# Culture and History of French-Speaking Countries

## Prof. Davide Vago

# French Language - Practical Classes (all curricula)

## Dr Annita Lyonnet, Dr Carlotta Contrini

# Specialised Translation Workshop (FRENCH-ITALIAN)

**Curriculum: Specialised Translation Workshop (Curriculum: Languages for Specialist Translation and Translation for Publishing)**

Dr Silvia Calvi

# Culture and History of French-speaking Countries

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***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

During semester 1, the course aims to explore the evolution of Paris in terms of city planning and architecture. In particular, thanks to the presentation of a selection of literary texts and paintings, it aims to analyse the transformation of the cultural capital of modernity into a real myth of the historical period known as *Belle Époque* (the so-called *Ville Lumière*).

During semester 2, instead, the course aims to introduce the *littérature d’expression française* outside France, which can be considered as a manifestation of the lively nature of today’s French. In particular, it will analyse the works by Kamel Daoud (*Meursault, contre-enquête)* in comparison with Camus (*L’Étranger*).

**Knowledge and understanding:**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

-Describe the main steps of the history of the city planning of Paris, from its origins to the beginning of the 20th century;

- Read and comment on a selection of passages (mainly literary texts written by Balzac, Baudelaire, and Zola), and find their connection with the socio-economic evolution of the city of Paris;

**Ability to apply knowledge and understanding:**

- discuss about the open issues raised by the *littérature d’expression française* in the world, especially through the comparison between Camus (*L’Étranger*), Kamel Daoud (*Meursault, contre-enquête*), and the *ré-écriture* of Camus’ works, describing – at the same time – the French colonial empire and contemporary Algeria.

**Communication skills:**

Fluency and a correct use of French grammar (corresponding to the C2-level of the CEFR).

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Paris. The city planning and the socio-economic and cultural aspects of the *Ville Lumière*.

2. One of the voices of the *littérature d’expression française* in comparison with the literature of the *Hexagone*: Kamel Daoud, *Meursault, contre-enquête* and Camus’ *ré-écriture*.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory readings:

For the first part of the course:

1. Yvan Combeau, *Histoire de Paris,* Paris, P.U.F., 2010, « Que sais-je ? »

2. *Paris, un lieu commun*, dir M.C. Pedrazzini and M. Verna, Milan, Led Edizioni, 2018.

3. The course pack be made available at the UCSC Reprographic service at the beginning of the academic semester.

For the second part of the course:

1. Albert Camus, *L’étranger*, Paris, Gallimard, « Folio » (or any other complete edition).
2. Kamel Daoud, *Meursault, contre-enquête*, Arles, Actes Sud, 2014.

3. M.C. Gnocchi, « Daoud entre Camus et Rushdie : intentions et implications de *Meursault, contre-enquête*», in *Interartes. Diegesi migranti*, edited by L. Brignoli, Milan, Mimesis, 2019, p. 97-116. (available in the course pack).

4. *Introduzione alla World Literature*, edited by S. Albertazzi, Roma, Carocci, 2021.

Recommended readings for further study (optional):

Pascal Bonafoux, *100 tableaux qui racontent Paris au temps des impressionnistes,* Éditions du Chêne, 2015.

Bernand Marchand, *Paris, histoire d’une ville (XIXe-XXe siècle)*, Paris, Seuil, 1993. (available at the UCSC Library)

L. Gauvin, *La Fabrique de la langue: de François Rabelais à René Ducharme,* Paris, Seuil, 2004. (available at the UCSC Library)

D. Combe, *Littératures francophones. Questions, débats, polémiques,* Paris, PUF, 2010. (available at the UCSC Library).

Christophe Charle, *Paris, « Capitales » des XIXe siècles*, Paris, Seuil, 2021.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in French.

All the teaching material for the final exam will be made available on Blackboard during the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Only the students attending the French Language Practical Classes (year 2 of the Master’s degree course - **60 hours** in total) on a regular basis **will be allowed to take the final exam**. The mark obtained for active participation in class during the practical classes (held by Dr Contrini and Dr Lyonnet) will be communicated to Prof. Vago for the definition of the final mark, which will result from the average between the French Language Practical Classes (50%) and the oral exam on the single-subject course held by Prof. Vago (50%). All the practical activities proposed in class will correspond to the C2-level of the CEFR.

