

FOT 4801-28693 (Fall 2024)  
Theory and Practice of Foreign Translation



Instructor: Brigitte Weltman-Aron  
Office: 355 Pugh Hall. Phone: 392-9766  
[bweltman@ufl.edu](mailto:bweltman@ufl.edu)

Class: **T 5-6** (11:45am-12:35pm; 12:50-1:40pm) in WEIM 1098; **R 6** in MCCA 3194  
Office hours [see Home page; Canvas]: **R 7-8** (1:55-3:50pm) + by appointment

Required texts

The texts we will study are available on line, or excerpts will be provided by the instructor [see Canvas for instructions].

FINAL GRADE is determined by:

Midterm project: 30%  
Final project: 40%  
Summary of Critical Essay: 10%  
Homework 1 and 2: 10% [5% each]  
Participation, Attendance: 10%

(D<sub>-</sub> = 60-63; D = 64-66; D<sub>+</sub> = 67-70  
C<sub>-</sub> = 70-73; C = 74-76; C<sub>+</sub> = 77-79  
B<sub>-</sub> = 80-82; B = 83-86; B<sub>+</sub> = 87-89  
A<sub>-</sub> = 90-92; A = 93-100)

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:** The course provides a historical and theoretical basis in translation studies, exposure to translation techniques, and practical experience of translation. Discussion is based on close readings of original and translated texts. At the end of the course,

- Students will demonstrate competence in theories and methodologies of translation.
- They will develop strategies of translation into the target language.
- They will produce translations in their area of expertise.
- They will evaluate and comment on translation quality.

**POLICIES:**

**1. Please consult your UF email regularly as well as Canvas** for announcements about the class and class assignments.

**2. The class will meet** (T 5-6; R 6) in the classroom indicated. Please plan to attend all meetings. Two absences are allowed without excuse. Other allowed absences are listed under # 3.

You may record class lectures for specific approved purposes, such as personal educational use. You may not record student presentations. Please note that publishing the recorded material without permission of the instructor is prohibited: “publishing” means sharing, posting, etc. part or the entirety of the recorded material. Ask the class instructor if you are not sure what is authorized.

**3. ALL ASSIGNMENTS** are due on the day indicated in the right column of the syllabus and the time indicated in Canvas, unless you have a medical excuse or participate in jury duty or a university-sponsored activity (please provide me with official documentation). Other allowed absences include observing religious holidays (please let me know in advance if the holiday coincides with a due assignment).

All assignments must be completed **on your own**, and follow the assignment instructions.

The syllabus provides an overview, with more details found in Canvas or provided by the instructor.

**ALL READINGS** must be prepared before the date indicated on the syllabus.

Bring the reading material to be covered in each class meeting so as to facilitate classroom activities.

**READING GUIDES** for every week with more details about readings and assignments: **Homework, Summary of Critical essay**, the **Midterm** and the **Final project**, will be available ahead of time in Canvas (FILES).

**HOMEWORK:** On **September 24 and October 29**, you will submit homework based and the reading guide for the day before the class starts (see Canvas for more instructions).

**SUMMARY:** The critical essay you will summarize (your summary is due on **October 1**) is a commentary of the essay we will discuss in class on September 26 (see Canvas for more instructions).

**MIDTERM PROJECT:** The Midterm is a home assignment due on **October 24** in which you will respond to questions about issues or key concepts in translation studied so far in the semester (see Canvas for more instructions).

**FINAL PROJECT** (see Canvas for more instructions): The Final project due on the last day of classes includes:

- a 4-page translation into English done by yourself of a literary text or of a theoretical text in translation studies (or an excerpt, depending on its length) that you will identify during Week 2 at latest, in consultation with me. Since I may not be familiar with the language you will be translating from, the second component of the project is essential:
- a 350-word introduction / translator's notes to your translation that discusses text translational challenges and your strategies, reflecting your expertise in translation studies stakes and terminology. [Translation and introduction: 30% of the final grade]
- You will present your translation project in progress in class on **November 14** (5% of the final grade).
- In addition, you will submit your notes taken throughout the semester in preparation for the texts we discussed (indicated in the syllabus as "Notes on your reading"; 5% of the final grade).

