

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2020-2021 Germ 342 B1: Introduction to Translation: German and English
(Winter Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: Ute-Brigitte Blunck
Office: REMOTE
E-mail: ute.blunck@ualberta.ca
Course Website: eClass

Time: T Th 11-12:20
Place: REMOTE
Office Hours: M 10-11 F 9-10
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: German 303 or consent of department. Students considered overqualified will be re-assigned to an alternate class. If you have questions or doubts about your language skills, consult with the instructor. Not open to students with credit in German 441, 443 or 444.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum):

Check this link for the necessary information:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/covid-19/students/computing-recommendations.html>

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

- this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

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

- Yes No, not needed

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, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

GERM 342 is an introductory course in translation from German into English and English into German. Working, both individually and in groups, on texts in a variety of genres, students will develop methodology and strategies to deepen and refine German language skills in grammar, style, vocabulary, and idiomatic usage. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to correctly translate a variety of documents, utilizing the appropriate tone and vocabulary suited to the purpose of the translation. They will differentiate between casual and professional language use and select these appropriately for translation tasks.

This course can be applied to the MLCS Certificate in Translation Studies.

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, collaborative assignments and practice activities.

Texts:

All texts for translation and materials will be made available on E-class. A good dictionary and access to grammar guidelines is recommended. More info in class.

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

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

First Day of Class: January 11, 2021
Add/Delete Date: January 22, 2021
50% Withdrawal Date: February 10, 2021
Winter Term Reading Week: February 16-19, 2021
Withdrawal Date: April 9, 2021
Last Day of Class: April 16, 2021

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Attendance and Participation in Zoom lectures	5%
Homework <i>assigned on a regular basis</i> —	35%
Test I <i>tentative date: February 4</i>	15%
Test II <i>tentative date: March 11</i>	20%
Test III <i>tentative date: April 13</i>	25%

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Attendance, Participation, Preparation, and Homework

Regular ***attendance*** (worth 5% of final grade) is essential for optimal performance in a foreign-language course. This is true whether we meet in a physical room or remotely, as is the case for this Winter term. For German 342, we will have a mixture of synchronous meetings (via Zoom video conferencing, where you are encouraged to use your video camera and microphone) and

asynchronous classes, where you will work on assignments independently. Students are expected to *participate* fully in all aspects of class work and assignments. That means coming to class prepared, and reading texts carefully in advance, doing written or oral homework diligently, and participating in partner and group-work, which is important in this class.

Homework assignments (worth 35% of the final grade) will help students to develop and practice their skills in using **both printed and electronic reference materials**.

There are three **Tests** (worth 15%, 20% and 25% of final grade) throughout the term. These will be written during class time and submitted at the end of class.

If you must miss a class, contact another student (or the instructor) to find out what you missed. It is your responsibility to make up work and learn the material for classes you miss. For more detail, please consult the section *Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components* below.

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](#).

Language and Translation Courses:

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 work and study 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, German 342, the Attendance and Participation portion comprises 5% of the final grade and will be determined by the effort made to contribute to class and group work by adequate preparation of texts and drills assigned for oral work—a component upon which extensive unexcused absence will, of course, have a negative impact.

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. Otherwise, late assignments will have a **5%-per-class-day penalty** assessed for each *calendar day* of lateness.

However: Any assignments submitted *after* the remainder of the class has had their marked assignments returned will be ***assigned a mark of 0*** and be ***marked for feedback only***.

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	%
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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