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Jenny Williams & Andrew Chesterman. *The Map – A Beginner’s Guide to Doing Research*. Manchester, UK: St. Jerome, 2002, 149 pp.

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*The Map – A Beginner’s Guide to Doing Research* – is a practical and useful publication of St. Jerome Publishing for anyone interested in carrying out research in the field of Translation Studies (TS). The authors have called it *The Map* “because it is designed to help you find your way through a relatively new and uncharted terrain”. Moreover, it is primarily addressed to students in a BA/MA/MSc/MPhil programme, but also to “PhD students who have

had little previous experience of research in Translation Studies” (p. 1). After its founding statement in 1972 – Holmes’s “The name and nature of translation studies” – the discipline has spanned many other different research areas, which reflects the interdisciplinary nature of a field that is still on the making. In this sense, the book offers a more complete picture of the kinds of research that have been currently carried out in the field since Holmes.

*The Map* is divided into 10 chapters. Chapter One outlines the basic tenets of 12 research areas in TS in order to help students identify their research topics and be able to map these topics onto the translation research territory. The 12 research areas are text

analysis and translation; translation quality assessment; genre translation; multimedia translation; translation and technology; translation history; translation ethics; terminology and glossaries; interpreting; the translation process; translator training; and the translation profession.

Chapter Two offers some advice on practical and methodological issues that might be useful while planning a research project. It covers 13 topics: refine the initial idea; talk to someone who knows; check out other resources; read critically; take full notes, and make them easy to classify; keep complete bibliographic records; plan your time; determine the scope of your project; work with your supervisor; emotional/psychological planning; information technology planning; keep a research diary; and the research plan. Chapter Three offers a discussion on the three possible theoretical models of translation (i.e. comparative, process and causal), and aims to help students choose their model type according to the research questions they want to ask and the kind of data they have selected, thus adapting the chosen model to their own research objectives. Chapter Four, in turn,

outlines the major distinctions between different kinds of research. It starts by distinguishing between conceptual and empirical research, and then goes on to describe the characteristics of empirical research. Next, it explains the difference between naturalistic and experimental subtypes of empirical research. After that, the authors focus on qualitative and quantitative research and then give some examples of empirical research methods. This chapter is rounded off with a brief introduction to applied research.

Chapter Five focuses on the importance of asking good questions when carrying out research. It teaches how to make a claim and discusses four kinds of hypotheses (i.e. interpretive, descriptive, explanatory, and predictive). Finally, it shows how hypotheses are usually justified and tested. Chapter Six deals with the relation between variables and gives some examples research projects that use different kinds of variables. Chapter Seven addresses the tasks of selecting and analyzing data. It describes kinds of data and discusses the issue of representativeness and categorization. It finally gives some of the key statistical notions relevant

to translation research. Chapters Eight and Nine outline important points on how to present one's research in writing as well as orally. Finally, Chapter Ten shows how evaluation is an important step in the research process. This chapter is divided into self-assessment, internal assessment, external assessment, typi-

cal weaknesses, and publication of one's research.

On the whole, this is an indispensable reference work for students and lecturers supervising translation research projects.

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