**TRANSLATION OF ECONOMIC TEXTS FRENCH INTO ENGLISH**

**TIFR 8521A**

**SYLLABUS**

**Spring 2016**

**Thurs 10-12 Morse A200** (written with Prof. Johnson)

**Thurs 2-4 IIRC classroom** (sight with Prof. Harvin)

**Prerequisites** Introduction to Translation (TIFR-8511) or equivalent

**Professor** **Julie E. Johnson**

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**Professor Joe Harvin**

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**Registration Requirements**

* **2-language students (all degree tracks)** are **required to take *both* sections** of this course for a total of 4 units.
* **3-language French-A and French-B students (all degree tracks)** are **required to take the written translation section** of this course and may also take the sight section (total of 2 or 4 units)
* **3-language MAT with a French-C** are **required to take the written translation section** of this course and may also take the sight section (total of 2 or 4 units)
* **3-language MACI students** **with a** **French-C** may choose to register for either written or sight translation (2 units)

**2nd-year entry requirements**

A passing grade in this course is required to enroll in 2nd-year courses (all T&I degree tracks). Any student who does not pass may challenge into 2nd year by taking the Written Translation Second Year Entry exam in August.

**Course description and objectives**

This course builds on written and sight translation skills developed in the Introduction to Translation the previous semester. It is designed to ensure a firm foundation enabling consistently accurate and clear written and oral sight translations of moderately difficult texts.

The materials used will introduce a range of concepts, terminology and document types related to macroeconomics, microeconomics, international trade, financial statements, mergers and acquisitions, securities markets, and venture capital. These materials will also be selected to address particular translation problems and reinforce problem-solving strategies.

**Goal** Develop the level of written and sight translation competency necessary for second-year coursework and basic professional work.

**Concrete measures of competency:**

* Be able to accurately and effectively translate a typical 300-word text on an economic topic in one hour.
* Be able to accurately and effectively sight translate a general-audience 200-word text on an economic topic in front of a jury of professors, after a couple minutes of preparation.

**Learner objectives**

For written translation:

1. Examine and improve your own translation process.
2. Reliably edit and proof your work and that of others.
3. Apply timed-translation and test-taking techniques through practice and process analysis.
4. Become comfortable and competent at translating basic economic texts.
5. Complete a portfolio of professional-quality translations.

For sight translation:

1. Examine and improve your own sight translation techniques.
2. Become comfortable and competent at sight translating economic texts.

For both written and sight:

1. Gain familiarity with economic issues, institutions, concepts, terminology, and text types.

**WRITTEN TRANSLATION**

* [**Moodle Site - TIFR 8521A: Int. Written Translation French to English**](http://ilearn.miis.edu/course/view.php?id=800)

Here you will find the course documents (e.g. syllabus, presentation guidelines), readings, assignments, source texts, ancillary materials, announcements, discussion forums, etc. Additionally, all translation assignments and exams are to be uploaded electronically via the corresponding Submit buttons.

**Format** The written translation section will be devoted to producing, discussing and revising written translations. There will also be several term quizzes, one or two timed midterms and one final.

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| **Assignment** | **Due** |
| **Translation**  (Formatting requirements unless otherwise specified:  12-point, **double spaced**, 1-inch margins, page numbered in footer, header and file name per protocol posted on iLearn)  Note: Assignments received late will be marked down. | * Posted to iLearn “Submit” button by **Monday night** |
| **Revision(s)**  You are required to revise all of your translations (based on feedback and class discussions). This semester, you will pair with one other student for peer review and post your translation to the corresponding iLearn forum *at the same time* as you submit it for professor feedback. After class, you will draw on the professor’s feedback, your classmate’s review, and our in-class discussion to produce a polished version of your translation and post it to the forum.  Thus, each week, you will be working on your new translation assignment and reviewing a fellow student’s new translation (*before class*), as well as revising the prior week’s translation.  Naturally, the system is set up so that you cannot access other students’ translations and begin your peer revision until you have submitted your own translation of the week’s assignment. | * *Peer review* posted to iLearn forum **before class (by Wednesday)** * *Final polished translation* posted by the following **Monday** |
| **Terminology**  It is essential that you know the definition and standard equivalent of every term underlined in assigned texts and that you capture key terminology and useful phrases *as you work* and *as we discuss translations in class*. Why?   * For quick reference during exams and future translations * For future integration with CAT tools * For use in preparing for term quizzes * For use in preparing for related interpreting   It is recommended that you maintain one combined econ term base in Word, Excel, or a terminology tool for all of your economics-related work—translation, sight translation, interpreting. (See recommended template on iLearn.) | * Periodic termbase show-and-tell / term quizzes |

**Presentation**  At the end of the semester, students will give a 15-minute **Semester in Review** oral presentation on the key lessons they learned during the course, drawing on their polished revisions to give example from their work, glossaries, current editing checklist, etc. Your grade on this assignment will count toward the homework portion of your course grade.

**SIGHT TRANSLATION**

[Moodle Site - TIFR 8521A: Int. Sight Translation French to English](http://ilearn.miis.edu/course/view.php?id=797)

**Format** The sight translation section will be devoted to practicing and performing sight translation. Students will also give economics topic presentations. There will be two midterms and one final exam.

