

Leonardo La Malfa



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Personal profile



A hard-working and dependable freelance translator with the ability to work well both independently and in a team. I have extensive experience of working with the public which has taught me solid interpersonal negotiation skills and the value of friendliness, open-mindedness and thinking on my feet. A long-standing interest in translation, interpretation and languages has given me the confidence and determination to embark on a career in professional translation.

Translation and language skills



Approximate translation capacity: 250 words/hour
2000 words/day (8 hours)

Mother tongue: Italian

Language pairs: English and Spanish to Italian.

Communication: written and oral communication is excellent as proved both by my undergraduate and post-graduate degree course work, and has been further enhanced by participation in group exercises and courses, such as: Pronunciation, Academic Writing Skills, Colloquial English Through Songs. Planned, organised and gave successful individual and group presentations at the University of Warwick.

Specialty fields



I specialise in:

- Tech/Engineering: Mechanics, Mechanical Engineering;
- IT: Information Technology, Internet, e-Commerce;
- Marketing: Advertising, Marketing, Market Research;
- Tourism: Tourism and Travel.

Main areas of expertise



My working fields include:

- Arts and entertainment
- Astronomy and Space
- Business, Commerce (general)
- Cinema, Film, TV, Drama
- Computers (general), Software
- Cooking, Culinary
- Cosmetics, Beauty
- Cultural Studies
- Engineering (general)
- Environment, Ecology
- Government, Politics
- Health
- Humanities and Humanistic Studies
- Linguistics
- Literature, Poetry
- Media, Multimedia, Mass communication
- Medical (general)
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics (general)
- Psychology
- Science (general)
- Textiles, Clothing, Fashion
- Translation Studies

Professional experience



From: 2007 **To:** date – freelance translator. I have translated a wide range of text types, from the most complex, like technical manuals and quick start guides, to the most discursive and creative, like company announcements or advertising brochures. Working on textual material from a variety of companies – including Euro RSCG, Bettenwelt GmbH & Co. KG, Spectrum Brands Inc., Mastercool Inc., Danfoss, Husqvarna, Extrusion Eurasia, CSC, IBM/Lenovo, Asecos, Planon, ABBYY, and others – I have accumulated experience in technical translations, ranging from IT-related texts to technical manuals, and more. Some of my recent projects include:

- company announcements of financial improvements and selling strategies based on a competition system among its dealers;
- Spanish editorial on food and gastronomy tourism;
- articles on tourism, cosmetics, and fashion;
- brochure regarding Mobile Food Service, and the compressors that allow to keep the cold chain unbroken during transportation;
- presentation of new frequency converters (HVAC Drives);
- brochure for fire resistant safety cabinets;
- presentation of portable printers for Bluetooth-enabled devices for printing on-the-go;
- software quick start guide for OCR scanners;
- operator's manuals for different types of machines, including riding mowers, floor saws and wall saws, and power units specially developed to be used with their companion electric wall saw;
- marketing brochure for Solar Inverters and their monitoring products;
- detailed product specification sheets describing the operating procedures of gas leak detectors;
- scientific papers investigating the beneficial, cardio-protective effects of dietary fish oil supplementation, as well as articles for scientific and medical journals;
- general maintenance and safety manual of chairs suitable for office or home-office use, endowed with gas lift and casters;

- hair clipper user manual;
- also volunteering for associations like Terre Madri and Translators for Peace, for which I have translated several articles for online publication, such as: <http://www.selvas.eu/newsCH0108.html>

From: 2000 **To:** 2005 – part-time and full-time catering and hospitality work as a waiter and a pizza maker for a number of Italian restaurants, hotels, pizzerias, and pubs in order to make a contribution towards my university tuition fees. In my spare time, helper on family confectioner's shop and family farm. Dealing with people from all backgrounds and at all levels made me develop an extensive aptitude in listening skills, thus achieving wide experience in dealing with complaints from the general public through a proactive search of innovative solutions to problems.

Information technology skills



I am confident in the application of the internet for research purposes (either brief, or in-depth comparative analysis of parallel translation corpora), as well as in the use of a wide range of online glossaries and dictionaries. I am a proficient user of e-mail applications, and an advanced user of a wide range of firewall, anti-virus, and anti-spyware software.

