

Department of French Studies  
Western University

French 3306A  
*Special Topics in Translation:*  
*Theory and Techniques* Course Number  
Fall 2020

Location TBA  
Days Tuesday- Thursday  
Hours 4:30-5:30 and 3:30-5:30

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**PREREQUISITES**

1.0 course from French 2905A/B, French 2906A/B, French 2907A/B (or French 2900), French 2305A/B, French 2306A/B (or French 2300), or permission of the Department of French Studies, based on [Placement Test](#).

**Course Description :** Transposer, transférer, traduire ne sont pas des opérations simples. Non seulement faut-il trouver les mots correspondant approximativement (rarement exactement), mais encore faut-il trouver les fonctions correspondant culturellement à ce qui est traduit. Ainsi un notaire français s'occupe de légaliser les ventes, les héritages, et ce sont eux ou bien un maire qui valident un mariage (l'église est optionnelle, comme le temple etc...), donc il ne remplit pas les mêmes fonctions qu'un « notary ». D'ailleurs le temple est protestant et l'église catholique, mais il y a toutes les chances que « church » se traduira par « église », qu'elle soit protestante ou non. Un mot à double sens risque fort de demander une traduction sans équivoque, tronquant la moitié du message, et défaisant les jeux de mot, etc... La traduction est toujours un passage difficile demandant de la dextérité et composant avec les écarts, un peu comme ces personnes qui s'équilibrent sur un pont de chaises dans un équilibre précaire. Dans un premier temps, vous comparerez méthodiquement des traductions et dans un second temps, vous produirez des traductions de 250 à 500 mots de l'anglais vers le français et du français vers l'anglais.

**Pedagogical Objectives :** vous vous familiariserez avec les différentes figures linguistiques intervenant dans la traduction et les philosophies de traduction, pour devenir sensibles aux limites et aux ressources respectives de l'anglais et du français, et aux insuffisances des langues en général comme référent désignant mais surtout donnant forme à votre expérience vécue. On ne vit pas exactement de la même manière dans une langue et dans une autre, la langue forçant la pensée dans un moule linguistique.

## COURSE MATERIALS

*Recommended bi-lingual dictionary English-French, French-English, and unilingual dictionaries such as Robert, Larousse, Harraps or Webster. Online, the linguee site may help because it provides examples. Access to a computer to check material on owl, and access to a printer is recommended. Other material will be available on OWL for “theories and techniques”*

## METHODS OF EVALUATION

*- What is expected of the student by way of preparation, tests, fiches is that the assigned work is done ahead of time and be turned in before class begins when class states that the assignment will be corrected in class. You are encouraged to prepare the fiches, and questionnaires in collaboration with another student from the class. You may turn in one work with two names or one name, yet designating your associate in parenthesis. You may use zoom, facetime and any means of communication, including in person meetings if you chose to do so. You are free to work by yourself if you prefer to do so, and we will establish pairs at the beginning of the semester. You are encouraged to produce the requested translations by yourself however. What is expected is that you attempt to exert and share your knowledge, explain why you think you could translate a certain way, how you come to guess a translation, if the word resembles another word you know but why you do not think it fits, long before you simply declare “je ne sais pas” each time a question comes your way; you demonstrate some interest in asking questions or in proposing alternative translations.*

### ***Grille d'évaluation:***

Mots :

- Exactitude : church/temple-église ; notaire/notary
- Subtilité du vocabulaire
- Accords singulier/pluriel
- Anglicismes ? (exemple : « To travel » does not translate as « travailler » but as «voyager» ; a morning glory n'est pas « une gloire du matin » ; like father like son n'est pas « comme père, comme fils »)
- Gallicismes ? « Un paysage riant » cannot translate as “a laughing landscape”.

