

**FR3301 B – Contemporary Language Translation Winter 2023**

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**1. Course Information**

French Studies: Contemporary Language Translation FR 3301 B [550]

Instructor(s): Fabrice Szabo

Contact Information: sfabrice@uwo.ca

Office: **A18**

Office Hours: Monday 3.30 to 5.30 pm

Class Location: **W2**

Scheduled Class Times (including lab or tutorial hours): M: 2.30 to 3.30 pm, W: 3.30 to 5.30 pm

Prerequisites: French 2900E or both French 2905 and 2906 or permission of the Department of French Studies.

**2. Course Description**

Practice in translating from English to French and French to English using a broad variety of contemporary spoken and written sources. Accompanied by an examination of the problems and techniques in translating contemporary language.

Translation from English into French and French into English of a wide variety of materials that may range from commercial and technical to literary.

First and foremost, translating involves understanding. A good translator seeks to capture the complexity, style, and nuance of the original language (*langue de départ* or LD). To do this, he or she must first read, analyze, and study the text in order to capture its meaning and “spirit” in the target language (*langue d’arrivée* or LA). This is an advanced French language course that seeks to provide students with the tools, know-how, and practice to translate a variety of texts from English into French.

Assessments will consist of quizzes, assignments, a presentation, and a take-home exam where students will submit their analysis of two of their translations with comparisons to other official translations.

**3. Course Learning Outcomes**

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize both major and subtle linguistic differences between French and English.
2. Identify and avoid “false friends” when translating between French and English.
3. Identify and avoid literal translations.
4. Apply methods of translation such as *transposition*, *chassé-croisée*, *étoffement*, and *dépouillement* to translations as needed.
5. Use a number of idiomatic and proverbial French phrases.

6. Identify differences between formal and informal, technical and literary texts, and translate these differences into French accordingly.
7. Discuss the pros and cons of different translations and the theoretical approaches used.

#### 4. Textbooks and Course Materials

All materials will be provided by the instructor and available on OWL.

A good French dictionary is necessary. Students are also encouraged to check <https://www.wordreference.com/fr/>.

Also, <https://www.antidote.info/fr/> is an app/software that you'll be able to use in this class as well as other French classes at Huron. It's a recommended but not mandatory purchase for this class.

#### 5. Methods of Evaluation

<b>Attendance and Active Participation in classe</b>	5%
<b>Completion/discussion of Translation Exercises</b>	15%
<b>Translation Interests Presentation</b>	10%
<b>Translation and Analysis Assignments (3x10%)</b> Devoir 1: January 30 Devoir 2: February 27 Devoir 3: March 15	30%
<b>Quizzes (4) : (4x5%)</b>	20%
<b>Final Take home project/exam</b>	20%

**Attendance and Active Participation:** Active participation and attendance is required for this course.

**Completion/discussion of Translation Exercises:** throughout the semester, there will be numerous practice translations. We will discuss these translation passages as a group.

**Translation Interests Presentation:** Each student will prepare a 20 minute presentation on a new text to translate. These texts should be something of interest to the student – perhaps codes and bylaws for a student in law, business texts for students interested in business, poetry for a student interested in literature. The choice is yours. The goal here is to pick a 400 word excerpt from this text, to translate it, and then to outline the various difficulties, approach used to translate the text, and reasons for choosing the text. Grades will be based both on the quality of the translation and the presentation.

**Quizzes** There will be four approximately 20 minute in-class quizzes. These quizzes will cover material studied in class. Quizzes will consist mostly of multiple-choice questions and will not be comprehensive. QUIZ 1 will only cover Unit 1 and 2, QUIZ 2 will only cover Unit 3 and 4 etc. These are short quizzes, not tests, but please prepare well as this will ensure proper progress.

**Translation and Analysis Assignments:** These assignments will consist of a passage specifically chosen to include a number of translation challenges explored during the previous classes. Your task: translate the passage and analyze your translation in a 300–500-word analysis. In this analysis, you should explore any challenges you faced while translating, word choices you found difficult, areas of hesitation, and commentary on different options. Please

check over your translations carefully, checking for spelling, agreements, conjugation etc. Also, these assignments must be double spaced and in 12pt font.

