

Colt 19.01

Translation: Theory and Practice

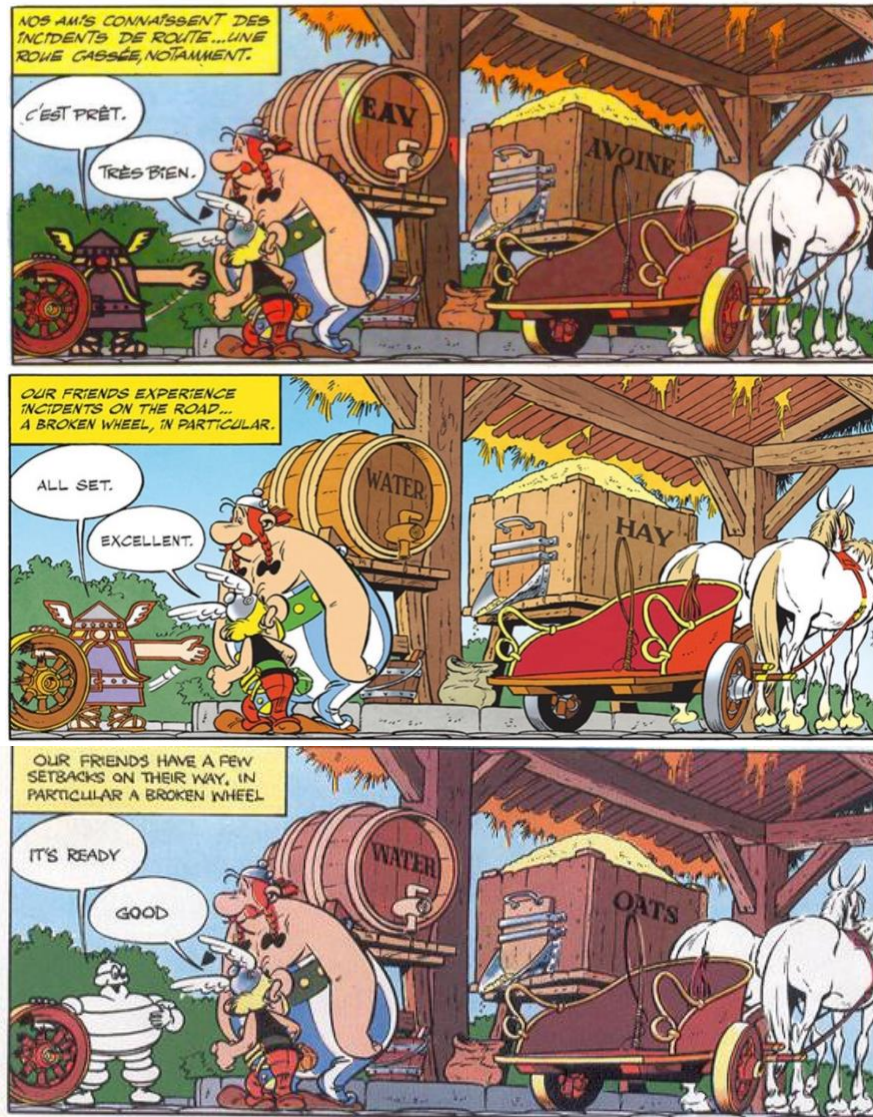
Fall 2025 @2A

Instructor: Eman Morsi

Office Location: 208 Reed Hall

Office Hours: 4:45 pm-6:00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment on Calendly

Class Location: 046 Haldeman Center



(Asterix in Switzerland, Top Panel: Original in French, Middle Panel: American Translation, Bottom Panel: British Translation)

Translation is both a basic and highly complicated aspect of our engagement with literature. We often take it for granted; yet the idea of meanings “*lost in translation*” is commonplace. In this introductory course, we work intensively on the craft of translation while exploring its practical, cultural, and philosophical implications through readings in theoretical and literary texts.

Students will complete a variety of translation exercises from their chosen language into English. They will workshop their drafts throughout the term; and use the theoretical and conceptual to improve their praxis.

