

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2021-2022 FREN 354 (A1): Translation French into English
(Fall Term)

Instructor: Dr LK Penrod
Office: Arts 218-B
E-mail: lpenrod@ualberta.ca

Time: TR 9:30-10:50
Place: HC 2-22
Office Hours: After class Tuesday
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 254 or consent of department. Not to be taken by students with credit for FREN 353. This course can be applied toward the MLCS Certificate in Translation Studies. *It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.* NOTE: If you are NOT working towards the MLCS Certificate in Translation and you feel that your background in French and English prepares you to take this course without the prerequisite please contact Dr Penrod for a *possible* waiver of prerequisite.

Experiential Learning Component

NA 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 focuses on the translation of a variety of texts from **FRENCH** into **ENGLISH**. We will concentrate on basic principles of translation theory and practice but with specific

application of these to translation from French into English ONLY. Please note that materials (ie., textbooks, workbooks) for this “half” of French/English translation are often available in English only. The textbook is available as an electronic resource through the University of Alberta Library. All exercises and translations assigned will all be from French into English. Since this course is focused on translation (not interpretation) the primary skills required are reading and writing (rather than listening and speaking). Thus most of our discussions about specific issues will be in English. Explaining your vocabulary choice, your choice of language level, etc., are almost always easier to handle in English. (In FREN 454 the opposite is true!) That said, either English or French is fine for discussion...it really depends on your comfort level and has no bearing whatsoever about your evaluation,

Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course students will be able (a) articulate the basic problems involved in the translation of a variety of texts from French to English; (b) produce a variety of translated texts from various genres (literary, journalistic, advertising, etc) with good fluency; (c) justify and explain reasons for various translation decisions or choices; (d) work independently to produce an accurate and creative translation of a literary, journalistic, or other type of non-fictional text that has not been previously translation from French into English.

Texts:

Required: Jones, Michele H. *The Beginning Translator’s Workbook. The ABCs of French to English Translation*. Revised edition. University Press of America, 2014. This text is available as an electronic resource from The University of Alberta Library. All other necessary course materials will be provided on eClass.

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

NOTE: There is NO final examination in this course. There is a FINAL PROJECT instead.

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

Attendance and Participation:	10%	
Midterm Examination #1	25%	(October 19)
Midterm Examination #2	25%	(November 18)
Team Translation	10%	Week of November 23-25
Final Project	30%	(Due Week of December 6-10)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance is expected (attendance will be taken). Since this course involves practice and discussion of translation problems and difficulties, absences are detrimental to performance. Respectful discussion is expected of everyone, and class preparation is essential for being a positive contributor to discussion. There are no specific percentage “losses” for missing class; however, missing more than 5 lectures in the term will obviously lower the attendance/participation mark. If you are not present, you cannot participate.

Midterm Examinations

Midterm examinations are normally hybrid in format. A portion of the examination will involve a take-home translation or question that students must bring with them to class on the examination day. The rest of the examination will cover material covered in lectures or any other material assigned as class reading on eClass. Midterm #2 is cumulative, covering all material from the beginning of the term. The instructor will review the specific exam format in advance.

Team Translation:

Students will be assigned to teams during the last week in October and will work together to produce an original translation from French to English that will be presented in class during the week of November 23-25. Specific instructions and guidance as well as the text to be translated will be provided by the instructor. Members of the winning team will receive a prize.

Final Project

Each student, in consultation with the instructor, will prepare an original translation from French to English along with a translator’s journal as a final capstone project for the course (replacing a final examination). Specific instructions will be provided well in advance.

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 (FREN 354), please see the section on Attendance and Participation above for information.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Late assignments will be accepted only with **PRIOR APPROVAL** of the instructor. Any late assignment not approved **IN ADVANCE** will not be accepted and will receive a mark of 0.

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: FREN 354: READ THIS CAREFULLY

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).

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

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	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
Failure.	F	0.0	0-49

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