A digital voice recorder (DVR) is recommended for recording your sight translations in class and during practice sessions. This will enable you to go back and objectively review your performance, identify what is causing you difficulty, and observe your progress.

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| **Assignment** | **Due** |
| **Sight Translation**   * Practice new material according to exercises modeled in class   + In sight or combined sight/consec practice group   + On your own | * Be ready by next sight class session to perform possible rehearsed sight translation of material practiced |
| **Terminology**  Include terminology from sight translation texts in your combined econ term base; these terms will appear on term quizzes. | * ~~Periodic show-and-tell / term quizzes~~ |

**Presentation**  Students will sign up in pairs to give a **special topics** “backgrounder” presentation related to the focus of a particular module (e.g. macroeconomics, international trade, microeconomics, securities, venture capital, or mergers and acquisitions).

**ASSESSMENT**

**Written Translation**

20% Assignments, term quizzes, and presentation

10% Written midterms

70% Written final exam

Grades on **weekly translations** are a gauge of:

* + - the effectiveness of the process, reasoning and techniques you have employed
    - how a translation measures up to expected standards of quality on the market:

A Publication ready. Highly faithful and effective translation that reads as though originally authored in English. Exemplifies effective translation process, reasoning and techniques. Virtually no typos, punctuation irregularities or inconsistency in formatting.

A-/B+ Very good, meaning is mostly intact, but would require a final polishing to eradicate all telltale signs that this is a translation and/or to correct typos, punctuation irregularities or inconsistency in formatting. Exemplifies effective translation process, reasoning and techniques.

B Acceptable, but would require some relatively significant editing to capture the full meaning and tone of the original as effectively as if originally written in English, and to correct all typos, punctuation irregularities or inconsistency in formatting. Shows some gaps in effective translation process, reasoning or techniques.

B- or

lower Unacceptable. Editing it to capture the full meaning and tone of the original as effectively as if originally written in English, and correcting all typos, punctuation irregularities or inconsistency in formatting, would be more work for a skilled translator than starting fresh from scratch.

Grades on **exams** are a gauge of how that particular translation measures up to the expected standard of quality at this point in your course of study under timed conditions.

* There is no expectation of publication quality, but the source meaning should come through fully and accurately, and the writing should be clear and grammatically correct—with some leeway for non-natives of English. Here are some of the shorthand marks you will find in feedback:

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| --- | --- |
| M | Major meaning error |
| m | Minor meaning error or shift |
| n | Nuance |
| st | Style |
| T | Terminology |
| wc | Word choice |
| G | Major grammar error |
| g | Minor grammar error |
| om | Omission (meaning in source text is left out) |
| add | Addition (you’ve added meaning not in the source text |
| G🡪M | Grammar error leading to a meaning error |

**Sight** 20% Presentation and in-class performance

30% Sight midterms

50% Sight final exam

A All of the material information and intended points in the text are accurately, logically, and clearly conveyed. Grammatically correct, smooth, idiomatic, and communicative oral delivery.

A-/B+ The material information and intended points in the text are, for the most part, accurately, logically, and clearly conveyed. Grammatical errors, if any, are few or minor. Oral delivery is sufficiently smooth, idiomatic and communicative for the content to be readily understood.

B Some material information and intended points are omitted, twisted, or obscured, but the overall sense of the text is nonetheless conveyed, AND/OR the content is fairly intact, but takes some effort for listeners to understand and follow due, for example, to poor grammar, erratic pacing, strong accent, non-idiomatic language, backtracking, and/or non-communicative delivery.

B- and

lower Enough of the material information and intended points are omitted, twisted, or obscured that the overall sense of the text does not come through, AND/OR listeners cannot understand and follow the content due, for example, to poor grammar, erratic pacing, strong accent, non-idiomatic language, backtracking, and/or non-communicative delivery.

**Course Grade**

* The course grade for those students taking **only written or sight translation (2 units)** will be the same as their overall grade for that section.
* The course grade for those students taking **both sections (4 units)** will be calculated as follows:

Overall grade for written translation: 90%

Overall grade for sight translation: 10%

**Notes:**

1) All T&I professors are practicing professionals. They may occasionally reschedule classes when on assignment. Students will be given notice of the professor’s absence and alternative arrangements for the pertinent class session will be made.

2) Plagiarism: While you are encouraged to use professional resources, you are expected to produce your translations and other work yourself. Using text produced by a machine translation tool, lifted from an existing translation, or copied from another person’s work will be considered plagiarism. If you should discover an existing translation of an assigned text, immediately inform your professors and follow their instructions. Please read the Monterey Institute’s copyright and plagiarism policy at this link: <http://www.miis.edu/admissions/financialaid/disclosures/file-copyright/copyright_policy>

**3)** Students with documented disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in class are encouraged to contact Assistant Dean of Student Services, Ashley Arrocha, as early in the semester as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely manner. Assistance is available to eligible students through the Office of Student Services. Please contact [aarrocha@miis.edu](mailto:aarrocha@miis.edu) or 831-647-4654 for more information. All discussions will remain confidential.