

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2017-2018 FREN 454 B1: TRANSLATION: ENGLISH INTO FRENCH
(Winter Term)**

Instructor: Sathya Rao

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Time: 12.30 P.M.-1.50 P.M.

Place: BUS 4-13

Office Hours: TR 2 P.M.-3 P.M.

or by appointment

Course Website: Moodle

Course Prerequisite: FREN 354 or consent of the department. This course may be used for the MLCS Certificate in Translation Studies.

The Certificate in Translation Studies is available to students with a major or minor in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Spanish and/or Ukrainian only in the Faculties of Arts or Science (Calendar Section 43.1). In all cases, the certificate is granted by the Faculty of Arts at the time a student graduates from his or her degree program (see §§44.8.5 or 44.19.5). Please note that students who lack an appropriate major or minor, or who are matriculated in a Faculty other than Arts or Science, may NOT receive the Certificate in Translation Studies.

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

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

The aim of this course is threefold: 1) to hone the students' translation skills; 2) to improve their proficiency in both written and oral French; 3) to introduce the students to basic translation studies concepts. Students will learn efficient strategies to deal with common English to French translation issues through various individual and collective assignments. They will translate a wide range of texts as well as familiarize themselves with translation tools such as TERMIUM PLUS. Students will take advantage of the Community Service-Learning (CSL) component to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real translation problems, and gain hands-on experience that they could add to their CV.

At the end of the course, students are expected: 1) to master a wide range of strategies to deal with common English to French translation issues as well a variety of genres; 2) to make use of translation studies concepts to accurately describe translation issues; 3) to utilize printed and online translation tools and apply informational literacy strategies to deal with translation issues; 4) to have an increased ethical awareness of the translator's role as a social and political agent.

Texts:

Required

- Most of the course material will be posted on Moodle or distributed to the students
- French-English bilingual dictionary (e.g. *Robert & Collins, Harrap's*) [students should have access to a paper or electronic bilingual dictionary in class]

Recommended

- French dictionary (e.g., *Larousse, Petit Robert*)
- English dictionary (e.g., *Cambridge, Oxford*)
- French grammar book (*Le Petit Grevisse*)
- English grammar book (e.g. Longman)
- VINAY Jean-Paul & Jean DARBELNET (1994). *Comparative Stylistics of English and French. A Methodology for Translation* (translated by J. C. Sager and M-J. Hamel), Amsterdam / Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company (recommended for students with a background in linguistics).
- MORTON, Jacqueline (1997). *English Grammar for Students of French*. The Olivia and Hill Press (4th edition).

Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):

- **Translation project (20%)**
 - **First version:** February 15
 - **Second version (along with the commentary):** March 29
- **Exam 1 (20%):** February 27
- **Exam 2 (20%):** April 13
- **Translation assignments (2x5%)**

- **Reflexive essay** (15%): March 20
- **Community activity report** (5%): Reports should be submitted no later than one week after the community event took place. Reports submitted after April 3 will not be accepted.
- **Participation** (10%)

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2017-2018 academic year can be found at the following site: <https://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2017-Winter-2018-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

- **Translation project:** [300-400 words per student] Students will translate individually or collaboratively a section of a document provided by one of the community partners. The translation will be accompanied by a reflexive commentary [at least 350 words] explaining translation choices with the help of the concepts covered in class.
- **Exam 1:** The mid-term exam will cover material discussed during the first half of the semester. Students should expect short translations, concept definitions, and multiple choice as well as true/false questions.
- **Exam 2:** The end-of-term exam will cover material discussed during the second half of the semester. The format will be similar to that of Exam 1.
- **Translation assignments:** Students will translate two short texts either in class or at home and submit them to the instructor.
- **Reflexive essay** [at least 700 words]: Students will write an essay addressing one question of their choice among several listed by the instructor. The purpose of the essay is to make students reflect on the translator's social, ethical and political role.
- **Community activity report** [at least 300 words]: Students will write a short report about an event they attended in the local Francophone community. Outstanding reports will be posted on the [Francopains blog](#).
- **Participation:** Students are expected to attend classes on a regular basis, participate in class discussions and forums, do their homework, and interact respectfully with their peers and guest speakers.

Required Notes:

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

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 (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) 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.”

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](#).

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Student Conduct & Accountability Office](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and **translation** courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages 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 conduct with dire consequences.

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](#).

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.

In this course, attendance and participation are an essential component and will be assigned 10% of the overall grade. **For each class missed without valid justification, students will lose 1% on their final participation grade.** Students who cannot attend class should let the instructor know ahead of time and make necessary arrangements. Students will have the option to increase their participation grade by attending a maximum of three community events posted on the “Activité dans la communauté” Moodle webiste.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult **in advance** with the 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. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Students who hand in assignments late with no acceptable excuse will lose **10% of the assignment's value for each day following the deadline.** Late excuses will **not** be accepted.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with [Student Accessibility Services](#), contact their office immediately (1-80 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381).

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	%
<p>Excellent. 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.</p>	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
<p>Good. 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.</p>	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
<p>Satisfactory. 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.</p>	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
<p>Poor/Minimal Pass. 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.</p>	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-59