

Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies
Faculty of Arts, UBC

German 325 / 531B Translation

ANERKENNTNIS

Die UBC Vancouver befindet sich auf dem traditionellen angestammten und nicht abgetretenen Territorium des xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) Volkes. Das Land, auf dem der Campus liegt, war immer und ist bis heute ein Ort des Lernens für die Musqueam, die hier über Jahrtausende ihre Kultur, Geschichte und Traditionen von einer Generation zur nächsten weitergegeben haben.

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office	Office Hours
Dr. David Gramling	David.gramling@ubc.ca 604.802.7409	Buchanan Tower 917B	Mondays 2–4pm or by appointment

Course Structure and Learning Activities

This is a workshop in translation practice and theory. We will create, critique, enjoy, and theorize translations, ask insatiable questions of them, and develop our own ambitious answers to those questions. The practical goal of this workshop is to publish a co-translated piece in the *Journal for Cinema and Media Studies*, *UBC Augenblick*, *Oxonian Review*, or other venue of our choosing. We will also aim to present at the UBC German Research Showcase in early March. We will be translating collaboratively, thinking together about what translation means for broader cultural and political matters, and engaging with some of the most pressing questions around language and culture as they express themselves through the craft of translating. Every session will include a practical and a theoretical component. People will be of different proficiency levels in German, English, and other languages. No one is expected to have prior experience in translation. Assessment / marking is designed to encourage you toward confidence, success, and enjoyment. If for some reason you can't make it to campus but are not sick, partial attendance credit will accrue for signing into zoom for the session. But please do come in person! You do not need to buy anything for this course. Everything will be on Canvas. All of your assignments will be uploaded to Canvas and assessed there. Graduate students (and anyone else who likes!) will have the opportunity to teach and mentor.

Meeting Times and Place

Tuesday, Thursday 11–12:20., Buchanan D301

Activities and Assessments of Learning

Students in this course will create their own individual work contract that suits their needs and desires, choosing whether to focus primarily on translation practice, translation critique, translation theory, translation project management, translation teaching, advanced language learning, etc.

The first six **bolded** components below are marked weekly on Canvas. As far as work output, each week requires 200 of reflection journal and language learning diary a week (#1, #5), 2 book pages of original, collaborative translation a week (#3), and 200 words of translation critique per week (#3). **Graduate students** are invited to produce at 2000 word entry in which they uncover a translation-centred dimension of a project they have already completed. Reading presentations are based on assigned readings of your choosing, are to last 10 minutes total, and intend to teach the class something useful and challenging. All assignments can be pursued collaboratively with classmates. The final assessment is a 1000–word reflection on your strengths and growth over the course of the term, and how they relate to the UBC [German Program Outcomes](#). It is due on the last day of exams.

Commitment	Minimum Percentage of Grade
1. Reflection journal	5%, 200 words a week
2. Presence and participation	10%, 2 classes a week
3. Original translations	5%, 1–2 pages a week
4. Translation critiques	5% 200 words a week
5. Language learning diary	5%, 200 words a week
6. (Graduate) research project	5%
7. Translation project management	5%
8. Teaching	5% (per lesson)
9. Final self-assessment	5% (annotated portfolio, 2000 words)
10. Co-authorship on translation submission	Extra credit

You begin the course with a zero and accrue points in each category each week, according to your individual work contract. Marks are threshold based; if you meet the expected threshold, you get full credit.

Week One (Jan 9–16, Utkaz)

Learning Outcome: Students will get to know each others' backgrounds and experiences as languagers, translanguagers, language learners, interpreters, and translators.

Core Texts

- Übersetzung wird interessant, wenn sie außer Kontrolle gerät
- The Sound Valley

Interesting Readings over the Coming Weekend

- Amanda Gorman's Poetry United Critics. It's Dividing Translators
- What's your favorite Untranslatable?
- What is a Translation Theory?
- Say Translation Is Art

Interesting Graduate Readings over the Coming Weekend

- Unsettling the University

- The Unbearable Whiteness of Communicative Competence Research

Week Two (Jan 16–23, Utkaz)

Learning Outcome: Students will identify some initial principles for their practical work translating.

Core Texts

- Road-Songs and Night Songs and Morning Songs
- Adas Raum
- Ada's Realm

Interesting Readings over the Coming Weekend

- The Privilege of the Non-Native Speaker
- Hard and Soft Multilingualism

Interesting Graduate Readings over the Coming Weekend

- Clarifying Translanguaging and Deconstructing Named Languages
- Multilingual Philology

Week Three (Jan 23–30, Utkaz)

Learning Outcome: Students will identify their own emerging principles as translation practitioners, in dialogue with other students.

Core Texts

- Road-Songs and Night Songs and Morning Songs
- Adas Raum
- Ada's Realm

Undergraduate Readings

- Falling In Love Again and Again
- Anglicisms in Italian Environmental Friendly Marketing
Decolonial Multilingualism in the Caribbean

Graduate Readings

- Multilingual Philology
- Is there a Right to Untranslatability?

Week Four (Jan 30-Feb 6, Utkaz)

Learning Outcomes: Students will experience editing their translations, commensurating them with a partner or translation agency.

Undergraduate Readings

- Intralingual translation as modernization of the language: the Turkish case
- Some Risks and Rewards of Europe's Multilingual Legal Order

Graduate Readings

- Clarifying Translanguaging and Deconstructing Named Languages
- Perspectival Anthropology and the Method of Controlled Equivocation

Week Five (Feb 6–10, Possil)

Undergraduate Readings

- [Genre Queer, Notes Against Binaries](#)
- [Intralingual translation as modernization of the language: the Turkish case](#)

Graduate Readings

- [From "thought and language" to "thinking for speaking"](#)
- [Talk from the Top Down](#)

Week Six (Feb 13–17)

Undergraduate Readings

- [The Interpretation of Multilingual Statutes by the European Court of Justice](#)

Graduate Readings

- [Perspectival Anthropology and the Method of Controlled Equivocation](#)

Week Seven (Feb 20–24)

Peace and quiet!

Week Eight (Feb 27–March 3)

Undergraduate Readings

- [Language Purism and Gender](#)

Graduate Readings

- [Becoming other: literary multilingualism in the Chinese badlands](#)

Week Nine (Mar 6–10)

Undergraduate Readings

- [New Chinglish](#)

Graduate Readings

- If an Interpreter Mistranslates in a Courtroom and There is No Recording, Does Anyone Care?

Week Ten (Mar 13–17)

Undergraduate Readings

- (2018) The Affront of Untranslatability
- [What if they were all wrong?](#)

Graduate Readings

- [Mistranslation and Unsettlement](#)

Week Eleven (Mar 20–24)

Undergraduate Readings

- [\(2019\) Supralingualism and The Translatability Industry](#)

Graduate Readings

- This Untranslatability that is not one

Week Twelve (Mar 27–31)

Undergraduate Readings

Graduate Readings

Week Thirteen (April 3–7)

Undergraduate Readings

Graduate Readings

Week Fourteen (April 10–13)

Final Projects Due (April 28)

UBC Grading Scale

90-100% = A+	76-79% = B+	64-67% = C+	50-54% = D
85-89% = A	72-75% = B	60-63% = C	00-49% = F
80-84% = A-	68-71% = B-	55-59% = C-	

The following policies and procedures are considered part of the class syllabus.

UBC Attendance Policy

Applying for Academic Concession

UBC's Academic Code of Honour

UBC's current COVID-19 Policy

Resources to support Student Success

Accommodations for Religious Holidays and Days of Significance

Using Online Netiquette

Use of Electronic Devices at UBC

Center for Accessibility: Support for Disabled Students