



ICP
INSTITUT
CATHOLIQUE
DE PARIS

L'esprit grand ouvert sur le monde

ENGLISH WRITTEN LANGUAGE - VERSION

Bachelor in Applied Foreign Languages
Faculty of Liberal Arts

Course information

Bachelor year 2 24 HOURS

Fall Semester 5 ECTS

Tutorials (TD)

Professors: Paul Gould ABRAHAMS

Course Code: FDL_AN_L2_S3_TD_TRAD

Course description

This course examines the far-reaching significance of translation and uses insights and practices from the field of translation to help students improve their skills. Students will be introduced to some of the most common debates among translators and translation scholars about how best to translate texts. This is a rich and complex question because translation is not just a straightforward matter of exchanging words in one language for words in another. It involves cultural, social, aesthetic, political, economic, and ethical considerations. Students will be able to explore these issues through written exercises that put theory into practice. Studying these issues will help them understand why translation matters: it helps to reflect upon our cultural values and those of others; facilitates or impedes cross-cultural communication; enables the cross-pollination of ideas and literary innovations; and reinforces or subverts established power imbalances.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Improve oral and written communication between or within English and French cultures and languages.
- Have knowledge about literary, critical, historical, linguistic, and cultural approaches.
- Be able to use them in text analysis and text production.
- Be able to translate texts in the light of the knowledge acquired in terms of terminology, field knowledge, source language and target language required for translations.
- Acquire research skills and to be able to include information sources effectively in the translation process.

Course Prerequisites

The course is open to students with an adequate command of English, with knowledge of the literary, cultural, and translation traditions of the English-speaking world.

Methods of Instruction

This course is designed to train students to translate selected texts from different genres of discourse from English into French, with particular emphasis on how to select the proper word, how to use nominal and verbal structures, as well as major rhetorical devices, proper punctuation, sentence linkers, and smooth transitions between paragraphs. Lively classroom discussions resulting from comparing different translations should ensue with the aim of pointing out why each group of students prefers one translation to the other.

Assessment and Final grade

Text 1 to be translated during class: 50%

Text 2 to be translated during class: 50%

Course requirements

Students are strongly advised to have translated a text given by the teacher the previous week for the next class. Attendance is compulsory.

Time in class is the opportunity to actively engage with the material explored. Participation is crucial because it is an important avenue for learning. Students are therefore encouraged to be active in every class session. To this effect, a participation grade to credit students with the effort and work they put into the class in and out of the classroom.