Style : (Fidélité à la tonalité d'origine )

- Utilisation de contractions ou de mots familiers dans un texte formel ou vice versa?
- Succès des transpositions (It's pooring cats and dogs/ il pleut des cordes)
- Succès des adaptations (It was a success/ Il se sentait victorieux)
- Traductions consacrées (God bless you/ Que Dieu vous bénisse)

- correspondance des connotations
- correspondances rythmiques, rimes, allitérations

#### Cohérence

- syntaxe compréhensible (order of words, indications of time, placement of adjectives, split sentences, etc...)
- mots de liaison
- prépositions correctes
- pronoms corrects
- articles
- ponctuation
- mélanges créant de la confusion dans la nature des mots (a/à ; ou/où ; 's comme possessif versus contraction en anglais)
- Compréhension de l'original ? contresens ?

#### Verbes :

- Identification et transposition des temps (présent/passé/futur/Plus que parfait...)
- Concordance des temps (exemple : Si ne peut pas être suivi de futur)
- Utilisation des modes (indicatif/subjonctif/conditionnel)
- Accords sujets/verbes
- Utilisation des participes présents ?
- connaissance des temps du passé en anglais : pluperfect/ irregular past participles, etc...
- infinitif

*Course-specific conditions that are required to pass the course : (i) minimum attendance at lectures : presence is mandatory, preferably on time, past three weeks of absences you are likely to fail the course (ii) you are expected to produce the following : 4 « fiches de comparaisons de traductions » two in class two at home (10% each = 40% total) you are given the original and the translations and you evaluate the best translation according to the calibrating grid ; présence et participation (10%) (refer to the syllabus for the distribution of percentages); 5 traductions deux vers l'anglais et trois vers le français (10% each = 50%) you are graded according to the calibrating grids you are using for the fiches ; No final exam.*

#### **CALENDAR**

date	Type d'exercice	Travail noté
Le 10 septembre 2h	Présentations-organisation	Questionnaire 1%
Le 15 septembre 1h	Traductions comparées Corrigées en zoom	Fiche 1 10% (maison) A rendre avant de commencer le cours
Le 17 septembre 2h	Traduction (maison : rendue au début du cours) Français	Traduction 10% (250 mots) A rendre avant de commencer le cours

	→Anglais discutée/corrigée en zoom	
Le 22 septembre 1h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 24 septembre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 29 septembre 1h	Traductions comparées Corrigées en cours	Fiche 2 10% (maison) A rendre avant de commencer le cours
Le 1er octobre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 6 octobre 1h	Traductions comparées	Fiche 3 10% (en classe)
Le 8 octobre 2h	Traduction Français →Anglais (maison : rendue au début du cours) discutée/corrigée in classe	Traduction 10%(maison 300 mots)
Le 13 octobre 1h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 15 octobre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 20 octobre 1h	Traduction anglais→ français (corrigé en classe)	Traduction 4 : 10% (maison) 200 mots, à rendre avant le que le cours ne commence
Le 22 octobre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 27 octobre 1h	Traduction anglais→ français (en classe) rattrapage ou bien note d'amélioration	Traduction* [10%]
Le 29 octobre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 10 novembre 1h	Traductions comparées	Fiche 4 10%(en classe)
Le 12 novembre 2h	Traduction anglais→ français (en classe)	Traduction 10% (100 mots)
Le 17 novembre 1h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 19 novembre 2h	Traduction ang—fr	Traduction 5 : 10%(en classe)
Le 24 novembre 1h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 26 novembre 2h		Questionnaire 1%
Le 1er décembre 1h	Traduction anglais→ français (en classe) rattrapage ou bien note d'amélioration	Traduction* [10%]
Le 3 décembre 2h		Questionnaire 1%

\*traduction de rattrapage (ou pour remplacer le 10% présence/participation en cas d'urgence médicale, ou de plus de deux absences).

