# History and Culture of English-Speaking Countries

## Prof. Franco Lonati

# English Language Classes 2 (All Curricula)

## Elisabeth June Gibson

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

## Francesca Pe’

# History and Culture of English-Speaking Countries

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

In-depth understanding of the historical-cultural features of the various countries is essential for thorough knowledge of the language of specialisation. Accordingly, the course aims to address some significant historical events and cultural phenomena in the history of English-speaking countries. Multidisciplinary in scope, the course will cover literary works, journalism, film and music. The aim of the course is to consolidate and improve the cultural and linguistic skills acquired on the three-year course.

By the end of the course, students must be able to make connections between the works studied and the various historical epochs addressed; explaining with a certain degree of expressive maturity the correlations between cultural phenomena and the historical events that produced them. Given the seminar nature of the classes, the students will be expected to participate in group works and presentations on the topics covered, thereby developing and applying original ideas, including in a research context.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will focus, in particular, on literary and/or investigative journalism, from the *muckrakers* of the early twentieth century, to the New Journalism of the Seventies and onwards to significant investigations around the turn of the millennium. The course will explore the historical events that have marked American history (WW2, the Great Depression, McCarthyism, the Vietnam War, the Watergate scandal, etc.) through articles and investigations by the most authoritative writers/journalists of the 20th century, including John Hersey, Michael Herr, Joan Didion and others. Taking a multidisciplinary approach, the course will also explore the works of some famous photojournalists and documentary filmmakers.

***READING LIST***

Partial and provisional reading list:

John Hersey, *Hiroshima*, “The New Yorker”, August 31, 1946;

Joan Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*, “Saturday Evening Post”, September 23, 1967;

Michael Herr*, Hell Sucks*, “Esquire”, August 1, 1968;

Carl Bernstein – Bob Woodward, *All the President's Men*, Simon & Schuster, New York 1974;

Vincent Bugliosi – Curt Gentry, *Helter Skelter*, Norton, New York 1974;

Marc Weingarten, *The Gang That Wouldn't Write Straight: Wolfe, Thompson, Didion, Capote, and the New Journalism Revolution*, Crown, New York 2006.

The texts for the course will be made available in a course pack and/or via the Blackboard platform. The materials used in the group tasks and uploaded onto Blackboard also constitute an integral part of the course reading. Details of further critical reading will be shared during the course, and material supplied in the same way.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures, group seminars. The course will be held mainly in English. Frontal lectures taken by the lecturer will be interspersed with group presentations by students, organised by the lecturer on the course topics.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will take three different forms, depending on each student's participation during the course.

Students who participated in the group tasks: a short exam with open questions on the topics covered in the frontal lectures and in 2 of the group presentations.

Students who have not participated in the group tasks: an exam with open questions on the topics covered in the frontal lectures and in 4 of the group presentations.

Non-attending students must contact the teacher at the beginning of the course.

The final mark will also reflect the marks awarded for the practical language classes and (for students on the Languages for Translation and Publishing curriculum) by the lecturer leading the specialised translation workshop (from English), according to the procedures mentioned in the ‘Notes and prerequisites’ section below.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

***Notes***

English-language classes (for all students) and the workshop on specialist translation from English (designed for students of the curriculum: Foreign languages for translation and publishing).

1. FOR ALL CURRICULA:

1.1 All students are required to attend the practical language classes related to the course. The English language course in the second year of the Master’s degree takes a task-based approach aimed at consolidating students’ language skills by engaging them in projects related to the pre-selected curricula. The objective is to encourage the learning of communication skills applicable to various professional contexts. Students’ active and productive participation in the year-long series of classes will contribute to the final mark awarded by the Culture and History lecturer. The tests for the Culture and History course and the practical classes are each worth 50%, provided that students pass in both cases.

1.2. To sit the exam on The Culture and History of English-Speaking Countries, non-attending students must contact their teacher at the beginning of the course to agree on alternative works or testing. The language grade and the oral exam with Prof. Lonati are each worth 50%, provided students pass in both cases.

2. FOR THE LANGUAGES FOR TRANSLATION AND PUBLISHING CURRICULUM ONLY:

The course will include also the Specialised Translation workshop held by Dr Francesca Pe’, the syllabus of which is outlined below. The final mark for students on this curriculum will be based on the marks for the practical classes, the translation and the Culture and History oral exam in equal measure, as long as students pass in each case.

***Prerequisites***

As well as a certain degree of intellectual curiosity and an interest in the subject, in order to benefit from attending the course and participating, students require a starting language level (in terms of listening, speaking, reading and writing) equivalent to level C1 and C2 on the European Language Portfolio. Students are expected to have attended the literature lectures on the three-year degree, which provides them with a foundation in English history, culture and civilisation. Students from other faculties or who have not followed the literature courses will be provided with an additional handout.

