



# Changes in the Language Profession

Lindsay Russell  
(Contact: [lindsay.russell@sap.com](mailto:lindsay.russell@sap.com))

Knowledge Architect

SAP AG, Germany

# Business Requirements: Forever Changing...

Globalization means increased use of non-native speakers for software development.

Translators increasingly also working as:

- Language editors for non-natives
- Technical writers
- Terminologists
- Editors of outsourced translations
- Project managers

*Language professionals must be able to adapt to changing business requirements.*



# ...Required Translator Profile Remains the Same

## "Hard skills"

- B.A./M.A. in Translation Studies
- Proof of translation skills (two tests)
- Experience of living and working in country of source language
- Knowledge of business/IT/technical subject
- Experience of using translation technology

## "Soft skills"

- Business mind
- No fear of/aversion to translation technology
- Team player
- Good presentation skills
- Excellent written and spoken communication skills
- Effective time management
- Flexibility
- "Advocate of the translation profession"





**State-of-the-art translation degrees with greater focus on:**

- Translation technology
- Native-language skills (writing, grammar, spelling...)
- General business skills (presentation, project management)
- Work placements

***In a nutshell, train fully rounded professionals who can use their language skills flexibly!***