

**Profile**

Miguel A. Jiménez-Crespo is director of the MA and BA program in Translation and Interpreting at Rutgers University, USA, and holds a PhD in Translation and Interpreting Studies from the University of Granada, Spain.

He has published extensively on localization, corpus-based translation studies, the methodology and theorizations required for research into localization and its training. His articles have been published in international journals such as Target, Meta, Perspectives, Jostrans, Linguistica Antverpiensia, TIS: Translation and Interpreting Studies and the Journal of Internationalization and Localization among others. He is part of the review board of the Journal of Internationalization and Localization and Entreculturas.

Update:

Miguel A. Jiménez-Crespo holds a PhD in Translation and Interpreting Studies in the program ‘Translation, Interpreting and Cognition” from the University of Granada, Spain. He is a Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Rutgers University, where he directs the graduate and undergraduate program in Spanish – English Translation and Interpreting. He is the author of *Crowdsourcing and Online Collaborative Translations: Expanding the Limits of Translation Studies* published by John Benjamins in 2017 and *Translation and Web Localization*published by Routledge in 20013. His papers have appeared in the top -tier Translation Studies journals such as *Target, Meta, Perspectives, Linguistica Antverpiensia, TIS: Translation and Interpreting Studies, Jostrans, Monti* or *Translation, Cognition and Behaviour.* He has been the co-editor of the John Benjamins journal *JIAL: the Journal of Internationalization and Localization*, and he is a member of editorial boards of several translation journals.

**Abstract**

**Translation technologies and pandemic emergencies**

Miguel A Jiménez-Crespo, PhD. Rutgers University

This presentation presents a critical overview of the state of the art of language and translation technologies in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a health crisis that was referred to by Wired magazine as history’s biggest translation challenge (McCollough 2020, Wired Magazine). Translation technologies have already been extensively used in crises such as the 2010 Haiti Earthquake or the Ebola epidemic in Africa, in a research area known as “crisis translation” (Federici and O’Brien 2020). Nevertheless, the global scale of the COVID -19 crisis posed an unprecedented challenge that helped harness the collective wisdom of researchers and scholars to match the critical need for effective and urgent translation and multilingual communication across the world (Lee and Wang 2022; O’Brien, Caldwell and Lokot 2022). How did communities around the globe cope with this urgent demand to translate and disseminate necessary public health information? The presentation will provide reflect on how translation technologies and artificial intelligence, such as neural machine translation (NMT) and translation crowdsourcing, helped bridge the language barrier and deliver COVID-19 public health information in hundreds of languages. It will then demonstrate how these technologies were applied in several initiatives to provide the fastest possible response to disseminate public health information, such as the TAUS Corona corpus or the TICO -19 initiative. What lessons can be learnt from this response to help with any future pandemics?