Course Description:
This course introduces students to the field of literary translation. Students develop translation strategies in workshops focusing on literary genres including essays, prose, poetry, drama, testimonials and children’s literature and comics. Students also study major theoretical premises which have influenced literary translation. Practical matters such as copyright and publication processes are tackled throughout the course.

Course Objectives:
- Learn strategies for translating essays, prose, poetry, drama, testimonials and children’s literature and comics.
- Become acquainted with contemporary translation theory as it relates to literary translation.
- Understand process of obtaining copyright and translation rights.
- Draft a publication project prospectus.
- Learn the process of publication and promotion.
- Understand how to analyze the translation of a literary work.
- Translate a literary work worthy of publication.

Course Prerequisites:
- Graduate standing and superb reading comprehension of German, French or Spanish, and interest in literary translation and creative writing. Excellent writing skills in English.

Course Requirements:
- Submission of 7 (seven) translations of 250 – 300 word texts as homework and inclusion of these texts, edited & proofread, in the portfolio to be submitted at the end of the course.
- Participation in class discussion.
- Submission of one individual project (3,700 words or approximately 15 pages) at the end of the course.

Required Reading:
All required reading is available through the course D2L site.

Articles


Chapters or essays from:


Recommended Readings: Additional readings may also be suggested or provided in select sessions.
Suggested web sites:

PEN: www.pen.org.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is a serious offense. While collaboration is encouraged, we note that no two translations or critical papers can be identical. We follow the standard College of Letters and Science and UWM policies on Academic Dishonesty and on Student Appeals. Copies of both policies can be found on the bulletin board to the right in the Department of French, Italian & Comparative Literature office at Curtin 772. For additional UWM academic policies please see http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf.

Evaluation Plan:
The final grade will be calculated as follows:

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The grading scale is:

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*A grade of B or higher is passing.*

In general, grades are earned as follows:

A = No mistakes; work is acceptable for publication.
B = Minor errors (minimal spelling error, punctuation, case); needs polishing but good.
C = Major errors (omission or addition of text, repeated spelling error, mistranslation); not publishable material.
D = Repeated major errors; work must be re-done.
Course Outline:¹

Jan 28:    Introduction/Ideology & Literary Translation
Feb. 4:    Translating Essays
Feb. 11:   Culture in Translation/Develop Your Own Strategy/Translating the Short Story
Feb. 18:   Copyright/Translating the Novel
Feb. 25:   Translating the Novel
March 4:   Editing in Publishing/Translating Poetry
March 11:  Translating Poetry
March 18:  Building a Prospectus
March 25:  Spring break
April 1:   Publishing Contracts/Translating Testimonial
April 8:   Translating Drama
April 15:  Translating Drama
April 22:  Awards.
April 29:  Translating Children’s Literature & Comics
May 6:    Marketing your Translation.
May 12:   Analyzing Translations/Wrap up.

¹ Please note that the syllabus is subject to change to accommodate the rhythm, pace and response of the class.