The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures is happy to assist the John Jay community in bridging the language gap when interacting with speakers of languages other than English. Nevertheless, we are not a language service provider and our capabilities at any given time are limited to the expertise and availability of our full- and part-time faculty.

If you need assistance with translations, interpretations, language evaluations, etc., we will be happy to try to connect you with a faculty member with the required linguistic expertise. Beyond that, your agreement will be with them as individuals, and not with the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

In order to help us assist you better, please have the following points in mind when contacting us for these purposes:

- Contact us as soon as you learn about your need for language services. Our faculty would be more able to make themselves available if we know about your needs 3-4 weeks in advance. Otherwise, we may not be able to accommodate your request. This is particularly important in the case of interpretations, where faculty members may need to reschedule other professional commitments.

- Depending on the service, our faculty may require support materials to prepare for the job (e.g., if you need an interpreter for a guest speaker’s lecture, the interpreter will need the speaker’s notes, PowerPoint presentation, or other available materials in advance). Please be ready to submit those at least one week prior to the assignment.

- Language services will be subject to market rates for each specific assignment. Generally speaking, market rates usually range between $0.15 and $0.25 per word for translation, and between $100 and $150 per hour for interpretation, depending on assignment/text type and language combination. Rates for each assignment will be agreed upon with the individual faculty member and may differ from those stated above. The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures does not receive any kind of compensation for any of these services.

Please contact Prof. Dapía (sdapia@jjay.cuny.edu) for services in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Italian, and Portuguese; and Prof. Aída Martínez-Gómez (amartinez-gomez@jjay.cuny.edu) for services in Spanish.