

Call for Chapters

Can translation studies provide useful input for linguistics?

Edited by Larisa Cercel, Anna Pavlova, Holger Siever

The scholarly study of translation has long been associated with linguistics. In the 1950s, the birth of modern translation studies in the context of the development of computer-assisted translation, entailed that translation was considered a subfield of linguistics. Approaches, concepts, methods, and findings from linguistics shaped the early conception and terminology of translation studies, the focus being on “the investigation of translation processes as linguistic processes” and the analysis of “underlying linguistic mechanisms” (Jäger 1975: 77). The concept of equivalence – whereby a relation of equivalence between the source and target text must exist – and the concept of recoding – whereby the essential aspect of the translation process is deemed to be the recoding of semantic content – were central to the so-called “linguistic paradigm” (Siever 2022: 47-92). The commitment of translation studies to linguistics has been documented in Klein (1991), Albrecht (2013), Colliander / Hansen / Zint-Dyhr (2015), and Holzer (2021), among others.

Translation studies has since dissociated itself from linguistics and established itself as a distinct discipline (Siever 2010) with a genuine research domain in which translation is seen as a process and as a product. It integrates numerous interdisciplinary insights from other fields such as literary studies and hermeneutics, philosophy, psychology and sociology, communication and action theory, cultural and cognitive sciences, and it does so in order to adequately address the high level of complexity of its subject matter. The guiding idea is that translating is not primarily a linguistic phenomenon but a fundamentally multidimensional one that has to do with the situation of people “in the world”. The relationship with linguistics has therefore been completely redefined: “Of course, linguistics and translation studies are connected, but there is an essential difference between them: for linguistics, language is the subject of research, while for translation studies, language is to be considered as a tool or instrument that is intended to serve a purpose outside language” (Snell-Hornby 2011: 48).

The present publication project proposes to turn the perspective in the reverse direction and asks: Can translation studies in turn provide useful input for linguistics and thus enrich linguistic research? Can approaches, concepts, methods, and insights developed in translation studies lead to new ideas, insights, and approaches to the study of language and translation in linguistics?

Possible topic areas for chapters of the planned edited volume are:

- Semantics and Pragmatics • Lexicography • Phraseology • Construction Grammar • Syntax, Morphology, Word Formation • Phonology and Prosody • Foreign Language Didactics • Hermeneutic Linguistics • Text Linguistics • Cognitive Linguistics • Computational Linguistics • Cultural Linguistics among others.

The publication languages are German and English. Please submit an abstract with brief biographical information by November 30, 2023, to Anna Pavlova (pavloan@uni-mainz.de), Holger Siever (siever@uni-mainz.de), and Larisa Cercel (larisa.cercel@uni-leipzig.de).

Publication schedule

November 30, 2023: Deadline for submission of abstracts (500 words not including references) and short biographies (max. 150 words)

January 15, 2023: Notification of acceptance

July 15, 2024: Submission of contributions (7,000 to 10,000 words, including notes and bibliography)

2025: Publication of contributions

References

Albrecht, Jörn (2013): *Übersetzung und Linguistik*, 2. Auflage, Tübingen: Narr.

Colliander, Peter / Hansen, Doris / Zint-Dyhr, Ingeborg (Hg.) (2015): *Linguistische Aspekte der Übersetzungswissenschaft*, Tübingen: Edition Julius Groos im Stauffenburg Verlag.

Holzer, Peter (2021): „Textlinguistik und Übersetzungswissenschaft – Entwicklung und Interaktion“ in: *Linguistica Antverpiensia, New Series – Themes in Translation Studies* 1. <https://doi.org/10.52034/lanstts.v1i.4>

Jäger, Gert (1975): *Translation und Translationslinguistik*, Halle (Saale): Niemeyer.

Klein, Wolfgang (1991): „Was kann sich die Übersetzungswissenschaft von der Linguistik erwarten?“ in: *Zeitschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Linguistik* 84, 104-123.

Siever, Holger (2010): *Übersetzen und Interpretation. Die Herausbildung der Übersetzungswissenschaft als eigenständige wissenschaftliche Disziplin im deutschen Sprachraum von 1960 bis 2000*, Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.

Siever, Holger (2022): *Übersetzungswissenschaft. Eine Einführung*, 2., überarbeitete und erweiterte Auflage, Tübingen: Narr.

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