

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2019-2020 MLCS 602 B1 History of Translation  
(Winter Term)**

Instructor: Dr Waclaw M. Osadnik

Office: 437B Old Arts Building/Convocation Hall

Office Hours: T/R 11:00 – 12:00 (or by appointment) 437B Old Arts Building

Place: Bus 2-9

Time: 12.30-1.50

E-mail: [wosadnik@ualberta.ca](mailto:wosadnik@ualberta.ca)

Course Website: eClass

**Course Prerequisite:** MLCS 300 or 400 or consent of department

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

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

Yes       No, not needed

**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

**Course Description and Objectives:**

The main goal of this course is to familiarize students with the history of translation and theoretical issues associated with it. In all aspects of the course, emphasis will be placed on contributions made by translators to the intellectual and cultural history of literature and other arts. The roles of the translator, and of translation, will be analyzed diachronically in order to gain some understanding of how translation has been practiced, perceived and applied over the centuries.

Students will participate in group discussions, so it is imperative that they come to class prepared to discuss assigned readings and weekly assignments. Students' programmes and interests may determine source language for assignments and presentations.

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of issues in translation history
- demonstrate an advanced knowledge in translation strategies
- demonstrate an awareness of issues surrounding the translation of poetry, prose and non-literary texts from the historical perspective

**Course Format:** The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, presentations, assigned readings and audiovisual materials.

**Texts:**

Delisle, Jean; Judith Woodsworth, *Translators through History*. Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2012. Routledge, 1996 (Selected chapters). Photocopies and online material as needed.

**Additional Course Fees**

Yes       No

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

First Day of Class: January 7, 2020  
 Add/Delete Date: January 17, 2020  
 50% Withdrawal Date: February 5, 2020  
 Winter Term Reading Week: February 18-21, 2020  
 Withdrawal Date: April 1, 2020  
 Last Day of Class: April 8, 2020

**Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):**

class presentations and discussions (the schedule TBD)	= 30%
participation, in-class exercises and homework	= 20%
one “take home” assignment (due date: February 25 )	= 20%
final paper (due April 7)	= 30%

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

I expect clear, careful writing in both assignments. Writing well involves thinking creatively, organizing your thoughts, and then expressing them clearly.  
 Please note: **The "take home" assignments** should be approx. 4000-5000 words long; the final paper should be approx. 8000-10000 words long and both **must follow the MLA style**.

**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 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](#). 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:***

You are expected to attend every class. Attendance and punctuality are basic requirements for an effective in-class presentations and discussions. Beyond that, each person's frequency and quality of contribution to the class discussion will be assessed and reflected in the class participation score. If you cannot attend a class it is a courtesy to inform your professor in advance if possible.

***Policy for late assignments:***

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.

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***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:

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**“MLCS Graduate Grading Scale”**

A+	97-100	Excellent
A	93-96	Excellent
A-	90-92	Excellent

B+	87-89	Good
B	79-86	Good
B-	74-78	Satisfactory
C+	68-73	Satisfactory
C	63-67	Failure
C-	58-62	Failure
D+	54-57	Failure
D-	50-53	Failure
F	00-49	Failure

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