

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2016-2017 FREN 254 B1: Introduction to Translation Theory and Practice: French-English-
French
(Winter Term)

Instructor: *Dr Lynn Penrod*

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Personal Website: *N/A*

Time: MWF 10:00-10:50

Place: HC 2-22

Office Hours: TBD,

or by appointment

Course Website: e-class by Moodle

Course Prerequisite: FREN 297 or consent of department. This course may be used for the MLCS Certificate in Translation Studies.

The Certificate in Translation Studies is available to students with a major or minor in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Spanish and/or Ukrainian only in the Faculties of Arts or Science. In all cases, the certificate is granted by the Faculty of Arts at the time a student graduates from his or her degree program. Please note that students who lack an appropriate major or minor, or who are matriculated in a Faculty other than Arts or Science, may NOT receive the Certificate in Translation Studies.

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 (please specify)

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

The primary objective of this course is to explore linguistic differences and similarities between English and French as a preliminary step to translation practice. Problem-solving approaches will be applied through a variety of collective as well as individual exercises meant to deal practically with translation challenges. The students will also have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with basic translation studies concepts to improve their translation skills.

Learning outcomes:

At the end of this class, students will be able to compare and contrast the two languages under study and will be able to recognize French-English-French translation problems, analyze them and solve them. Students will also demonstrate understanding of basic concepts in Translation Studies.

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*)
 - French dictionary (e.g., *Larousse en ligne, Petit Robert, TLF informatisé*)
 - English dictionaries > See online site *One Look Dictionary*
- *Students should have a printed or electronic bilingual dictionary in class

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Participation in class activities and attendance – equal distribution (Self-evaluation to be handed in in class)	10%
Translation project #1 (January 25)	10%
Test 1 (February 1)	10%
Test 2 - “Mid-Term” exam (March 8)	15%
Translation project #2 (March 22)	15%
Group presentation (April 3, 5, 7)	20%
Test 3 - Final test (last day of class – April 12)	20%

Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2016-2017 academic year can be found at the following site: <http://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2016-Winter-2017-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Recommended; please consult the following site:

[http://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_\(Exams\)](http://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_(Exams))

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

1. Participation in class activities and attendance

Very regular attendance is expected.

In class, we will engage into active learning with individual and group activities. Your participation in these activities is evaluated for:

- how well prepared you come to class: you're supposed to prepare all work assigned for each class session (e.g. readings, homework activities),
- your spontaneous contribution to class discussions and activities,
- your use of the French language.

The marking rubrics will be provided on e-class.

2. Translation Projects (1 & 2)

- Cooperative work for the first draft of your translation and a short commentary on the challenges posed by the translation (5% for both projects 1 and 2)
- Individual work for the second (final) version of your translation and a short commentary on the choices made to meet the challenges of the translation (5% for project 1 and 10% for project 2)

3. Test 1

- This test focuses on students' learning of basic translation terminology

4. Test 2 ("Midterm" exam)

- Cumulative exam on the topics covered in the first half of the semester.

5. Group presentation

- Each group of students will present to the class their analysis and correction of translation mistakes they have come across in everyday life.

NOTE: This project involves some groundwork in the form of finding the relevant "objects" featuring translation "errors" that will serve as the basis for analysis and class presentation.

6. Test 3: Final test.

- Cumulative exam on all topics covered throughout the course.

Assignments will be explained in detail once the course has begun.

Students are also strongly encouraged to use the course *Moodle* to share any of their questions on the course content and answer them. This is particularly relevant for shy students, although *all* are expected to participate orally in class.

Important note: Disruptive behaviour in class is a sign of disrespect both to the instructor and to your fellow students, and will not be tolerated. Activities, such as chatting, surfing the Internet, using or frequently checking your phone, studying for another class, etc., will result in a low participation grade. Cell phones should be turned OFF during class, and should remain put away.

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 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.”

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.

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

Students in languages 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 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, students are allowed to miss three sessions without penalty regardless of the reason for their absence (excusable or not), after which two percentage point per absence will be deducted from the 10% attendance and participation grade. It is recommended not to miss a session unless necessary.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult **in advance** with an 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.**

However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted.

Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline.

Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will not be accepted for any reason.

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