

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
Department of German  
Fall 2009

### SYLLABUS

Course Title: 470:315 Advanced Translation Seminar I (3 credits) 01:470:315:01

Instructor: Charlotte M. Craig, Ph.D.  
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2:50-3:50

Prerequisite: 470:232  
Section 01  
In German. Counts for general upper-level credits toward the major  
and minor

Class Meeting: Tuesday/Thursday, period IV (1:10-2:30)  
204 Murray Hall

Course Objectives: This course serves as an introduction into the methodology and techniques of translating German to English, and English to German. The course will have the form of a workshop in which students learn and develop strategies and techniques to translate a variety of texts from different subject areas. We will practice on typical problems that a translator encounters when faced with texts relating to technology, natural and social sciences, anthropology, history, commerce, advertising, and literature. Through practice exercises and assigned tasks, students will learn how to use a variety of dictionaries, glossaries, and handbooks that are useful for translators. We will also look at the history of translation studies and discuss the practical applications and typical tasks that a translator faces today.

Textbooks: A good dictionary.  
Photocopied text material will be distributed in class, for which a nominal fee of \$5.00 will be charged.

Attendance: All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared. Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse (a doctor's or college dean's note, for instance) should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B, etc.). Three late arrivals count as one absence. NOTE: It is the responsibility of students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

Assignments: Specific assignments will be made in class concerning the material to be covered, and the corresponding homework. Written assignments must be submitted in a timely fashion, typed and DOUBLE SPACED.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to his or her dean for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, always acknowledge your source clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at: <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>, and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related matters.

Disability Support Services: Students who may be requesting accommodations due to disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with procedures and policies regarding disability support services at the following website: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>. It is recommended that students seeking accommodations begin filing paperwork as soon as possible as the documentation review process may take up to 30 business days. Students are encouraged to speak with teachers about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

Final Grade—Components:

Class participation	20%
Quizzes/oral presentation	20%
2 tests or special assignments	20%
Written homework (timely completion and quality)	10%
Final examination	30%

Announced quizzes cannot be made up.  
The grade for a missed quiz is a "0"

PLEASE NOTE: The first day of instruction is Tuesday, September 1  
Thanksgiving recess: Wednesday, November 25-Sunday,  
November 29  
Regular classes end: Friday, December 11  
Reading days: Monday, December 14, and Tuesday,  
December 15  
Final examination: Wednesday, December 23, 12-3 p.m.

Please do not use cell phones in class  
For oral reports, please make sure to indicate the source of your translation/report, and make a glossary of pertinent terms occurring in your presentation available to the class before you begin.

VIEL VERGNÜGEN!

German 315—Advanced Translation Seminar I, Fall 2009

Class meetings and assignments for the semester (tentative)

Week	Date	Content	Assignments to be made in class. Quizzes, tests will be announced
1	Sept. 1	Introd. to some techniques of trans. Diagnostic exerc.	3 anecdotes
	3	Dictionaries; glossaries; reference materials. Synonyms, antonyms; idiomatic expressions “False Friends” (deceptive words); proverbs	
2	10	Useful abbreviations. Topics of oral reports due Group practice	
3	15	Nature; environment; climate; weather	
	17	The human condition; societal contacts. Referat 1	
4	22	Health; commercial announcements; personal ann.	
	24	Nutrition: food and drink. Referat 2. Group practice	
5	29	Clothing; fashion	
	Oct. 1	Referat 3. News reports	
6	6	House and Home. Referat 4	
	8	TEST I	
7	13	Sports. Referat 5	
	15	City Life. Group practice	
8	20	Cultural events/opportunities. Referat 6	
	22	Brief review of major, historically important translations	
9	27	Journalistic language vs. “elevated” lang. of drama and poetry	
	29	Education. Referat 7	
10	Nov. 3	TEST II	
	5	Lab. session	
11	10	Professions/vocations	
	12	Referat 8. News reports	
12	17	Correspondence: examples. Group practice	
	19	News Reports. Referat 9	
13	24	Job applications/Lebensläufe	
	26	(Thanksgiving. NO CLASSES)	
14	Dec. 1	Mixed texts for translation. Group practice	
	3	Referat 10. Review. “Open forum”	
15	8	The latest news. “Open forum”	
	10	Dolmetscher-Übung; Interview; “Adieu sagen”	