***STUDENT RECEPTION***

Student reception will take place in the teacher’s office or online on Microsoft Teams by appointment. Please send a request by email.

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.

# English Language Classes 2 (All Curricula)

## Elisabeth June Gibson

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

The course aims to improve oral language skills which are particularly relevant for the working world. It concentrates on three areas in particular: language for business and companies, the language of art and culture, particularly in the Brescia area, and the language of food and wine.

By the end of the course, students are expected

-        to have broadened their knowledge of relevant lexis in the above-mentioned areas

-        to have gained experience in managing group work and making presentations

-        to have improved their oral language skills at a C1+ level.

- to have gained experience in translation work.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is divided into three thematic modules: one on company language, one on art and culture, one on food and wine. In addition, one hour a week will be spent working on translation projects.

***READING LIST***

Students are expected to have a recent monolingual and bilingual dictionary. Other materials will be indicated during the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The students are divided into three groups and the course is annual. The course combines reading tasks, web searches for relevant materials, discussions, oral tasks and presentations, watching and listening to video and audio material and specific work on pronunciation and translation. Tasks may be carried out alone and in groups.

***ASSESSEMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Each of the three modules, including the translation project, includes one task, carried out alone or in a group. Two of the three tasks are marked out of 10 on pronunciation, fluency, grammatical and lexical accuracy, non-verbal language, organisation and presentation. A final task, worth 10 marks, is common to all three groups and is based on listening skills. These three tasks each count for 50% of the grade for the language exam (prova intermedia orale). The grade for language is worth 50% of the final mark for the year awarded by the professor of “Culture e Storia dei paesi di lingua inglese”.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students must enrol in the course on Blackboard. The level required for the course is a C1+ on the European Framework of Reference.

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

Francesca Pè

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

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the tools for translating from English to Italian specialist texts of various kinds, applied in real contexts. Through the concrete work on the text, the workshop aims to explore the different stages in the translation process in order to increase students’ awareness in terms of technical and non-fiction translation.

By the end of the course, students will be able to examine source texts, identifying their particular features and the most important of these, as well as the target reader, and choosing the most suitable translation strategy. They will also be able to translate accurately in terms of content and form, applying the adopted strategy coherently throughout the text. They will be able to use online and paper resources, assessing the reliability of sources and using parallel texts. Students will also be able to apply the strategies learned to specialised texts other than those examined on the course.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The workshop will present students with specialist texts of various kinds, highlighting their characteristic features and translation challenges in order to apply the right translation strategy. Students will be encouraged to make and justify their own independent choices, applying them as though in a real working situation.

The course will include the following text types: scientific, biographical, manuals, texts for children, comics and publishing materials (reviews, blurbs), newsletters, tourist literature. Students will also analyse other people's translations and practise revising translations.

The translation revision exercises will also serve as an opportunity to analyse any translation issues that arise, thereby laying down guiding principles based on real examples. Students will be offered suggestions on selecting reference tools and parallel texts, so that they can assess their reliability and use them to support their work.

***READING LIST***

Texts suggested:

Aa. Vv., *La traduzione saggistica*, in Stefano Arduini and Ilide Carmignani (eds.), *Le giornate della traduzione letteraria 2003-2007*, Iacobelli, Rome 2008.

Adriana Bottini, *Tradurre saggistica*, in Ilide Carmignani, *Gli autori invisibili*, Besa, Nardò 2008.

Franca Cavagnoli, *La voce del testo. L’arte e il mestiere di tradurre*, Feltrinelli, Milan 2012.

Luisa Doplicher, *La saggistica scientifica tra editing e traduzione*, in Stefano Arduini and Ilide Carmignani (eds.), *Giornate della traduzione letteraria 2010-2011*, Voland, Rome 2012.

Bruno Osimo*, Manuale del traduttore*, Hoepli, Milan 2004.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The workshop takes a decidedly practical approach. The lecturer will present and analyse each text in class and provide useful hints and tips on how to approach the translation, to support students in gradually and independently identifying translation strategies. Students will complete their translations individually and sometimes in pairs (revision). Translations will then be corrected in class with appropriate comments and analysis of the translation issues to emerge from the practical work on the text.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will consist of the written translation in Italian of a text similar in type to those encountered on the course. The translation will be assessed in terms of content and style, with a particular focus on the rendering in Italian and the effectiveness of the target text on the target reader, based on the translation strategy chosen.

The mark (out of 30) contributes to the final Culture and History of English-Speaking Countries exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Bibliographic materials and additional texts for independent exercises will be provided on the Blackboard platform.

Erasmus students are requested to contact the lecturer before the start of the course.

Students are expected to have attended the Specialised Translation seminar in the first year as part of the Translation Resources and Toolscourse. Students must be interested, curious and accurate in their approach to the assigned tasks in order to participate successfully in the workshop.

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.