

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL STUDIES:
200 ARTS BUILDING

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

2016/2017

MLCS 300 A1 (Fall Term) - Introduction to Translation

Instructor: Dr Waclaw M. Osadnik

Time and Place: T R 2:00 – 3:20 - TB 87

E-mail: wosadnik@ualberta.ca

Office: 437B, Old Arts Building

Office Hours: T/R 11:00 – 12:00 (or by appointment) 437B Old Arts Building

Course Prerequisite: consent of the Department

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

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

The main objective of this course is to familiarize students with the process of translation and theoretical/historical issues associated with it. In all aspects of the course, emphasis will be placed on the integration of theory and practice. Practical exercises will reinforce what is learned from lectures, readings and presentations. Students will participate in group discussions and presentations, so it is imperative that they come to class prepared to discuss assigned readings and weekly assignments.

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of issues in translation theory and/or history and be able to critically evaluate their own and others' translations in these terms
- demonstrate an advanced proficiency in translation to and from English, as well as an increased awareness of translation strategies
- demonstrate an awareness of issues surrounding the translation of poetry, prose and non-literary texts.

Texts:

Mona Baker, *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*. Paperback – Routledge 2011

Photocopies and online material as needed.

Grade Distribution:

Course requirements consist of the following:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| - class presentations (the schedule TBD) | = 15%; |
| - participation, in-class exercises and homework | = 10% |
| - two “take home” assignments (due dates: October 20; November 29) 2 x 20% | = 40% |
| - final examination (December 12, 2016, 2pm) | = 35% |

Please note: **The "take home" assignments should be approx. 2000 words long, and must follow the MLA style.**

Students unable to hand in assignments on time must contact the instructor for an extension at least two days prior to the due date. Extensions will only be granted in unusual circumstances. Lack of time and assignments due in other courses do not constitute valid excuses. Failure to request an extension will result in a deduction of 5% per day past the due date.

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 <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which 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 has been or 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 directs 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 [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) 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.

PLEASE NOTE:

Students involved in languages courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations”.

Students in language courses should be aware, 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 of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the content author(s) or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material 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 will be taken at every class meeting. Students are required to attend classes regularly. They should arrive prepared and on time. Many evaluation procedures will take place during regular class time and cannot be made up, except under exceptional circumstances. **Late arrival in class:** Inasmuch as the beginning of each class is extremely important, it is mandatory that students arrive in class on time. In the case of a 10 minutes tardiness (or less), attendance will be credited. Beyond the first ten minutes, tardiness will be treated as an absence.

Unexcused absences will affect the student’s grade. **In this course regular attendance is imperative, therefore students who miss more than five days of classes will seriously undermine their performance.**

Policy for Late Assignments:

Late assignments, including writing quizzes, will be allowed only in cases with valid reasons. Students who consult in advance with an instructor regarding contingencies that prevent the timely completion of an assignment may be granted an extension at the discretion of the instructor. Otherwise, assignments may be handed in one class-day after the stated deadline without penalty, with a 5%-per-class-day penalty assessed for each subsequent class-day of lateness.

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

SUGGESTED READINGS:

Books (chapters from books) and papers for in-class presentations, "take home" essays and final test

Amos, F. R. Early Theories of Translation. Octagon Books, New York 1973

Baker M. (ed.), Encyclopedia of Translation Studies. London: Routledge, 1998.

- Barnstone W. The Poetics of Translation. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993.
- Bassnett, S. & Lefevere, A. (eds.) Translation, History and Culture. London & New York 1990 (P 306 T775 1990)
- Bassnett, S. and Lefevere, A. Constructing Cultures: Essays on Literary Translation. Valley Cottage, NY: Multilingual Typesetting, 1998.
- Biguenet, J. and Schulte, R. (eds.), The Craft of Translation. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989.
- Catford, J.C. A Linguistic Theory of Translation. Oxford University Press, London 1965.
- Chesterman, A. Readings in Translation Theory. Helsinki: Finn Lectura, 1989.
- Delisle, J. and Woodsworth, J. (eds.), Translators through History. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1995.
- Robinson, D. What is Translation? Kent, Ohio and London: The Kent State University Press, 1997.
- Frawley, W. (ed.), Translation: Literary, Linguistic and Philosophical Perspectives. Newark, NJ: University of Delaware Press, 1984.
- Gentzler, E. Contemporary Translation Theories. New York: Routledge, 1993.
- Even-Zohar, I.: "The Position of Translated Literature within the Literary Polysystem". In: Holmes, J.S.; Lambert J.; Van den Broeck, R. (eds.) Literature and Translation: New Perspectives in Literary Studies. Leuven-Acco 1978, pp. 17-127.
- Flotow-Evans von, Luise Translation and Gender: Translating in the "Era of Feminism" Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 1997.
- Holmes, J.S.: "Describing Literary Translations: Models and Methods". In: Literature and Translation: New Perspectives in Literary Studies. Holmes, J.S.; Lambert, J.; Broeck R. van den (eds.) Leuven:ACCO 1978.
- Grahs, L. and Korlen, G. (eds.), Theory and Practice of Translation. New York: Lang, 1978.
- Graham, Joseph F., (ed.) Difference in Translation. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985.
- Holmes, James S. Translated! Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1988.
- House, J. Blum-Kulka, Shoshana (eds.) Interlingual and Intercultural Communication. G. Narr Publishers, Tübingen 1986. (P 306.2 159 1986)
- Jakobson R.: "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation." in: R.A. Brower (ed) On Translation. Cambridge: Harvard University Press 1966
- Ivir, V.: "Formal Correspondence vs. Translation Equivalence Revisited". *Poetics Today*, vol. 2:4 1981.
- Kelly, Louis G. The True Interpreter: A History of Translation Theory and Practice in the West. Oxford: Blackwell, 1979.
- Larson, Mildred L. Meaning-Based Translation: A Guide to Cross-Language Equivalence. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1984.
- Kussmaul, P. Training the Translator. Amsterdam: Benjamins 1995

