Translation, interpreting and language education in an age of AI

Background

Many people know that learning languages, translation and interpreting are important despite progress in AI and technology. But the problem is, how can language, translation or interpreting education be taught in an age of AI? And what for? My project aims to answer these questions. I then plan to look at how a better understanding of these questions could inform university teacher development.

I started this research out of experience and frustration.

Firstly, experience. When I began teaching English for translation and interpreting students in 2019, I saw that many things had not really moved on from when I myself was studying languages with translation and interpreting in mind over a decade ago. Observations which were later confirmed by reading a literature heavy with calls for more research about teaching languages with or for translation and interpreting. This project is one response to that call. Secondly, frustration about AI. Some people think that human translation and interpreting is destined to become obsolete, and that as a result, translation, interpreting and additional language education is a waste of time. This demonstrates the dominance of one perspective on language, translation and interpreting shaping public opinion.

I think the picture is more complex and that fresh perspectives are needed. This research sets out to give one of those fresh perspectives.

Participation

Fascinated? Find out more on the research website:
https://sites.exeter.ac.uk/tileblog/

The call for participants is open until the end of August 2025, with interviews to be scheduled between October 2025 and January 2026.

Participation is explained in more detail here.

If you have questions, write to me at cg559@exeter.ac.uk (correspondence possible in English, Français, Español, 日本語，中文)

Short bio

My name is Celine Garbutt is a first year PhD researcher at the School of Education, and is funded by the ESRC SWDTP. My project explores pedagogical practice at the intersection between translation, interpreting and languages in higher education: U-TILE.

Benefits
Taking part in this study means you can:
- Make your voice heard in research about language, translation and interpreting education

- Become part of a network of teachers and professionals sharing a growth mindset about education