



FRE 303
French Translation
Spring 2019

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Professor Patrick Saveau
Instructor's Email: psaveau@fus.edu
Office Hours: T-F 16:00-17:30 and by appointment
Class location: LAC 7
Class meeting times: T-F: 13:00-14:15

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to translation theory: its basic principles and methods. It is designed to increase knowledge of the French language by means of vocabulary building and the study of idiomatic expressions and grammatical structures. It aims to sharpen awareness of the distinctive characteristics of both the French and English languages and cultures by means of practice in the translation of literary and non-literary texts.

III. RATIONALE

FRE 303 is one of the courses that counts towards a French major, Combined major in French and XXX and French minor. To learn more about the French Major, Combined Majors and Minor requirements at Franklin University Switzerland, please see FUS Academic Catalog 2018-20 pp. 36-8, pp. 67-8, and p. 77 respectively.

IV. COURSE GOALS

- Understand key theories in the field of translation studies
- Be aware of the plurality which characterizes the field of translation studies.
- Understand and apply key concepts to the practice of translation.
- Understand that translation is not only a question of linguistics but a matter of culture, ideology, poetics, universe of discourse etc.

V. SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will

- understand how different theories have impacted the field of translation studies.
 - understand the cultural, poetical, ideological, discursive subtleties, intricacies and difficulties that are to be taken in consideration when going from one linguistic system to another in a translation.
 - have learned translation techniques such as transposition, modulation, equivalency, adaptation, borrowing, etc.
 - have practiced translating from English to French and French to English
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VI. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

- Berman, Antoine. *L'épreuve de l'étranger*. Paris: Gallimard, 1984. (on Moodle)
- Jones, Michele H. *The Beginning Translator's Workbook or the ABCs of French to English Translation*. Lanham: University Press of America, 2014.
- Lefevere, André. *Translating Literature: Practice and Theory in a Comparative Literature Context*. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 1992. (on Moodle)
- Munday, Jeremy. *Introducing Translation Studies. Theories and Applications*. New York: Routledge, 2008. (on Moodle)

VII. ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

• Homework	20%
• Group translation	10%
• Oral presentation	10%
• Mid-term	15%
• Final Translation	25%
• Participation	20%

VIII. ASSESSMENT DETAILS

- **Homework**

You will be asked to turn in answers related to questions that I will distribute to you on material relating specifically to the field of translation studies.

- **Group translation**

You will turn in 1 group translation during the semester. **Due on Tuesday, April 16** (See schedule)

- **Oral Presentation**

Each of you will present a chapter from one of the books we will read this semester. You are strongly advised to take notes as we discussed the important points of these presentations as they will form the content of the mid-term. The objective of these oral presentations is to state / point out the main ideas outlined in each chapter that contribute to understanding translation studies.

- **Mid-term**

The mid-term will cover all theoretical aspects seen in class.

- **Final Translation**

At the end of the semester, I will distribute a text in French to be translated into English. Your translation must be double-spaced, Times New Roman 12. **This translation is due on Tuesday, May 14 at 11:00 am in my mailbox on Kaletsch Campus. I will accept only paper versions of your translation. No extension will be given.**

- **Participation**

The course is divided into learning about Translation Studies on the one hand, and practicing translation from English to French and French to English on the other. In the first part of the semester, we will learn about translation theories and work on translating techniques; in the second part of the semester, we will focus on translating idiomatic expressions related to topics such as *l'emploi, les affaires, la vie à l'école, la santé* etc. This aims at building up your vocabulary, but most of all at showing how each language's idiomatic expressions are culturally defined. Exercises will be assigned and are to be prepared ahead of class in order for everyone to participate in the class (they are all indicated below in the schedule). We will as well translate some texts throughout the semester. When preparing for a translation, we will ask ourselves what type of text we are dealing with, what are the difficulties we have encountered upon first reading, what is the ideological dimension of the text we are to translate etc.

It goes without saying that attendance is part of your participation grade (See below attendance policy).

XIX. GRADING POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

A	92-100	C	68-73
A-	88-91	C-	64-67
B+	84-87	D+	60-63
B	80-83	D	58-59
B-	78-79	F	0-57
C+	74-77		

X. HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS COURSE (POLICIES / REQUIREMENTS)

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- Participation is divided in 4 components: it obviously includes your involvement in class discussion, but it also implies attendance, efforts and overall skills. For instance, you may get 25/25 because you attend all classes, but only 18/25 (=72%) on your involvement in class (this would be the case of a student who sits in class but hardly opens his/her mouth to voice his / her opinion)... Accordingly, participation does not just mean being in class. Attending all my classes does not mean you will get an A. Participation means showing interest, getting involved, expressing and substantiating your opinions regarding your translation...
 - As far as attendance is concerned, I will allow only one unexcused absence. All subsequent absence will affect your attendance grade (an A will turn to an A- with one absence, an A- to a B+ with 2 absences, a B+ to a B with 3 absences etc...) unless justified by a valid medical certificate. Should you be absent more than 6 times, I will ask you to withdraw from my course.
 - Although the translation tools are limitless on the Web, you are advised to use them with discrimination. Online dictionaries providing contextualized

examples for words you wish to translate are a huge help. I personally like www.linguee.fr (not perfect, but helpful) which gives examples in context, and www.wordreference.com which gives the translation of translation units, idiomatic expressions, etc. However, it goes without saying that you should not surrender to Google Translate which does not know the cultural context of the word, sentence or text you wish to translate. Using Google Translate is like being on a runaway train to catastrophe.