Assignments and Grade Distribution:

- **Individual Assignments:**

1. *Short story (no more than 4 pages) [20%]*
 - i. First Draft: 5%
 - ii. Second Draft: 10%
 - iii. Translator note: 5%
2. *Traditional/classical poem (No longer than 2 pages) [20%]*
 - i. First Draft: 5%
 - ii. Second Draft: 10%
 - iii. Translator note: 5%
3. *Humorous text of any genre as long as it has linguistic play (e.g. uses puns) and specific cultural/historical references (No more than 4 pages) [20%]*
 - i. First Draft: 5%
 - ii. Second Draft: 10%
 - iii. Translator note: 5%

- **Group Assignments (min 2 students, max 3 students):**

1. *Translate one monolingual text [20%]*
 - i. First Draft: 5%
 - ii. Second Draft: 10%
 - iii. Presentation: 5%
2. *Translate one multi-lingual or multi-modal work [20%]*
 - i. First Draft: 5%
 - ii. Second Draft: 10%
 - iii. Presentation: 5%

All class readings will be posted on Canvas.

DARTMOUTH POLICIES & STATEMENTS

Academic Integrity

Fundamental to the principle of independent learning are the requirements of honesty and integrity in the performance of academic assignments, both in and out of the classroom. Dartmouth operates on the principle of academic honor, without proctoring of examinations. Any student who submits work which is not his or her own, or commits other acts of academic dishonesty, violates the purposes of the college and is subject to disciplinary actions, up to and including suspension or separation.

For more information on Academic Honor please consult the following site:

<https://students.dartmouth.edu/community-standards/policy/academic-honor-principle>

Religious Observances

Some students may wish to take part in religious observances that occur during this academic term. If you have a religious observance that conflicts with your participation in the course, please meet with me before the end of the second week of the term to discuss appropriate accommodations.

Student Accessibility and Accommodations

Students requesting disability-related accommodations and services for this course are required to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS; [Getting Started with SAS webpage](#); student.accessibility.services@dartmouth.edu; 1-603-646-9900) and to request that an accommodation email be sent to me in advance of the need for an accommodation. Then, students should schedule a follow-up meeting with me to determine relevant details such as what role SAS or its [Testing Center](#) may play in accommodation implementation. This process works best for everyone when completed as early in the quarter as possible. If students have questions about whether they are eligible for accommodations or have concerns about the implementation of their accommodations, they should contact the SAS office. All inquiries and discussions will remain confidential.

Mental Health and Wellness

The academic environment is challenging, our terms are intensive, and classes are not the only demanding part of your life. There are a number of resources available to you on campus to support your wellness, including: the [Counseling Center](#) which allows you to book triage appointments online, the [Student Wellness Center](#) which offers wellness check-ins, and your [undergraduate dean](#). The student-led [Dartmouth Student Mental Health Union](#) and their peer support program may be helpful if you would like to speak to a trained fellow student support listener. If you need immediate assistance, please contact the counselor on-call at (603) 646-9442 at any time. Please make me aware of anything that will hinder your success in this course.

CLASS SCHEDULE

[NOTE: Weekly readings and assignments are subject to change based on students' interests and ability to keep up with the course materials.]

Week One: Introduction

Translator/Traitor

Workshop: Short Story translation draft 1.

Week Two: Connotations/Denotation

Translation as Interpretation

Workshop: Poem Draft 1

Week Three: Affect (Part I)

Mode

Workshop: Humorous Text Draft 1

Week Four: Domesticating/Foreignizing

Language and Power

Workshop: Short Story Draft 2

Week Five: Affect (Part II)

Rhyme/Rhythm

Workshop: Poem Draft 2

Week Six: Untranslatables

Workshop: Humorous Text Draft 2

Week Seven: Collaborative Translation Models

Workshop: Group Assignment 1, First Draft

Week Eight: Polyphonic Translations

Workshop: Group Assignment 2: First Draft

Week Nine and Ten: Translation Presentations