Sara Cecilia McMahon

Texas State University
Email: scm168@txstate.edu

EDUCATION

M.A. in Spanish, May 2021,
Graduated with distinction.

Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Master's Thesis: "Machine Translation: Linguistic challenges that arise in the translation of journalistic texts." Chair: Dr. Yasmin Beale-Rivaya. Committee Members: Dr. Alejandra Sorto and Dr. Antonio Gragera.

B.F.A. in Communications Arts and Design, August 1997

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
Emphasis in graphic design and illustration.

RESEARCH

Article: Pitfalls in Machine Translation: A Case Study Based on Journalistic Texts.
Publisher: Revista Iberoamericana de Lingüística, San Antonio TX

Thesis: Machine Translation: Linguistic challenges that arise in the translation of specialized texts, May 2021.

- **Methods used:**
  - Comparative analysis of journalistic texts published between 10/20 and 2/21.
  - Compared the efficacy of Google and Bing translation services.
  - Identification of the different types of translations errors commonly produced.
  - Statistical analysis of the frequency of the different types of errors produced with automatic translations.
  - Measured the results of the investigation through a quantitative and statistical method

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Instruction, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 2022 - Present

- Beginners Spanish I and II
- Intermediate Spanish I and II
- Translation Practice and Theory

Spanish Education Specialist, University of Texas High School, Austin, TX 2018 - 2019

- Analyzed Spanish students' transcripts and processed Credit Course Analysis (CDC) for students from Mexico and Central America.
- Evaluated and scored Spanish Credit by Exam according to UT High School guidelines.

SELF-EMPLOYED

Spanish Translator 2003 - 2024

- Translated Academic Transcripts from Spanish to English for the Athletic Department at Texas State University
- Translated Surveys English to Spanish for the School of Law at the University of Texas
- Translated pamphlets, brochures for medical products labels English and Spanish for KPAX Pharmaceuticals.
- Reviewed and proofread Spanish courses content for the University of Texas Online Campus.

Spanish Translator, Marriott International, Austin, TX 2004 - 2017

- Translated web-based content from English to Spanish for fifteen Marriot hotels brands.
- Managed and prioritized translations to meet publication datelines.
- Collaborated with other departments to ensure all levels of translation processes were met.
- Participated in continuous translation software testing and processes improvements.
- Maintained glossaries and style guides to convey Spanish linguistic consistency based on Real Academia Española standards and Marriot's brands requirements.

Spanish Instructor, Thomas Nelson Community College, Hampton Virginia 1997 - 1998

- Served as a long-term substitute teacher for beginner's college level Spanish courses.
- Managed and organized all aspects of the language lab.
- Tutored beginner, intermediate and advanced Spanish.
- Assisted students with language software, and audiovisual equipment.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Proficient in Computer Assisted Translation (CAT) tools, Machine Translation (MT) postediting.
- Experienced in graphic design, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop.
- Advanced knowledge in English and Spanish including web content, technology, and literary vocabulary.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Austin Area Translators and Interpreters Association, since 2004.