- Lambert, J.; Gorp, H. van: "On Describing Translations" In: The Manipulation of Literature. Studies in Literary Translation. London-Sydney 1985.
- Lawendowski, B. P. "On Semiotic Aspect of Translation". In: T. Sebeok (ed.) Sight, Sound and Sense. Bloomington: Indiana University Press 1978.
- Levy, J.: "Translation as a Decision Process". In: To Honor Roman Jakobson. Essays on the Occasion of his 70th Birthday. vol. 2. The Hague: Mouton, 1967.
- Malone, Joseph L. The Science of Linguistics in the Art of Translation. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1988.
- Newmark, P. A Textbook of Translation. New York: Prentice Hall 1988
- Nida, E., Taber C. The Theory and Practice of Translation. Leiden: Brill 1969
- Popović A. Dictionary for the Analysis of Literary Translation. Department of Comparative Literature, University of Alberta 1977.
- Raffel, B. The Art of Translating Prose. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994.
- _____, The Art of Translating Poetry. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1988.
- Séguinot, C. The Translation Process. York University: H.G. Publications. 1989
- Simon, S. Gender in Translation. London and New York: Routledge, 1996
- Snell-Hornby, M. Translation Studies. An Integrated Approach. 1988.
- Steiner, G. After Babel. Oxford University Press 1975
- Schulte, R. and Biguenet, J. (eds.), Theories of Translation: An Anthology of Essays from Dryden to Derrida. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992.
- Toury, G.: „Enhancing Cultural Changes by Means of Fictitious Translation”. In: Eva Hung (ed.) Translation and Cultural Change John Benjamins. Amsterdam/Philadelphia 2005
- Toury, G.: In Search of a Theory of Translation. Tel Aviv University Press. Tel Aviv 1980.
- Toury, G.: "Translation: A Cultural Semiotic Perspective". In: Sebeok, Thomas A. et al. (eds.) Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Semiotics. Approaches to Semiotics, 73.3. Mouton de Gruyter, 1986, 2, pp. 1111-1124.
- Weissbort, D. (ed.), Translating Poetry: The Double Labyrinth. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1989.
- Wilss, W. The Science of Translation. Problems and Methods. G. Narr Publishers. Tübingen 1977. (P 306 W 75 E5 1982)
- Venuti, L. Rethinking Translation: Discourse, Subjectivity, Ideology. New York: Routledge, 1992.
- _____, The Translator's Invisibility: A History of Translation. New York: Routledge, 1995.

Journals

ATA Chronicle (Arlington, VA, 1972–)

Babel (Budapest, 1955–)

Delos (Gainesville, FL, 1992–; College Park, MD, 1988–1991; Austin, TX, 1968–1971)

Exchanges (Iowa City, IA, 1990–) [<http://www.uiowa.edu/~translab/exchanges.html>]

In Other Words (Translators Association, London 1993–)

International Quarterly (Tallahassee, FL, 1993–)

Language International (Leeds, England, 1989–)

Meta (Montreal, 1956–)

Metamorphoses (Amherst, MA, 1992–)

Poetry World (London, 1965– ; until 1986 called *Modern Poetry in Translation*)

Target: International Journal of Translation Studies, edited by Gideon Toury and José Lambert (Tel Aviv University; University of Leuven; Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1989–)

Translation (New York, 1972–1994)

Translation Review (Dallas, 1978–) [<http://www.utdallas.edu/research/cts/tr/>]

The Translator (London: St. Jerome Publishing, 1995–)

Two Lines (Stanford, CA, 1994–)

Web sites

The Translator's Home Companion, <http://www.rahul.net/lai/companion.html>