**Final take-home exam.** For the *final take-home exam*, each student will prepare a roughly 8 to 12 min video presentation on two of their translation passages of their choice (from “devoirs 1, 2, 3, or 4”) and the corresponding translations provided by the professor. What challenges did each of your two chosen translations present? How did your choices differ from the proposed translation of the professor? What choices do you prefer and why? Please synthesize and analyze the different translations judging the various translation choices. Presentations will be in French using zoom or other video software of your choice. **The Due date for the take home exam is to be determined according to the official exam schedule.**

## 6. Tentative Class Schedule/ Syllabus

SEMAINE (WINTER TERM 2023)	MONDAY (1H)	WEDNESDAY (2H)
SEMAINE 1	9 janvier : Présentation de la classe. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion sur le lien « Mauvaises traductions » et « les 10 traductions comiques de l’anglais vers le français »</li> </ul>	11 janvier: Unit 1 « Quelques concepts de bases ». <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activités (les faux-amis).</li> <li>▪ Dire presque la même chose!</li> </ul>
SEMAINE 2	16 janvier : Correction des activités et des exercices de traduction	18 janvier : Unit 2: « Évaluer le texte » <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (les registres de langues)</li> <li>▪ Activité (quand le type de texte affecte les temps verbaux)</li> </ul>
SEMAINE 3	23 janvier: Correction et discussion sur l’exercice de traduction.	25 janvier : Synthèse des Unit 1 et 2. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Quiz 1</b></li> <li>▪ Atelier de travail : commencement du travail sur le premier devoir de traduction et d’analyse</li> </ul>
SEMAINE 4	30 janvier : <b>Devoir n.1</b> Unit 3 : « Le détail du texte »	1 <sup>er</sup> février : Unit 3 « Le détail du texte » <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (des temps verbaux qui posent problème pour la traduction)</li> </ul>

<b>SEMAINE 5</b>	6 février : discussion sur les exercices de traduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (la voix active et la voix passive)</li> </ul> 8 février : Unit 4 « Des formules typiquement francophones et anglophones » <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (le défi des mots qui se terminent par « ing »)</li> <li>▪ Activité (Le « faire causatif »)</li> </ul>
<b>SEMAINE 6</b>	13 février : discussion sur les exercices de traduction.	15 février : Synthèse des Unit 3 et 4. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Quiz 2</b></li> </ul>
<b>SEMAINE 7</b>	20 février : Family Day, Spring Reading Week.	22 février: Spring Reading Week.
<b>SEMAINE 8</b>	27 février : <b>Devoir n.2</b> Unit 5 : « Éviter la traduction littérale » <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (« unité de traduction et expressions idiomatiques)</li> </ul>	1 <sup>er</sup> mars : présentations et wild card.
<b>SEMAINE 9</b>	6 mars : Unit 6 : « Des techniques de traduction ». <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (« La transposition et le chassé-croisé)</li> </ul>	8 mars : Unit 6 (continuation) « Quand le même nombre de mots ne suffit pas » . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (« l'étoffement et dépouillement)</li> </ul>
<b>SEMAINE 10</b>	13 mars : discussions sur les exercices de traduction	15 mars : Synthèse des Unit 5 et 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Quiz 3</b></li> <li>▪ <b>DEVOIR n.3</b></li> </ul>
<b>SEMAINE 11</b>	20 mars : Unit 7 : « Perfectionner vos traductions » <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (« module 10, l'usage des articles et le défi des prépositions)</li> </ul>	22 mars novembre : Livre 7 (continuation). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité («module 11, La syntaxe).</li> </ul>
<b>SEMAINE 12</b>	27 mars : Unit 8 : « Les touches finales ». <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activité (« Les majuscules et le rythme de la phrase)</li> </ul>	29 mars: Présentation des exercices de traductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Quiz 4</b></li> </ul>

**SEMAINE 13**

3 avril : Atelier de travail pour le  
« take home exam »

**Travail à la maison/Take Home  
Exam. Winter Term (20%).**

5 avril : Questions avant le  
take home exam. (**deadline  
To be confirmed  
according to the official  
exam schedule**)



## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022-2023**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy,

specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar) . The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

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

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

- (a) **Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the **Student Medical Certificate**. The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed **Consideration Request Form**. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar/academic_consideration_medical.pdf). Consult **Huron Academic Advising** at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

**Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at



[huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/> Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>  
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1> Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>  
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>  
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services:

[huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca) Community

Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -  
[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)