique of translation, close examination of the nature and features of varieties of texts, intensive practical translation, class discussion and exercises in translation criticism.

Hi, I am [Helen Blatherwick](#).

I co-teach the 'Arabic-English-Arabic Translation' module of the MA Translation course with Professor Abdel Haleem - I am responsible for the Arabic-English section of the module, and he teaches the English-Arabic. You can contact either of us with questions about the module.

'Arabic-English-Arabic Translation' is a very discussion-based module. We translate texts from various genres (for example, modern literature, academic writing and journalism of various kinds, and more traditional Arabic text genres such as tafsīr). I try to tailor the material covered during the course around the students' interests every year. Students prepare the text before class, either individually or in groups, and we discuss the various translation issues presented by each text in class, as we translate the text. There is usually a good balance of native speakers of each language, which means that everyone can really benefit from each other's knowledge.

My research expertise is in premodern Arabic literature, and my professional translation experience is in the translation of literary and Islamic Arabic texts.

Hello, I am [Cosima Bruno](#).

Among other courses, I teach the MA module Practical Translation [Chinese to English](#). This is a course aimed at developing a practical and intellectual approach to translation. Every session, we deal with a different type of text, with specific conventions and topic-based vocabulary. At the same time,

students learn and discuss translation strategies and theoretical considerations that help addressing confidently translating difficulties.

Before arriving to SOAS, I worked for several years as a translator and interpreter. My research interests include issues related to literary translation. In particular I have published on the theory of poetry translation, on the sociology of translation and on issues related to the translation of visual and aural aspects of Chinese poetry.

Please check [my webpage](#) on SOAS website for my contact details and further information.

[Lianyi Song](#)

I teach MA Practical Translation from [English into Chinese](#) which is both demanding and enjoyable. We use texts from various sources and they cover a range of genres: from formal business documents to poetry, from advertisements to machine translation. The students translate a couple of texts each week and share their experiences in class, either in informal discussion or in the form of prepared presentation. We also invite experts from different fields to talk about their translation works or scholarly investigation into the linguistic and cultural aspects between English and Chinese.

My main research interest, however, is in language pedagogy mainly in teaching methodology and assessment.

For other tutors, please visit their websites:

[Alan Cummings](#)

[Dongning Feng](#)

[Grace Koh](#)

[Nima Mina](#)