## ATTENDANCE

*“Attendance” is mandatory which during the emergency remote learning experience converts into turning the work on time (the day of scheduled “class”). However, two non-illness absences are structurally repairable without problems (nor documentation – check self-reported absences) because there are two catch up possibilities for translations (fiches or active translation) and two absences that can be caught up out of 12 presence/participation days which are questionnaires based on the lessons (1% each for 10%). In case you were never “absent” you can either just train on make-up translation days (Oct. 27 and Dec. first) and a lesser grade than already obtained does not count, a better grade than what you obtained prior to this test replaces the lesser grade. Late assignments cannot count when turned in after the correction was done and posted, but there are two catch up assignments (Oct. 27 and Dec. first). The Policy on Accommodation for Illness*

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

*If too many works are missing you will need documentation to be presented to the appropriate Faculty Dean`s office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean`s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.*

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

Electronic devices are necessary to take this class.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html)

### **Requests for Academic Consideration Using the Self-Reported Absence Form**

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

- a) students will be allowed **a maximum of two self-reported absences** between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August;
- b) any absences in excess of the number designated in clause a above, regardless of duration, will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, detailing the duration and severity of illness, or appropriate documentation supporting extenuating circumstances to the Academic Counselling unit in their Faculty of registration no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.

Please see section 4 below for more details.

- c) The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;
- d) The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48 hour period should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time;
- e) The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30 am on the day following the last day of classes each semester regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;
- f) Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;
- g) Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.
- h) students must be in touch with their instructors **no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form**, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.

### **Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence**

Students seeking academic consideration for a medical absence not covered by existing Student Accessibility Services (SAS) accommodation, will be required to provide documentation in person in the form of a completed, signed Student Medical Certificate (SMC) where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

The following conditions are in place for students seeking academic consideration for a medical absence:

- a) Students must submit their documentation along with a request for academic consideration specifying the nature of the relief being requested. This documentation, in the form of a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), shall be submitted to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate Office of the student's Faculty of registration indicating the period of illness, severity, and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. **Forms must be submitted no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.**
- b) Students who require academic consideration must, where possible, seek medical attention in advance of due dates, examinations, etc.
- c) If the Academic Counselling/Dean's Office determines that academic consideration is warranted, the period of academic consideration will normally be that specified on the medical documentation. Once the request for academic consideration and supporting documents have been received and approved, the student's instructors will be notified of this by the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate Office in the student's home faculty.
- d) Academic consideration shall be granted only where the documentation indicates

that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities, and only when the licensed practitioner providing the documentation is able to make a reasonable assessment of the student's physical or mental state during the period for which relief is sought. The expectation is that the practitioner's assessment of the student's condition will be made in person.

- e) The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the period indicated on the SMC should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time.
- f) Students must communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the SMC, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.
- g) In cases where a student may be experiencing long-term or recurring absences, students should consult their Academic Counsellors for advice about which of the options available to them (academic consideration, pursuing Academic Accommodation, withdrawal from the course) are most appropriate.

A downloadable Student Medical Certificate can be found here:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html)

### **Request for Academic Consideration for a Non-Medical Absence**

Students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported Absences.

The following conditions are in place for students seeking academic consideration for a non-medical absence:

- a. Students must submit the appropriate documentation<sup>1</sup> along with a request for academic consideration specifying the reason for the absence and the nature of the relief being requested. This documentation shall be submitted to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate Office in the student's Faculty of registration. Documentation must be submitted no later than two business days after the student resumes academic responsibilities.
- b. Academic consideration shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete their academic responsibilities as a result of an extenuating circumstance.
- c. Students must communicate with their instructors **no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by the documentation, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence.
- d. In cases where a student might be absent for periods greater than 3 weeks, students should consult their Academic Counsellors for advice about which of the options available to them (academic consideration, pursuing Academic Accommodation, withdrawal from the course) are most appropriate.



**Support services**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness website [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Statement on Plagiarism, Cheating and other Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a scholastic offence in the Academic Policies available on the University Secretariat website: (“Undergraduate Students - Scholastic Discipline”, [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html))

**Policy on Attendance**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/examinations.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/examinations.html)

**Important Academic Information for Students Taking Courses in the Department of French Studies**

[http://www.uwo.ca/french/undergraduate/counselling/academic\\_information/index.html](http://www.uwo.ca/french/undergraduate/counselling/academic_information/index.html)