**For the students who are not attending the French Language Practical Classes, the final exam will consist in a language test**. Further information will be made available on the lecturer’s webpage/Blackboard. **For information on the language test, please contact Annita Lyonnet and Carlotta Contrini in good time to receive all necessary information.**

**Single-subject course (Prof. Vago):** oral exam, to be held in French. Students will be asked to answer 3 or 4 open-ended questions based on the content of the whole course. In addition, they are invited to bring their own texts to the exam (that is to say, the course pack and two novels written by French-speaking authors), containing the notes taken during the lectures. The correct expression in French and the linguistic fluency of the answers are essential conditions for passing the exam. The expected language level corresponds to level C2.

Assessment criteria: fluency and correct use of French (corresponding to the C2-level of the CEFR).

**For the students of the curriculum ‘Foreign Languages for Translation and Publishing’**: **the final mark will result from the arithmetic average between** **the French Language Practical Classes** (60 hours – Dr Contrini/Dr Lyonnet), **the Translation Workshop** (30 hours - Dr Dankova), and **the Culture and History of French-Speaking Countries course** (Prof. Vago). All the three marks must be sufficient in order to pass the exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

***Notes***Students may only take the examination for the *Culture and History of French-Speaking Countries* course after they have completed the examination for the *Communication Strategies in the French Language* course from the first year.

***Prerequisites***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, students should show a certain curiosity towards the history of Paris. Furthermore, a basic knowledge of the analysis of literary texts could be helpful for the study of the literary works of the *Littérature d’expression française*. Anyway, this is not a French literature course, so the literary texts will be analysed through the lens of specific issues, such as the concept of cultural identity and the contrast with the literature of the *Hexagone*.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.

# . – French Language: Practical Classes (Year 2 - Master’s Degree)

## Dr Annita Lyonnet, Dr Carlotta Contrini

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Les activités proposées pour d’approfondissement des compétences visent à permettre à l’étudiant d’atteindre le niveau C2 du Cadre Commun Européen de Référence. Objectif du cours est le perfectionnement des compétences de l’expression orale : de l’écoute de documents sonores et audiovisuels à la production orale en français et à l'exposé argumentatif, grâce à l’analyse de dossiers de culture française, notamment dans le domaine artistique et social. La perspective méthodologique privilégiée est de type actionnel en ce qu’elle considère avant tout les apprenants comme des acteurs sociaux ayant à accomplir des tâches dans des circonstances et un environnement donnés, à l’intérieur d’un domaine professionnel d’action particulier.

À la fin de ce parcours, l’étudiant doit savoir utiliser la langue avec précision, adéquation et aisance dans tout type de discours écrit/oral et de situation de communication.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Pratique de la langue orale par des performances communicatives de niveau C1 à C2, adéquates du point de vue linguistique, sociolinguistique et pragmatique.

Activités de révision du texte écrit spécialisé.

Consultation de comptes rendus, de notes de synthèse, de rapports afin de développer une connaissance adéquate de la langue et des techniques de communication professionnelle.

Savoir parler et écrire sur une œuvre d’art : compétences linguistiques, terminologiques, culturelles et artistiques.

Simulation de la création d’un site internet concernant le patrimoine artistique d’un musée, à partir d’un exemple concret (Museo del Novecento, Milan ; Saint Louis Art Museum, the French Collection; Museo Diocesano di Brescia). Création d’une fiche de présentation d’une œuvre picturale (écrit) ; savoir décrire un tableau à un public déterminé (oral).

***READING LIST***

P. Bonafoux, *100 tableaux qui racontent Paris au temps des impressionnistes*, Éditions du Chêne, Paris 2015.

J.C. Chabanne - J.L. Dufays, *Parler et écrire sur les œuvres littéraires et artistiques : contours et enjeux d’une problématique*, article disponible en ligne: <http://reperes.revues.org/207>.

Museo del Novecento, Milan: <http://www.museodelnovecento.org>.

