**GILT in curriculum**

We define GILT as - Globalization, Internationalization, Localization, Translation.

**Background:**

For any person outside, I18N/L10n community, topics in GILT are alien, there being little understanding of it beyond literal meaning or definition. Any new person venturing into this domain, has a steep 'self-learning' curve, since there is no formal course taught in India around it[[1]](#footnote-0), though there may be learning material on specific topics. But as a whole there is no single curriculum which covers are key topics in GILT, so learner can get good grip on it and further work in one of the specializations in it.

Since first FUEL-GILT conference in 2013 a need for formal GILT curriculum was felt. One which becomes a learning reference point, and acts as template for formal courses to be launched either short term or long term. Considering this is being proposed by FOSS L10N community, there would be some bias towards learning GILT using FOSS technologies/methodologies.

Refer presentation GILT\_in\_Curriculum.odp

**Why the need:**

* It began primarily as how to get people interested in localization.
* While people do get involved in localization, it is limited to translation. Long term interest peters out due to lack of work opportunities.
* Except for courses by LRC, Univ of Limerick, Ireland - no other formal course has been seen. Ireland has big L10N industry due to this.
* While translation, NLP have formal courses, I18N, L10N etc are not covered.
* Very low awareness on GILT in students
* In industry beyond few product companies, view on GILT is simplistic as being just related to translation.
* Across industry & community there are very few people working in GILT (excluding translation agencies). It takes years of learning & experience in GILT.

**Objectives:**

To provide a formal structure for GILT to be taught in various levels.

Define the curriculum aka syllabus which can be taught as short term (training) or long term ( 6 month semester course ).

**Use cases:**

Formal course definition will also lead to applying GILT in interdisciplinary courses.

eg.

* Design institute - interested in Typography, font design.
* IT institute/company - interested in i18n/l10n technology & processes, tools.
* Language institute/dept - interested in linguistic aspects, computational linguistics, NLP.
* Journalists: Being regular users of translation of content and many a times technical glossary, journalists need to be oriented as well.
* Authors/Translators/language activists
* Localizers from different communities: To sync and have uniformity in localization and quick learning platform.

**Topic Index**

Below GILT topics have been outlined on what could/needs to be covered. Since this is starting point, currently it is not intended to be very detailed.

**Unicode**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Learn about character sets, Unicode standard and how to use in implementation

* Number systems
* Legacy character sets
* Pitfalls of 8 bit
* The need for universal character set
* Unicode history
* Unicode releases and versions.
* Code charts
* UTF formats
* Character properties
* UCA
* Unicode in usage
  + Programming languages
  + Web
  + Databases

**Locale**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Understand locales, be able to customize, define or test locales.

* History , NLS, POSIX
* POSIX Locale categories
* Locale in Linux
* Windows Locales
* Defining a locale (glibc locale)
* Using locales in Linux.
* CLDR

**Input methods**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Understand how keyboard input works, be able to create new ones.

* Keymaps
* Console keymaps
* X keymaps
  + xmodmap
  + XKB
* X input method.
* IME - Input method environments
  + properties of an IME
* IMEs in use
  + IIIMF
  + SCIM
  + IBUS
  + IME in Windows
* Designing new keyboard/map

**Internationalization**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Learn I18N, issues, how to code as per i18n guidelines.

* Definition, importance
* Use cases
* Designing for I18N
* Common I18N issues.
  + Leading, string concatenation, hard-coding, etc.
  + Character handling
  + Regional formatting
  + Interoperability issues.
  + Handling complex text (CTL)
  + Text directionality (RTL)
* Internationalization QA

**Localization**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Understand and implement Localization projects

* Localizability.
* Resource formats
* Localization tools
* Automatic translation
* L10N quality checking
* L10n testing

**Translation**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Be able to work as translator, with various tools.

* Lost in translation
* Linguistic issues
* Standardization of terminology
* Translation as service
* Careers in translation
* Translation tools
* Translation Practice in upstream projects: GNONE, KDE, Mozilla, LibreOffice, OpenStack, Fedora, Ubuntu (may be added more names)

**Typography & Fonts**

*Topic Owners:*

Objective: Learn aspects of typography, font designing

* Basic aspects
* Font elements
* Font design
* Font validation & testing

**GILT Standards**

*Topic Owners:*

* LISA
* Unicode
* XLIFF
* FUEL

Appendix

References

1. LRC, Univ of Limerick has some courses, globally other courses may be available which cover GILT topics. Links to them will included in appendix [↑](#footnote-ref-0)