

French: Specialized Translation I (A703620)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0

Study time 90 h

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Mus, Francis

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

French, Dutch

Keywords

Translation of literary non-fiction, testimony, essays, target text production, professional translation, PETRA-E, a European network of institutions dedicated to the education and training of literary translators.

Position of the course

French specialised translation practice 1, deals with the translation of francophone literary non-fiction, essays and testimony and is related to competences acquired in BA2 and BA3. The course unit is also related to "Translation Studies" to "Theory of Literary Translation", to the U-Ghent research groups TRACE, CLIV and CMSI.

Contents

The translation of literary non-fiction, testimony and essay requires specific competences which are described in the PETRA-E framework of Reference for the Education and Training of Literary Translators: Transfer Competence, Language Competence, Textual Competence, Heuristic Competence, Literary-Cultural Competence, Professional Competence, Evaluative Competence, Research Competence.

During the course we will achieve the level LT1 "Beginner" and will also achieve a few competences from level 2 "Advanced Learner". <https://petra-educationframework.eu/>

For the translation of literary non-fiction, testimony and essays, a selection is made each year out of the works of for instance Charlotte Delbo, Elie Wiesel, Albert Camus, Kamel Daoud, Sarah Kofman, Hélène Berr, Philippe Lançon or Robert Antelme. Every year, if possible, a guest lecture will be given by a professional literary translator working in this text genre.

Initial competences

Students are capable of the following:

- analysing and, under supervision, translating and revising French texts of more than average difficulty which approximate the real translation practice;
- producing Dutch texts of more than average difficulty, as these appear in the real translation practice, both on the basis of instructions and on the basis of existing primary text material;
- adequately and critically using relevant heuristic tools that are relevant to both competencies.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of French at C2 level or at least C1 level for comprehension of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages .
- 2 Translating specialised francophone literary texts (essay and testimony) into Dutch.
- 3 can justify individual choices and decisions; can see the implications of translation strategies.
- 4 Can recognize (features of) literary language; can apply literary styles.

- 5 can produce a target text in a certain style; can revise his or her text.
- 6 can recognize culture specific elements in a way relevant for translation; is able to explicit elements for a specific target audience.
- 7 has a broad knowledge of the publishing landscape in relation to literary translation in Flanders and The Netherlands.
- 8 can estimate the quality of translations by others; can interpret differences between translations of the same text.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The students prepare a translation at home. All students hand in questions about the text and 3 students hand in their translation. They will receive personal feedback on their work. The lecturer prepares a powerpoint presentation with all the translations (existing published translations will be added) and will compare them during class. In this way the student can concentrate on the Evaluative Competence from the PETRA-E framework. We will consider strategies, identify problems and to anticipate the exam we look at errors that can occur : source language interference, problems related to polysemic words in French, interpretation and hermeneutics, omissions, vocabulary and register, cultural references, style in Dutch, etc. We will consider the skopos of the text and look at other existing translations in Dutch or English and compare them. During the course we will pay special attention to the Transfer Competence, the Language Competence, the Textual Competence, and the Evaluative Competence.

Study material

None

References

-Filter, tijdschrift over vertalen: <http://www.tijdschrift-filter.nl>
 PETRA-E: <https://petra-education.eu/>

Course content-related study coaching

Individual Guidance after classes or after appointment (via email) with the lecturer.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

The paper consists of a translation of a francophone text into Dutch. The student will choose a domain from the different texts translated during the seminar. The translation must meet expectations from the working field of cultural translation. The paper will be handed in with a report written in Dutch about the translation process and a justification of the translation choices. More details on the writing of the paper will be given during the course. The evaluation will be made in taking into account the report on the translation process and justification and the translation quality. The lecturer will pay attention to the PETRA-E competences as described above.

Calculation of the examination mark

To obtain a credit the student has to obtain sufficient (on 20).

(Approved)

Facilities for Working Students

Please contact the teacher.

Addendum

F4GV