**PARTICIPATION**: You are expected to contribute regularly and willingly to class discussions. Some Practice activities (generally on Tuesdays) will complement the readings; activities include the discussion of practical translation issues, or of your translation project in progress.

Accommodations: Students who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center [<https://disability.ufl.edu/>]. Please share your accommodation letter with the instructor and discuss your access needs as early as possible in the semester.

#### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- U Matter, We Care: [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) – <https://umatter.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>; 392-1575
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608: <https://ufhealth.org/locations/uf-health-shands-emergency-room-trauma-center/>
- *GatorWell Health Promotion Services*: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, call 352-273-4450, or visit <https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu>

#### ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- E-learning technical support: 352-392-4357; <https://it.ufl.edu/helpdesk/>; [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union 1300; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> ; 352-392-1601
- Library Support: 866-281-6309 or [ask@ufl.libanswers.com](mailto:ask@ufl.libanswers.com)
- Teaching Center: 1317 Turlington Hall, 352-392-2010

Students must respect THE UNIVERSITY HONOR CODE:

HONOR PLEDGE: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by Students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

See also <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>

#### **4. Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## Syllabus

August Thursday 22 WEEK 1	<b>Introduction to the course</b>	
Tuesday 27 WEEK 2	Why translate? What is translation?	
R 29	<u>Linguistics</u> On signs; On authorship	Identify a literary text you will translate [due on Friday, August 30]
September T 3 WEEK 3	Jakobson, "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation"	<a href="#">Prepare Notes on your reading 1</a>
R 5	<u>Translating the Classics: Challenges, Strategies</u> Dryden, "On Translation"	
T 10 WEEK 4	Eco, "Losses and Gains"	<a href="#">Prepare Notes on your reading 2</a>
R 12	<u>Exposure to the Foreign</u> Schleiermacher, "On the Different Methods of Translating"	
T 17 WEEK 5	Berman, "Translation and the Trials of the Foreign"	<a href="#">Prepare Notes on your reading 3</a>
R 19	<u>Translation in Literature</u> Translation as Metaphor	
T 24 WEEK 6	Borges	<a href="#">Homework 1 due</a>
R 26	Benjamin, "The Task of the Translator"	
October T 1 WEEK 7	Jacobs, "The Monstrosity of Translation"	<a href="#">Summary of critical essay due</a>
R 3	Nabokov, "Problems of Translation"	
T 8 WEEK 8	<u>Cultures in Translation</u> Tymoczko	
R 10	Derrida, "Letter to a Japanese Friend"	

T 15 WEEK 9	Simon, "Montreal's Third Space" Review for the Midterm	
R 17	Aboulela, "Moving Away from Accuracy"	<u>Prepare Notes on your reading 4</u>
T 22 WEEK 10	Fussell, "Translating Maize into Corn"	
R 24	<b>Midterm Project</b>	<u>Midterm project due</u>
T 29 WEEK 11	Arcara, Gender and Translation	<u>Homework 2 due</u>
R 31	<u>Film and Audiovisual Translation</u> O'Connell, "Screen Translation"	
Novembre T 5 WEEK 12	Dubbing, Subtitling	<u>Prepare Notes on your reading 5</u>
R 7	Chinese Film Translation	
T 12 WEEK 13	<u>Experiments in Translation</u> Mistranslations (Willis, Brossard)	
R 14	IN CLASS : Your translation project	<u>Individual presentations</u>
T 19 WEEK 14	<u>Translation Machines</u> Technology and Translation	
R 21	The Future of Translation	
T 26 WEEK 15	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO CLASS</b>	
R 28	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO CLASS</b>	
December T 3 WEEK 16	<b>Conclusion</b>	<u>Final project due today or on December 6</u>