Software:

Among the most common applications for professional translation, I use:

- Wordfast, OmegaT, Anaphraseus, Rainbow;
- Microsoft Office suite, OpenOffice.org;
- Adobe Acrobat, Okular;

and others, including website mirroring software (for localisation), time trackers (for hourly projects), OCRs and PDF editors, all running on Windows and GNU/Linux platforms.

Hardware:

The hardware I use is constantly up-to-date and includes:

- Pentium 4 Dual-Core Asus desktop computer (primary) and IBM ThinkPad laptop (secondary) connected to a WAN;
- Wireless broadband connection (ADSL);
- Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS);
- External backup drive;
- Scanner;
- Epson inkjet printer.

Post-graduate study



Type of activity: Masters degree in Translation Studies.

University: University of Warwick.

Research centre: Centre for Translation and Comparative Cultural Studies.


From: 1 October 2006 **To:** 30 September 2007

Significant courses and results: Introduction to Translation Studies/Problems of Cultural Transfer (Distinction), Words to Image Translation (Distinction), Translation and Mass Media Communication (Distinction).


Awards: awarded the Centre's MA Bursary for UK and European Students.

	<p>Dissertation title: What use are translators in a globalised post-modern Babel Tower? On translation, mediation, and some other lies.</p> <p>Supervised by: Director of CTCCS, Dr. Lynne Long.</p> <p>Overall degree mark: Distinction (top range of marks in the descriptive marking scheme: 80+).</p>
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University experience abroad during undergraduate study

	<p>Type of activity: EU Socrates/Erasmus programme.</p> <p>From: 20 September 2005 To: 12 March 2006</p> <p>University: University of Warwick.</p> <p>Significant courses and results: The World Economy (66%), Modern Italian Language III (74%), Working Spanish 4.</p>
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Undergraduate study

	<p>Course of study: BA Translators and Interpreters.</p> <p>University: Università degli Studi di Messina.</p> <p>Department: Faculty of Arts.</p> <p>From: 22 September 2003 To: 18 July 2006</p> <p>Significant courses and results: Translation Theory (30/30 with distinction), English Simultaneous Interpretation (30/30), Spanish Simultaneous Interpretation (27/30), English Professional Translation (30/30).</p> <p>Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> awarded EU Socrates/Erasmus scholarship; awarded the Supplementary Grant for International Student Mobility. <p>Compulsory placement: 200 hours of successful linguistic and cultural mediation for international visitors of the Treasure of the Cathedral of Messina.</p> <p>From: 05 April 2006 To: 08 June 2006</p> <p>Dissertation title: Subtitling. Condensing Images into Words.</p> <p>Supervised by: Prof. Maria Ficara.</p> <p>Overall degree mark: 110/110 cum laude (First-Class Honours).</p>
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Secondary school education

	<p>Secondary school diploma: Scientific Certificate.</p> <p>School: Liceo Scientifico Statale "A. Meucci" – Milazzo (ME).</p> <p>From: 1992 To: 1997</p> <p>Overall diploma mark: 60/60</p>
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Extracurricular activities and interests


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenpeace online activist since 2001 – joined numerous successful campaigns. Active member of ProZ.com, TranslatorsCafé.com, and GoTranslators, as well as of some of the most lively and up-to-date national and international mailing lists for professional translators, such as Langit, Biblit and Lantra. While at Warwick, joined several Societies of my Students' Union, including Erasmus, Band, and Italian, and participated in the relevant socials and activities.
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	<p>Helped the student newspaper, The Warwick Boar, unearth a story of underhand market research tactics used by the International Office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travelled the length and breadth of Italy; at Warwick, took advantage of the trips organised by the International Office to visit several English places of interest, including Oxford, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Bath, Birmingham, and London. Also travelled to Zurich, and Moscow. • I enjoy outdoor pursuits, mainly bicycling and swimming. I also enjoy gym workouts and nights out with friends. I like reading, and listening to all types of music, from rock to classical and jazz.
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Personal information

	<p>Date of birth: 01 February 1979 Nationality: Italian</p>
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References

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