

Jenny Williams and Andrew Chesterman. (2002). *The Map: A Beginner's Guide to Doing Research in Translation Studies*. Manchester and Northampton MA: St Jerome Publishing. 156p.

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“The Map” is a very well written introduction to research methodology for undergraduate and postgraduate students. The book consists of 10 chapters containing all elements of knowledge required by a beginner researcher.

Chapter 1 presents a survey of areas of research in translation studies. As the authors themselves acknowledge at the beginning of the chapter, the survey is not exhaustive. However, all the major areas have been included and plenty of additional references provided, so I would consider the survey to be quite comprehensive and helpful to a young researcher trying to decide what topic to research.

Chapter 2 looks at the various stages of developing a research plan and includes many useful recommendations on resources, critical reading, note-taking, maintaining an orderly bibliography and other aspects of planning a research project. The chapter provides excellent advice on things which are often forgotten by inexperienced researchers, such as considering the time required to carry out a project, access to data sources, scope of the project and many others.

Chapters 3-7 are a systematic, step-by-step introduction to various aspects of research methodology, such as the relationship between theory and research (chapter 3), different types of research (chapter 4), asking research questions, making claims and formulating and operationalizing hypotheses (chapter 5), variables in experimental studies (chapter 6) and data analysis (chapter 7).

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Chapters 8 and 9 are devoted to written and oral presentations of research reports. Both chapters contain not only information on how to write or present one's results, but also plenty of practical advice on the various problems young researchers face in writing up their reports and how to overcome them.

Chapter 10 informs the reader about ways in which research reports are assessed, including very useful criteria for external assessment of thesis at various levels.

All in all, "The Map" lives up to its name and the author's objective to "provide a step-by-step introduction to research" (p.1). Having been involved in teaching research methods courses and supervision for many years, I have always felt the lack of an introduction like this. While there are a growing number of books and papers or their parts dealing with specialised areas of translation and interpretation research, "The Map" is, I believe, the first available text in translation studies that takes the prospective research student through the entire research process, from the planning stage to writing up of a report after the project is finished; it also provides plenty of up-to-date references for more in-depth reading in each of the topics covered.

I would strongly recommend the book as obligatory reading in research methods courses as well as highly recommended reading for higher degree research students in translation studies. Apart from providing an excellent introduction to research in the area, it will prepare research students well for critical reading and applying information gained from more specialised publications on research methods, descriptions of previous studies and planning their own projects.