

Brainstorming

Pro:

- Teach them more professional programs and post-editing techniques to achieve higher quality translation
 - MT is improving exponentially, as well as expanding to include more languages and specific fields of translation
 - Students already use programs like DeepL to 'improve on their work' - we strive to teach them the right way to do it
- It is the future
 - Our department needs to keep up with the development of new translation technologies
 - It is upon us to prepare our students, so they don't have to seek it out themselves
 - We need to prepare ourselves for future developments now, instead of when they become relevant
- The English (or French) department can serve as a testing grounds for this new curriculum and can be expanded to other faculties if successful
 - If the ITAT offers a specialised module for this type of translation work we will attract more students
 - Graduates better suited for the translation work of the future will also have a positive impact on the ITAT's reputation
- Acknowledging Machine Translation in the curriculum enables us to offer a broader range of field-specific translation skills (Like law or medicine)
 - Students don't need to acquire as much additional knowledge

The proposal:

- The English (or French) department is convinced that the change in curricula will improve our students' experience, therefore we would like to offer relevant courses on a trial basis this coming semester.
- *Trados*, an enterprise translation software offers courses on how to effectively implement machine translation into one's workflow. Familiarity with one of these tools would also prove beneficial in the job market.

Cons:

Potential counterarguments

- We will just be teaching students how to cheat

- We need to teach them how not to plagiarise
- Ignoring this will not stop them from using MT
- We cannot control what students do with the skills we teach them regardless
- We don't have the staff to teach these courses
 - We would not need one lecturer per language. There already are several classes about general translation work which are held in German
 - We could use Trados courses to have the lecturer acquire the skills needed to hold the lecture.
- It is Expensive
 - If it is succesful the cost of the programme will easily be offset by the increased competitiveness of our students. If we only start with a trial run the failure is even a relatively cheap one.