

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND
CULTURAL STUDIES:

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

2018/2019

MLCS 300 A1 (Fall Term) - Introduction to Translation

Instructor: Dr Waclaw M. Osadnik.....Time and Place: T R 2:00 – 3:20 – TB W 2

E-mail: wosadnik@ualberta.ca

Office Hours: MW 11:00 – 12:00 (or by appointment), 437B Old Arts Building

E-mail: wosadnik@ualberta.ca

Course Website: TBA

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 (schedule TBD) = 20%;
- participation, in-class exercises and homework = 20%
- two “take home” assignments (due dates: October 23; November 22) 2 x 20% = 40%
- final in class test (December 6, 2018) = 20%

Please note: **The "take home" assignments should be approx. 2500 - 3000 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.”

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 (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. 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/translation 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](#).

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*).

University of Alberta Sexual Violence Policy:

The Sexual Violence Policy was approved by GFC in June 2017. It plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and respectful learning and working environment.

As defined in the policy, **sexual violence** is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent. **Sexual violence** is a complex and serious problem in society and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of **consent** and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover.

To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

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.

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).

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.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. **There is no final examination in this course – only a final in class test (December 6, 2018).**

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	%
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

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SUGGESTED READINGS:

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