
JAMES ARMEL SMITH

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Dutch/Flemish - English Translator

Summary

I am an independent translation contractor based in Chicago. I provide high-quality translations from Dutch into my native language, English, and specialize in academic translations in the social sciences & humanities.

The Translation Salon is the legal trade name under which I work, and represents the embodiment of my translation philosophy and practice:

"Where Dutch Ideas Meet Global Thinkers."

Professional Experience

2018 - Present

Dutch to English Translator & Founder

[The Translation Salon](#)

The Translation Salon is a boutique provider of Dutch to English translations, non-native English editing/proofreading and research assistance services.

- Provide high-quality Dutch to native English translations, editing/proofreading and research assistance services for academics, researchers and other professionals and global thinkers across a diverse array of fields and institutions;
- Serve as a partner in the production and dissemination of ideas, research and scholarship originating in Dutch language sources, both contemporary and historical;
- Specialize in academic translations in the social sciences & humanities; and
- Produce meticulous translations of academic and professional credentials, including medical and legal credentials (certificates, diplomas and transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.), informed by extensive knowledge of Dutch and Flemish higher education systems, as well as thorough research of specific university programs.

2018 - Present

Translator

[Watching America](#)

Watching America publishes foreign news coverage of U.S. politics, foreign relations and culture from dozens of languages into English.

- Translate U.S.-focused editorial and opinion pieces, on a bi-monthly basis, from Dutch language newspapers into English; and
- Help provide a global audience perspective on U.S. politics, foreign relations and culture.

Education

2007 - 2018

Master of Arts, Sociology

[Binghamton University \(SUNY\)](#)

Specialization: Global-Historical Sociology

2005 - 2006

Master of Science, Sociology

[University of Amsterdam](#)

Specialization: Social Theory & Public Affairs

1993 - 1997

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology/Anthropology

[Denison University](#)

Training & Certificates

2018 - 2019	<i>University College London</i> Certificate, Advanced Dutch (C1)
2012 - 2018	<i>Columbia University & University of Amsterdam</i> Certificate, Paleography and Reading 17th Century Dutch Texts (2012, 2013, 2018)
2013 - 2013	<i>Columbia University & University of Amsterdam</i> Certificate, Major Archives for Dutch Golden Age Studies
2012 - 2012	<i>University of Amsterdam - UvA Talen</i> Certificate, Dutch Writing Skills (NT2)
2005 - 2005	<i>University of Amsterdam</i> Certificate, International Relations

Memberships

2018 - Present	<i>American Translators Association</i>
2012 - Present	<i>American Association for Netherlandic Studies (AANS)</i>

Published Translations

2020 - Present	<i>Thesis Eleven</i> Established in 1980, <i>Thesis Eleven</i> is a truly international and interdisciplinary peer reviewed journal. Innovative and authoritative, the journal produces articles, reviews and debate with a central focus on theories of society, culture, and politics and the understanding of modernity. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• De Swaan, Abram. 2020. "Before the Catastrophe" in <i>Thesis Eleven</i>. Translation: James Armel Smith and Robert van Krieken. Digital version: https://thesiseleven.com/2020/07/20/before-the-catastrophe-1940-vs-2020/.
2018 - Present	<i>The Translation Salon</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Black Pete Was Influenced by the Blackface Tradition of the 19th Century", <i>The Translation Salon</i>, Dec. 5, 2018.• "Manet Painting That Was Presumed Lost Has Been Found", <i>The Translation Salon</i>, Nov. 7, 2018.• "'I've Created a Monster'", <i>The Translation Salon</i>, Oct. 31, 2018.• "Marx & Engels Archive Now Openly Available Online", <i>The Translation Salon</i>, Oct. 4, 2018.
2018 - Present	<i>Watching America</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Michael More Still Has a Point With 'Planet of the Humans'", <i>Watching America</i>, May 22, 2020.• "Trump's Deadly Lies", <i>Watching America</i>, April 14, 2020 (Featured article).• "The Netherlands Could Also Use a Bernie", <i>Watching America</i>, March 10, 2020 (Featured article).• "Sanders Gives Desire for Change the Clearest Voice", <i>Watching America</i>, March 7, 2020 (Featured article).• "Caught Between China and US, Europe Must Not Forget That It Is Also a Giant", <i>Watching America</i>, Feb. 4, 2020.• "We Must Prevent the US and NATO from Dragging Us into Further Military Ventures", <i>Watching America</i>, Nov. 21, 2019.• "Amnesty International Is Also Holding a Mirror Up to the US", <i>Watching America</i>, Aug. 22, 2019.• "A New Moon Race Is Not Humanity's Most Urgent Mission", <i>Watching America</i>, July 31, 2019 (Featured article).• "Pay People for the Free Labor They Contribute to Google and Facebook", <i>Watching America</i>, July 8, 2019.• "'When They See Us' Is a Horror Film for People of Color", <i>Watching America</i>, June 28, 2019.