

11/11/2005

**School of Arts and Letters**  
**FOT2800 - Introduction to Translation**

Course Description:

This initial translation course offers students an overview of translation theory while providing practice with a variety of non-technical texts. Emphasis is given to rendering translations from English into a foreign language and vice versa as well as on developing the student's bilingual potential through the acquisition of vocabulary and grammar by comparing the lexicon and syntax of both English and the foreign language.

3 credits

Prerequisite: Enrolled students should have a good command of reading and writing skills in English and the foreign language as demonstrated by passing the reading and writing components of the CPT and the foreign language fluency test.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of translation theory by:

- a. selecting an appropriate translation approach based on the type of source text, destination of the translation, etc.
- b. applying the general principles of translation to solve meaning, structure, and/or culture-related problems
- c. explaining in detail the four steps of the translation process:
  - text analysis
  - documentation
  - actual translation
  - revision
- d. discussing key translation concepts such as dominant language vs. native language, source text, target text, equivalency, source text comprehension (meaning), target text expression (form), cohesion and coherence, accountability in translation, undertranslation, overtranslation, mistranslation, addition, omission, third language, etc.

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate familiarization with key linguistic concepts by explaining terms such as true and false cognates, collocations, connotation, denotation, Anglicisms, neologisms, colloquialisms, euphemisms, polysemy, contextual and lexical meaning, kernel sentences, acronyms, bilingualism, biculturalism, etc.

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate ability to analyze translations by employing fidelity and fluency as criteria or basis for such analysis

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate vocabulary growth by:

- a. providing, without resorting to dictionaries, English-language equivalents or foreign language equivalents of clichés, idioms or other peculiar words such as

11/11/2005

metaphors, or other figures of speech

- b. performing a translation of a source text containing non-technical words with little use of the bilingual dictionary
- c. compiling a bilingual glossary of less frequent non-technical words

Competency 5: The student will display knowledge of the main structural differences between English and the foreign language by:

- a. transforming passive voice structures in English to language-equivalent structures in the foreign language
- b. furnishing appropriate verb tenses in the foreign language when dealing with the present continuous tense in English
- c. listing differences in punctuation and style between English and the foreign language