Saint Louis Art Museum, *The French Collection*, *L’art français:* <http://frenchart.umsl.edu>.

Museo Diocesano di Brescia, https://museodiocesano.brescia.it/

E. Viollet-Le-Duc, *Histoire d'un hôtel de ville et d'une cathédrale*, Infolio, Paris.

Documents pour le cours de 2e année *Laurea Magistrale* (polycopiés).

La liste ci-dessus n’est que provisoire : d’autres références bibliographiques seront fournies au début du cours.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Une simulation globale permettra d’expérimenter ce que signifie la dynamique d’une présentation orale d’une oeuvre artistique.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Exposé oral et discussion concernant la présentation d’une œuvre d’art. La preuve n’est pas l’objet d’évaluation d’examen.

Critères de la performance: on vérifiera que le/a candidat/e a une élocution et une phonétique adéquates aux situations de communication et qu’il/elle sait présenter et argumenter efficacement en faveur de l’œuvre à présenter, à savoir qu’il/elle peut : illustrer le parcours descriptif caractérisant l’œuvre analysée, développer une argumentation claire et efficace, en élargissant et confirmant ses points de vue par des arguments secondaires et des exemples pertinents; enchaîner des arguments avec logique. La maîtrise langagière doit être précise et adéquate selon le type de discours et de la situation de communication.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Lieu et horaire de permanence: à la fin des séances prévues.

### **SEULEMENT POUR LE CURRICULUM «  LINGUE PER LA TRADUZIONE SPECIALISTICA ED EDITORIALE »: le cours est accompagné du séminaire de traduction (30 heures); voir le programme ci-dessous.**

**Specialised Translation Workshop (Languages for Specialist Translation and Translation for Publishing)**

Dr Silvia Calvi

***Text under revision. Not yet approved by academic staff.***

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to help students develop the skills they need to interpret and translate specialised texts, also considering cultural differences and the wide variety of text types (e.g. scientific, technical, informative, expository, and educational texts).

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the workshop, students will be able to analyse and comment on a specialist text for the purpose of its translation.

Application of knowledge and understanding

At the end of the workshop, students will be able to translate specialist texts of different kinds, justifying the choices made. They will also be able to effectively use various lexicographic and terminological resources.

Autonomous judging skills

At the end of the workshop, students will be able to analyse and evaluate the quality of some translations.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will be focused on the translation of a selection texts. They will be based on the topics explained during the Culture and History of French-Speaking Countries course, such as: the history of the city planning of Paris (e.g. specialised press articles, tourist guides, etc.), organisation of the Francophonie, Francophone literature. Various topics will be presented such as articles from scientific journals, institutional documents, reports and reviews. At the beginning of the course, students will discover the best methodology for textual analysis, in order to learn to interpret the meaning of source texts. In particular, during this phase, the course will present the most relevant features of specialised texts belonging to different fields (e.g. economics, social geography, history, tourism, etc.) and their translation problems (e.g. polysemy, word plays, cultural differences, etc.). Then, starting from the results of textual analysis, students will select the most appropriate translation strategy.

Furthermore, during the course, students will have the opportunity to discover the most useful tools for lexicography and terminology.

***READING LIST***

Recommended reading:

- P. Guasco, *La révision bilingue: principes et pratiques*, Milan, EDUCatt, 2013.

Further bibliographic references will be provided during the workshop.

***TEACHING METHOD***

During lectures, students will have the opportunity to translate French specialised texts into Italian. However, before translating them, the course will introduce the main features of the different text types and carry out an in-depth analysis of the source texts. Then, all the translations proposed by students will be examined and commented in class.

To focus on the translation strategies adopted in relation to a given translation problem, several possible translation solutions will be observed.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Written exam, based on the translation of a text similar to the ones analysed in class. Students will be allowed to use monolingual and bilingual paper dictionaries, in order to define the text type and translate it into Italian.

Assessment criteria: (1) accuracy of the translation (40%), (2) correct use of language, such as the sentence structure, expression of theme and rheme, etc. (25%), (3) use of proper style and register (25%), and (4) orthography (10%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

***Prerequisites***

Good knowledge of French and Italian is also required.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.