

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Eng108: Introduction to Translation
3-Credit Freshman Course
Spring 2022-2023

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Class meetings: TBA

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENGL 108 Beginning Translation 3.0; 3 cr. An introduction to Arabic-English-Arabic translation. Students develop their translation skills by translating texts in various genres.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Translation is the restatement of a text in another language. The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the basics of translation, especially from Arabic into English, not just to translate, but also to understand the cultural, social, and linguistic differences among the various Arabic and English genres/texts given without losing the original “flavor” of the source text. Analysis is practiced on the sentence and text levels, allowing the students to refine their writing in English, since the emphasis is on translation into English. The “feel” of the original text has to remain intact and the style personal, yet true to the meaning. Students shall learn to be accurate, precise, and sensitive to language nuances. The challenge is remaining consistent and credible and ensuring the best quality of translation.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing the course, students should be able to:

1. comprehend and translate a selection of various documents: literary, literal, informative, semantic.
2. identify problems of Arabic and English grammar and usage associated with certain texts
3. develop tools of approaching lexical, syntactic, and figurative discrepancies in Arabic and English texts
4. produce translations that are close to the original and, at the same time, in tune with the linguistic and stylistic features of the English language

COURSE RESOURCES

1. Required texts for translation will be posted on Moodle
2. Samples of translations will also be posted on Moodle after corrections.

COURSE POLICIES

1. You are expected to attend *all* classes.
2. If you are unable to attend class, it is *your responsibility* to inform the instructor *prior* to the class meeting. Absences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
3. Assignments are to be completed *before* the class meeting for which they are assigned.
4. Written and all other assignments should be handed in *on or before* the due dates indicated in the course outline.

COURSE OUTLINE

The course covers the following major topics:

1. The word in context: The contextualized lexicon
2. Basic sentences and sentence types: Declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory, conditional.
3. Text analysis, figures of speech and proverbs.
4. Nature, people and animals.
5. Narrative texts, drama and poetry.
6. Comic strips; advertisements.
7. TV scripts; editorials economic and cultural reports; legal and business texts.
8. Recipes, fairytales, and political articles.
9. Celebrities' gossip, health tips and beauty tips.
10. Other texts and themes which have not been mentioned from 1-9.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Evaluation of Students' Performance (subject to change)

Assignments and quizzes (at least 4 of each)	40%
First presentation	10%
Second presentation	10%
Final Examination	20%
Attendance and Participation	10%
Glossary	10%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Passable knowledge of both English and Arabic languages. This course has a final examination.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Academic Integrity:

Please refer to AUB Student Code of Conduct:

<http://www.aub.edu.lb/pnp/generaluniversitypolicies/Documents/StudentCodeConduct/StudentCodeConduct.pdf>, in particular section 1.1, which concerns academic misconduct including cheating, plagiarism, in-class disruption, and dishonesty. Please be aware that misconduct is vigorously prosecuted and that AUB has a zero tolerance policy. Course policy is that **credible evidence of cheating will result in course failure.**

Recommended Accessibility Statement to Acknowledge the Unique Learning Needs of Students with Disabilities:

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please inform me immediately so that we can privately discuss options. In order to help establish reasonable accommodations and facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office: accessibility@aub.edu.lb; +961-1-350000, x3246; West Hall, 314.

Non-Discrimination

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced

discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at www.aub.edu.lb/titleix . To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Trudi Hodges at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or titleix@aub.edu.lb . An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at www.aub.ethicspoint.com

Course Policies

Students must take all scheduled quizzes. Make-up tests are given only at the instructor's discretion if the student presents a valid excuse for his/her absence from the test within one week of that test.

Students are required to submit all assignments on time, whether online or hard copy.

Students are responsible for keeping track of due dates and class assignments and for taking charge of their own learning. If you are absent on a specific date, you should find out what was assigned and come prepared the following session.

Students are expected to behave according to University principles. Please refer to the relevant AUB Student Handbook sections:

“Academic Freedom”

“Disciplinary Procedures”

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required in all Communication Skills courses. Every two late attendances are considered an absence, so it is imperative you are in class on time or even before. A student who is more than 10 minutes late would be considered absent unless a reason for this tardiness is offered in advance.

The table below illustrates the maximum number of permitted absences:

Classes	Before Week 10	Total
M/W/F	6	9
T/R	4	6

Automatic Withdrawals and Failures Due to Absences: If a student is enrolled in more than 12 credit hours for the semester and misses more than the allowed number of absences by Week 10, the instructor will automatically request that the student be withdrawn from the course. If a student is only enrolled for 12 credit hours but has missed more than the allowed number of absences by Week 10, he/she will automatically earn a failing grade of 40 for the course. If a student misses more than the total number of allowed absences in a given semester, he/she will automatically earn a failing grade of 40 for the course.

Excused Absences: If you must miss class due to an illness and wish to be excused, you must provide your instructor with a medical report and/or professional opinion issued by a qualified AUB employee, AUBMC doctor, or University Health Services. Students who seek excused absences for university-sanctioned events must provide an official letter from the sponsoring organization notifying your instructor of the absence at least one week before the event. Students are expected to complete assignments on time, actively participate in other class sessions, and to make up work missed as agreed with the faculty member.

Plagiarism: The rules of FAS will be observed.

Suggested Syllabus

Week 1

- Introduction to the course
- Words in context. Using the dictionary
- Sample translation activity on general topic
- Mock peer review

Week 2

- Hands-on activity as diagnostic test
- Equivalence at the Word Level
- Register
- Text styles
- Theme: light fun news or sport news

Week 3

- Declarative, imperative, interrogative moods
- Emphasis on context in translation
- Theme: children's books / fairytale

Week 4

- Equivalence at the level of the sentence
- Sentence types
- Sentence combinations
- Transitional devices
- Theme: recipes

Week 5

- Figures of speech, idioms and proverbs
- Sentence structure. Punctuation.
- Theme: general journalistic / political news

Weeks 6 and 7

- Presentations
- Theme: medical translation / general medical advice

Week 8

- Description of places, people and animals
- Loyalty to register
- Theme: sports / sports news

Week 9

- Translation of comic strips
- Simple short sentences as skill for translation of comics
- Informal language

Week 10

- Presentations on scripts (TV) and ads
- Theme: subtitling

Week 11

- Translation of poetry in the form of lyrics
- Activity: translation of a song of your choice

Week 12

- Theme: psychology
- Insight into technical and scientific translation

Week 13

- More on scientific translation: forensics, astronomy, space exploration
- Bring your own article on any topic of your choice

Week 14

- Final Exam

Final project: Compilation of glossary into booklet

Weekly or biweekly quizzes on every theme.