

HCRC RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: FINDINGS AND INSIGHTS

ADAPTING TO TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE: AN INVESTIGATION OF TRANSLATOR TRAINING AND THE TRANSLATION MARKET IN THE ARAB WORLD

Published in Top 25% Journal

Authors: Mohammed Al-Batineh, Moza Al Tenaijy

[Link of the paper](#)

INTRODUCTION

The field of translation has undergone significant transformations in recent years, driven by rapid advancements in technology. From machine translation (MT) and post-editing (PE) to computer-aided translation (CAT) tools and localization, these developments have reshaped the landscape of the translation industry. As a result, it has become increasingly crucial for translator training programs to adapt their curricula to meet the evolving demands of the job market. This study aimed to investigate the alignment between the skills developed by translator training programs in the Arab world and the technology-related needs of the translation job market.

METHODS

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the current market trends and training practices, the researchers employed a two-pronged approach. First, a collection of job advertisements from online job sites was analyzed to identify the most sought-after technology-related skills in the Arab translation market. Second, the study examined the technology-related courses offered by translator training institutions in the Arab world. The collected data was subjected to both quantitative and qualitative analysis to reveal market trends and assess the extent to which training programs are meeting the market's technology-related requirements.

FINDINGS

The study yielded several significant findings that shed light on the alignment between translator training and market demands in the Arab world:

CAT tools proficiency emerged as the most highly sought-after technology-related skill in the Arab translation market, followed by localization and MT. This highlights the importance of equipping translators with the necessary skills to effectively utilize these tools and technologies in their professional practice.

Translator training programs in the Arab world align, to a great extent, with market needs in terms of fostering graduates' skills in CAT tools. This indicates that most of the training institutions in the Arab world have recognized the importance of CAT tools and have incorporated relevant courses into their curricula.

However, the study revealed a misalignment between the limited number of localization courses offered and the growing demand for localization skills in the market. As localization becomes increasingly important in the global digital landscape, this finding suggests a need for training programs to expand their offerings in this area.

While more MT courses are available compared to localization courses, the demand for MT appears to be lower in the Arabic translation market. This observation may be attributed to the unique challenges posed by the Arabic language in the context of machine translation.

HCRC RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: FINDINGS AND INSIGHTS

ADAPTING TO TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE: AN INVESTIGATION OF TRANSLATOR TRAINING AND THE TRANSLATION MARKET IN THE ARAB WORLD

Published in Top 25% Journal

Authors: Mohammed Al-Batineh, Moza Al Tenaijy

[Link of the paper](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, several recommendations can be made to help translator training programs in the Arab world better align with market demands:

Translator training programs should incorporate project-based teaching and establish industry partnerships to provide students with real-life experience using CAT tools. This hands-on approach will better prepare graduates for the practical application of these tools in professional settings.

Training institutions should expand their course offerings to include more localization courses, focusing on adapting and localizing various types of digital content and applications, as well as localization testing. By providing comprehensive training in this area, programs can help bridge the gap between the skills developed and the market's growing demand for localization expertise.

To ensure that students grasp the practical applications of MT and PE in the context of Arabic translation, it is essential to incorporate these technologies into hands-on translation courses. By adopting an integrated approach, training programs can equip graduates with the skills necessary to harness the potential of MT and PE while successfully addressing the unique challenges associated with translating the Arabic language.

CONCLUSION

This study underscores the importance of continuous monitoring of market trends and the need for translator training programs to adapt their curricula accordingly. By proactively addressing the identified misalignments and implementing the recommended changes, translator training programs in the Arab world can better equip their graduates with the technology-related skills required for success in the rapidly evolving translation market. Through a combination of project-based learning, industry partnerships, and expanded course offerings, training institutions can foster a new generation of translators who are well-prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities presented by the increasingly technology-driven translation landscape. As the industry continues to evolve, it is crucial for training programs to remain agile and responsive to market demands, ensuring that graduates possess the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in their professional careers.

Citation:

Al-Batineh, M., & Al Tenaijy, M. (2024). Adapting to technological change: An investigation of translator training and the translation market in the Arab world. Heliyon.