- For your group translation, do not hesitate to combine your respective knowledge of French language and culture to come up with the best possible translation.
- **I may ask you to use your phone or computer during class to translate a word or an expression but as a rule cellular phones and computers must be off.** They stand in the way of your active participation. Please do not force me to take these electronic devices away from you. I derive no pleasure from it.

XI. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: STATEMENT ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

See FUS Academic Catalog 2018-20 (paper version) or <https://www.fus.edu/files/FUS-academic-catalog.pdf> p. 199

XII. RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Do not hesitate to come and see me if you need my help.

XIII. COURSE SCHEDULE

Semaine 1

Mardi 22 janvier

- Il avait le moral dans les chaussettes ; elle lui a posé un lapin ; elle pleurait comme une madeleine à chaque fois qu'il devait partir en mission; dans ce qu'il dit, il y a à boire et à manger ; il n'y a que Maille qui m'aille.
- Présentation du syllabus
- Qu'est-ce qu'une unité de traduction ?

Vendredi 25 janvier

- André Lefevere, *Translating Literature*, Chapter 1
 - Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions
- Qu'est-ce qu'une unité de traduction ?

Semaine 2

Mardi 29 janvier

- André Lefevere, *Translating Literature*, Chapter 2 (16-49)
 - Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions
- Les mots dans leur contexte.

Vendredi 1er février

- André Lefevere, *Translating Literature*, Chapter 2 (49-84)

- Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions
- Les mots dans leur contexte.
- Traduction en classe

Semaine 3

Mardi 5 février

- André Lefevere, *Translating Literature*, Chapter 3 (86-112)
 - Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions
- La traduction littérale et ses inconvénients
- Traduction en classe

Vendredi 8 février

- André Lefevere, *Translating Literature*, Chapter 4 (114-32)
 - Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions
- La traduction littérale et ses inconvénients
- Traduction en classe

Semaine 4

Mardi 12 février

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 1.
 - Oral presentation
- Emprunts d'une langue à l'autre.

Vendredi 15 février

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 2
 - Oral presentation
- Transposition

Semaine 5

Mardi 19 février

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 3
 - Oral presentation
- Transposition

Vendredi 22 février

- February Break

Semaine 6

Mardi 26 février

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 8
 - Oral presentation
- Traduction littérale et obstacles structuraux à celle-ci
- Traduction en classe

Vendredi 1er mars

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 9

- Oral presentation
- Traduction en classe

Semaine 7

Mardi 5 mars

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 10
 - Oral presentation
- Traduction en classe

Vendredi 8 mars

- Mid-term

Semaines 8 & 9

Academic Travel: 9 mars - 23 mars

Semaine 10

Mardi 26 mars

- Correction du mid-term
- Modulation
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant* : “La vie à l’école”
 - Exercices 1 p. 27-28 et 4 p. 29

Vendredi 29 mars

- Jeremy Munday, *Introducing Translation Studies*, Chapter 11
 - Oral presentation
- Modulation
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant* : “La vie à l’école”
 - Exercices 1 pp. 35-6 et 4 p.37

Semaine 11

Mardi 2 avril

- Equivalence
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, “Manger et boire”
 - Exercices 1 p. 128 et 4 p. 129

Vendredi 5 avril

- Equivalence
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, “L’emploi”
 - Exercices 1 pp. 101-2 et 2 p. 102.

Semaine 12

Mardi 9 avril

- Regardez chez vous le film de Sofia Coppola, *Lost in translation*.
- Antoine Berman, *L’épreuve de l’étranger*, « La Traduction au manifeste”
 - Devoir à rendre : répondre aux questions. A déposer dans ma boîte aux lettres sur le campus Kaletsch.

Vendredi 12 avril

- *Lost in Translation*.
 - Devoir à rendre : Ecrire une critique de *Lost in Translation* destinée à une revue consacrée à la traduction. A déposer dans ma boîte aux lettres sur le campus Kaletsch.

Semaine 13

Mardi 16 avril

- Adaptation
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "Les affaires"
 - Exercices 1 pp. 109-10 et 4 p. 111
- Adaptation
 - **Devoir à rendre : traduction faite en groupe.**

Vendredi 19 avril

- Traduire des textes non-littéraires.
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "La conversation"
 - Exercices 1 p. 60, 2 pp. 60-1 et 4 p. 61

Semaine 14

Mardi 23 avril

- Traduire les titres.
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "Les ennuis"
 - Exercice 1 p. 93
- Traduction en classe

Vendredi 26 avril

- Les techniques de traduction appliquées au texte littéraire : "Transposition"; "Modulation".
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "Les ennuis"
 - Exercice 2 p. 94 et 4 pp. 91-5
- Traduction en classe

Semaine 15

Mardi 30 avril

- Les techniques de traduction appliquées au texte littéraire : "Equivalence".
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "La santé"
 - Exercices 1 p. 137, 2 et 3 p. 138
- Traduction en classe

Vendredi 3 mai

- Les techniques de traduction appliquées au texte littéraire : "Adaptation".
- Reine Gardailac Kelly, *Expressions idiomatiques en français vivant*, "Joies et plaisirs"
 - Exercices 1 et 2 p. 144

