

Oxford Translates Summer School at St Edmund Hall: Programme 2026

- All times are in **BST**.
- All sessions will be on **Zoom**.
- **Pitch your project** sessions are by allocated time slot only.

DAY 1: MONDAY 6 JULY	
9.30 – 10.00	Welcome and Introduction Directors Ros Schwartz and Holly Langstaff will be joined by Wes Williams (Professor of French Literature at the University of Oxford and Fellow in Modern Languages at St Edmund Hall).
10.15 – 13.15	Literary translation workshop
13.15 – 14.15	Lunch break and online social
14.15 – 16.45	Literary translation workshop
17.00 – 18.00	Keynote by Ann Morgan, 'How Translators Changed My Life' Author, blogger and literary activist Ann Morgan describes how translators blew open her writing and reading during her 2012 quest to read a book from every country, and she continues to champion stories underrepresented in the anglophone publishing industry. The insights she gained through reading in translation led Morgan to propose a different approach to reading – one that puts not-knowing rather than sense-making centre stage, which is the focus of her latest book, <i>Relearning to Read: Adventures in Not-knowing</i> . Her talk will be followed by a Q&A.
DAY 2: TUESDAY 7 July	
10.00 – 11.30	Translators panel: A year in the life of a literary translator Translators at different stages of their careers discuss what a typical working day, week, month and year look like for them, including discussion of the wide range of roles they do alongside literary translation. With Beth Hickling-Moore, Gitanjali Patel, Madeleine Rogers, and Ros Schwartz.
12.00 – 13.30	Option 1: Poetry translation workshop An interactive workshop on translating poetry led by Karen Leeder (University of Oxford). Open to translators from all languages. Option 2: Theatre translation workshop Join translator and dramaturg William Gregory in this hands-on theatre translation workshop. Open to translators from all languages.
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch break and online social
14.30 – 15.30	Option 1: Publishers panel: What are publishers looking for? Representatives of three publishing houses discuss what they are looking for in a translation and offer advice on approaching publishers, pitching projects and building relationships. With James Tookey (Peirene), Izzy Everington (Profile), and Noosha Alai-South (Penguin).

	Option 2: Publishers panel: The future of literary translation in the age of A.I. How is the development of A.I. changing the publishing industry and in what ways will this shape the future role of the literary translator? Join Adam Levy (Transit Books), Yana Genova (co-author of the ThinkPub report on Books in Translation) and Marigold Atkey (Daunt Books).
16.00 – 17.00	Translators’ associations panel A panel discussion between representatives of three translators’ associations on the burning issues facing the industry and what they are doing to support translators. With Ian Giles (Translators Association of the Society of Authors), Francesca Novajara (President of CEATL – the European Council of Literary Translators’ Associations), and Adrian Minckley (Steering Committee of the Literary Translators Division of the National Writers Union, USA).
18.00 – 19.00	Pitch Your Project A unique opportunity to practise pitching your translation project and receive one-to-one feedback from an editor or publisher. Attendees must apply for one of these ten-minute pitching slots. With: François von Hurter (Bitter Lemon Press), Susan Harris (Words Without Borders), Will Dady (Renard Press).
DAY 3: WEDNESDAY 8 JULY	
10.00 – 13.00	Literary translation workshop
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break and online social Pitch Your Project A unique opportunity to practise pitching your translation project and to receive one-to-one feedback from an editor or publisher. Attendees must apply for one of these ten-minute pitching slots. With: Bishan Samaddar (Seagull Books).
14.00 – 16.30	Literary translation workshop
16.45 – 17.45	Meet the Tutors An opportunity to meet the tutors in small, informal groups and ask everything you have always wanted to ask about the world of literary translation.
18.00 – 19.00	Pitch Your Project A unique opportunity to practise pitching your translation project and to receive one-to-one feedback from an editor or publisher. Attendees must apply for one of these ten-minute pitching slots. With: Elizabeth Briggs (Saqi Books), Aina Marti-Balcells (Héloïse Press), Adam Levy (Transit Books).
DAY 4: THURSDAY 9 JULY	
10.00 – 11.00	Option 1: Translation ethics in practice This panel will ask what it looks like to put ethics into practice as a translator, with reflections on translating dialect, multilingual translation and feminist translation. The session will be chaired by Karen Leeder (University of Oxford), with Helen Vassalo (University of Exeter), Sheela Mahadevan (University of Liverpool) and Kotryna Garanasvili (University of East Anglia). Option 2: Contracts UK and Europe An informative panel discussion about contracts in the UK and Europe. With Ambre Morvan (joint co-ordinator of the Translators Association Senior Public

	Policy Manager and Senior Contracts Advisor at the Society of Authors) and Andreas Jendl (CEATL).
11.30 – 13.00	Option 1: Spot the Translation workshop This interactive workshop led by Katy Derbyshire starts with a game of spot the translation to ask what assumptions we make about writing in English and what we expect from a translation. The texts used will be in English. Option 2: Writing a reader's report workshop The reader's report is often suggested as a way of developing relationships with publishers, but what do publishers expect and what should the report include? Elizabeth Briggs (Sagi Books) will explain all in this interactive workshop.
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break and online social
14.00 – 15.30	Option 1: Editing/Self-editing workshop A hands-on guide to the process of editing and self-editing a translation for publication. Led by Luke Brown, an editor with over 25-years' experience. Option 2: Graphic novels workshop An interactive workshop focused on approaches to translating graphic novels. Led by Edward Gauvin, translator of over 400 graphic novels. Open to translators from all languages.
16.00 – 16.45	Translation at PEN Will Forrester (Head of Literature Programmes at English PEN) and Alison Markin Powell and Andrew White (American PEN), present the work of English PEN and American PEN and their translation-related schemes and funding opportunities.
16.30 – 17.00	Launch of the Comma Press Emerging Translator Award Join us for the launch of the Comma Press Emerging Translator Award, which is focussed on Urdu in 2026. The competition is an exciting opportunity to secure a publication in the Comma Press Reading the City series, open exclusively to Oxford Translates participants.
18.00 – 19.00	Pitch Your Project A unique opportunity to practise pitching your translation project and to receive one-to-one feedback from an editor or publisher. Attendees must apply for one of these ten-minute pitching slots. With: Cheryl Robson (Aurora Metro).
DAY 5: FRIDAY 10 JULY	
10.00 – 13.00	Literary translation workshop
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break and online social
14.00 – 16.30	Literary translation workshop
16.45 – 17.30	Feedback and Farewell The Oxford Translates team will be joined by Karen Leeder (Schwarz-Taylor Chair of German Language Literature at the University of Oxford).

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Charles Wallace
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