

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2021-2022 FREN 254 A1: Introduction to Translation Theory and Practice: French-English-French (Fall Term)

Instructor: Dr. Sathya Rao
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Course Website: Moodle

Time: 2PM-3.20PM
Place: HC 2-22
Office Hours: TTh 3.30PM-4.30PM,
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: FREN 297 or consent of department. This course may be used for the MLCS Certificate in Translation Studies. It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Undergraduate students in all Faculties may pursue this certificate in translation while completing the undergraduate program in their respective Faculties by taking the designated courses for a minimum of ★21. While the certificate does not prepare students to be full-fledged translators upon graduation, it provides them with the necessary focus to pursue further training in the profession. Furthermore, since the certificate puts the emphasis on cultural literacy, students who complete its requirements will have honed their skills in their area of specialization and will be ready to embark on many types of careers requiring cultural expertise, (for example the foreign service, foreign trade, business abroad, tourism).

Technology requirements (minimum): A computer which can run a current supported version of Windows or MacOS, Windows (Version 8, 8.1, or 10) or Mac (Version 10.13 or higher) with Internet access.

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:

This course aims to introduce students to the main linguistic (e.g., semantic, syntactic, and stylistic) differences between English and French to help them gain a better understanding of some of the translation challenges arising between these languages. Students will explore these differences through a wide range of collective and individual activities with a focus on translation. To hone their translation skills, students will be introduced to translation techniques, online translation tools and resources, as well as information literacy strategies.

At the end of the course, students are expected to: 1) gain a better understanding of common linguistic differences between French and English; 2) be able to deal practically with a variety of translation issues (e.g., false friends, articles, and tenses); 3) make appropriate use of literacy strategies and basic concepts of translation theory (e.g., modulation, adaptation, and equivalence); 4) to hone their translation skills; and 5) improve their written and oral French skills.

Course Format: The objectives of the course will be learned through a combination of lectures and in-class individual and collective activities. All the course material (e.g., PPT, course notes, and activity sheets) will be posted on the course Moodle website. Students who cannot temporarily attend class for a legitimate reason will be accommodated. However, students are expected to be present in class throughout the semester since the course is delivered in in-person.

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 printed or electronic bilingual dictionary both at home and in class]

- **Recommended**

- French dictionary (e.g., *Larousse, Petit Robert*)
- English dictionary (e.g., *Cambridge, Oxford*)
- French grammar book (*Le Petit Grevisse, Bescherelle*)
- 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).

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

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

First Day of Class: September 1, 2021

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2021

50% Withdrawal Date: October 4, 2021

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2021

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2021

Final Exam Date: December 20, 2021, 9AM (see [Exam planner](#))

Date of Deferred Final Exam: December 21, 2021, 10AM

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

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

4 in-class assignments	4x5% = 20% (date to be determined)
In-class exam 1	20% (October 21, 2021)
In-class exam 2	20% (December 2, 2021)
Final exam	30% (December 20, 2021)
Participation	10%

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

In-class assignments: Throughout the semester, students will have to complete a total of 4 small assignments meant to assess their understanding of specific content discussed in class. Assignments consist mainly in short translations and exercises.

In-class exams (1&2): Each in-class exam will cover half of the course content. Exams will consist in short translation and exercises similar to those completed in class. Both in-class exams are designed to prepare students for the final exam.

Final exam: The final exam will cover all the course content. The format will be similar to the in-class exams. The final exam will last 3 hours.

Participation: Participation includes: 1) attending class throughout the semester; 2) taking an active part in class activities and discussions; 3) completing activity sheets and assignments in class and submitting them when requested; and 4) completing homework.

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, participation is an essential component and will be factored **10% of the overall grade**. Participation includes: 1) attending class throughout the semester; 2) taking an active part in class activities and discussions; 3) completing activity sheets and assignments in class and submitting them when requested; and 4) completing homework. Students who cannot be present in class for a valid reason should inform the instructor as early as possible. Students who fail to complete and submit activity sheets in due time (unless they have a valid reason) will be penalized by losing 3% on their overall participation grade for each late assignment. Students who have missed 3 classes without a valid reason will lose 3% on their overall participation grade. After that, students will lose 3% for each class they miss without a valid reason.

Students have the opportunity to **increase their grade by attending a maximum of 2 community events** from the list posted on the “Activités dans la communauté 2021-2022” Moodle website. Students can also attend events listed on the [Francopass](#) web application. They will receive a **3% bonus** on their percentage participation grade for each event they attended upon showing evidence of attendance (e.g., selfie, receipt, and stamp on their “passeport”, Francopass email notification).

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 submit 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.

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: delete this section if not applicable

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](#).

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).

If your course is offered remotely and you are planning to record live lectures or discussions, please include the recommended "best practices" wording (points I-IV) from the Office of the Chief Information Security Officer:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/chief-information-security-officer/online-meetings-and-classes/best-practices-recording-lectures.html>

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>.

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students maximize their academic success and achieve their academic goals. We offer appointments, advising, group workshops, online courses, and specialized programming year-round to students in all university programs, and at all levels of achievement and study.

They also administer the University of Alberta's [Duty to Accommodate procedure](#) for students and works with students, instructors, campus units, Faculties and departments, community and government agencies, and on and off-campus service providers to coordinate students' disability-related accommodation needs for participation in university programs.

For general information and to register for services visit the [Academic Accommodations](#) webpage.

[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.

[The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

[Health and Wellness Support for Students](#) outlines available mental and physical health resources that are offered on-campus and in the community.

[The Office of the Student Ombuds](#) is a confidential service that strives to ensure that university processes related to students operate as fairly as possible. We offer information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student programs.

Learning and working environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that 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.

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>

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.

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

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	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89
<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	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74
<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	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
<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	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
<p>Failure.</p>	F	0.0	0-49