

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**2019-2020 SPAN 405 A1: Exercises in Translation: Spanish to English**  
(Fall Term, 2019)

Instructor: Dr. Stephen A. Cruikshank  
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E-mail: [sruiksh@ualberta.ca](mailto:sruiksh@ualberta.ca)  
Class Website: See eClass website under SPAN 405.

Time: T/TH 9:30 am - 10:50 am  
Place: H C 2-22  
Office Hours: By appointment

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**Course Prerequisite:** 3\* Span at 300 level excluding 300 or 306, or consent of Department. It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

**Course-based Ethics Approval** in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes       No, not needed, no such projects approved.

**Community Service Learning** component

Required     Optional     None

**Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available**

- Exam registry – Students' Union  
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course is a practical workshop in the translation from Spanish into English. We will address concepts from translation theory and practice, as well as a variety of textual genres, and grammatical and lexical difficulties. The main emphasis will be on the production (and assessment) of target texts (TT) from appropriate source texts (ST). The course will be conducted in both English and Spanish. Students are expected to participate actively in class meetings when we will discuss the assignments and readings. Assignments and readings will be based on the required textbook (see below), other readings will be available online or on reserve, and other assignments be distributed through eClass as specified on the supplementary class schedule.

**Course Format:** The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, assigned readings, online discussion, and audiovisual materials

**Texts:****Required:**

- Aranda, Lucía V. Handbook of Spanish-English Translation. Lanham: University Press of America, 2007. (Available from U of A Bookstore)

**Recommended:**

- Bilingual English-Spanish Dictionary (Oxford, Collins, or Larousse recommended).
- Access to online translation resources and Apps:
  - Google Translate
  - Word Reference
  - Reverso Context
  - Linguee

**Additional Course Fees**

Yes       No

**Important Dates:** [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 3, 2019

Add/Delete Date: September 16, 2019

50% Withdrawal Date: October 3, 2019

Withdrawal Date: November 29, 2019

Last Day of Class: December 6, 2019

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable): Please consult the following site:

<https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations> (Exams)

Deferred Final Examination: For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

**Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):**

Fall Exam Planner for the 2019-2020 can be found at the following site:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/examinations/exam-schedules/fall-2019-winter-2020-exam-planner>

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade Percentage</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
• Class Participation & Attendance	15%	Cumulative
• Graded Assignment I.	15%	Oct 24
• Graded Assignment II.	15%	Nov 21
• Midterm Exam	20%	Oct 17
• Final Project	30 %	Dec 5
• Lyrical Translation Blog	5%	Nov 28;

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:****Class Participation & Attendance (15%) - Cumulative**

Five percent of this mark will be based on attendance and ten percent will be based on active participation during classes. This involves active participation in the discussion of the daily assignments (see description below). As for attendance, a name sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class for students to sign. An absence without a valid reason will result in a complete loss of the grade for the day missed. As a student you are responsible for coming to class prepared to participate in group and class discussions revolving around the day's topic and readings.

**Daily Assignments:**

These assignments are found on the eClass website by Assignment Number. Unless specified that the assignment will be done in class, you should both submit your assignment electronically through eClass AND post it on the corresponding Google Doc by 9 am for inclusion in the class discussion. Instructions for submission will be discussed in class. Completion of your daily assignment counts towards your participation, although the assignment will not receive a specific grade. For obvious reasons, no late assignments will be accepted.

**Mid-Term Exam (20%) - Thurs, Oct 17**

This exam will cover theoretical concepts and practical exercises based on the material in the first half of the semester.

**Final Project (30%) - Proposal due Tues, Nov 19; Project due Thurs, Dec 5**

The final project will be either an original translation of a text of your choice or a critique of an existing translation. I will ask for a proposal in early November and you will need to receive my approval before you can work on the project. More details of the final project will be available ahead of time. The final project should be typed double-spaced and handed in printed form.

**Graded Assignments (15% x 2) - Assign. A due Oct 24; Assign. B due Nov 21**

There will be 2 of these assignments throughout the semester that must be handed in on the dates specified in the schedule. These assignments must be typed and double-spaced, and you should hand in a printed copy.

**Lyrical Translation Blog (5%) - Part I Nov 28; Part II Dec 3**

A blog will be written on an online forum on eClass where every student must provide both a copy of original lyrics of a song in Spanish followed by their given English translation. Each student must then post an analytical reflection of 200-250 words (in Spanish) detailing the linguistic and or structural challenges of translating these Spanish lyrics into English. Grammatical, syntactical,

cultural, rhythmic, and prosodic challenges should be considered. Each student may also consider the challenges that exist with translating poetic devices such as metaphors, simile's, and other elements that exist in the song. For the second part of the blog, students must respond to a fellow classmate's blog in a 100-200 words reflection on the challenges that the classmate observed. Do you agree with them? Do you see an additional way to perhaps better translate the poem? Explain why or why not. \*Note that only well-known musicians will be accepted for this assignment. The musician that one is attempting to translate must be approved by me beforehand. This assignment will be worth 5 marks in total (80% or 8 marks for the analysis & translation and 20% or 2 marks for the reflection of another's blog).

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### **Required Notes:**

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.”

### **Student Responsibilities:**

#### ***Academic Integrity:***

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

**Students involved in language courses and translation courses** should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

***Learning and Working Environment:***

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

***Sexual Violence Policy:***

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

***Territorial Statement:***

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

***Recording of Lectures:***

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

***Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:***

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

**In this course**, five percent of this mark will be based on attendance and ten percent will be based on active participation during classes, which includes completion and participation in the daily assignments listed on eClass.

***Policy for Late Assignments:***

Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will incur a 5% per class day penalty.

***Disclaimer:***

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

**Student Resources:**

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

**Accessibility Resources:** (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

**The Academic Success Centre:** (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

**The Centre for Writers:** (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

**Health and Wellness Support:** There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

**Office of the Student Ombuds:**

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

**Grading:**

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

**“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”**

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
<b>Excellent.</b> A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	<b>A+</b>	4.0	<b>97-100</b>
	<b>A</b>	4.0	<b>93-96</b>
	<b>A-</b>	3.7	<b>90-92</b>
<b>Good.</b> B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	<b>B+</b>	3.3	<b>87-89</b>
	<b>B</b>	3.0	<b>83-86</b>
	<b>B-</b>	2.7	<b>80-82</b>
<b>Satisfactory.</b> C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	<b>C+</b>	2.3	<b>77-79</b>
	<b>C</b>	2.0	<b>73-76</b>
	<b>C-</b>	1.7	<b>70-72</b>
<b>Poor/Minimal Pass.</b> D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	<b>D+</b>	1.3	<b>65-69</b>
	<b>D</b>	1.0	<b>60-64</b>
<b>Failure.</b>	<b>F</b>	0.0	<b>0-59</b>

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