

Department of Modern European Languages

French Language IIIB

The Course Booklet 1998

[1st impression]

(Course co-ordinator: Mr J. Grieve)

JAG
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B-stream units, 1998

For students working in the B-stream of French, there are five possible sequences of courses (majors 3-7, *Undergraduate Handbook 1998*, p. 190).

The usual B-stream major in French (= major 3)

Most students taking a B-stream major in French will make up the required 6 points as follows:

French IB (2 points)
French Language IIB (1 point)
French Language IIIB (1 point)

plus any **two** of the following 1-point 'French Studies' units (only some of which are taught each year):

Bonnes nouvelles : brief ironies (J. Grieve)
*Contemporary France (K. Muller)
Determinism and self-determination: five novels (J. Grieve)
**Epousailles* : Couples and happiness in the French novel (J. Grieve)
French Cinema from the 'Nouvelle vague' to the Nineties (P. Brown)
*French literature & the Pacific (P. Brown)
Ideological Issues under the Fifth Republic (K. Muller)
Moi et milieu: French autobiographers from Montaigne to Sartre (J. Grieve)
Selected Topics in French Studies

In 1998, the three French Studies units marked with an asterisk will be taught. Two of them, «Contemporary France» and «*Epousailles* » have two classes a week and run throughout the year. «French literature & the Pacific» is taught in second semester and has three classes a week. All these units are taught in French.

Please refer to the *Undergraduate Handbook* and to individual course outlines and booklets for further details of each of these units.

Other possible B-stream majors

major 4: For students who begin at IIIA: French IIIA & IIIS, French Language IIB & IIIB and one of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

major 5: For students exempted from French IB: French Language IIB, French Language IIIB and any four of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

major 6: French IB, French Language IIB and any three of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

major 7: For students who begin at IIIA: French IIIA & IIIS, French Language IIB and two of the 1-point French Studies units listed above

Each proposal to take any of these majors 4-7 is subject to the approval of the Convener of the French Section.¹

Honours

Students intending to take French Honours in the B-stream require a total of 10 points in French. They will normally make these up by taking major 3 (see above) and **four** additional 1-point French Studies units, selected from the list (see also above). Students who take one of the majors 4-7 may also be able to make up the 10 points required, depending on availability of units. Each Honours proposal including majors 4-7 must have the approval of the Convener of the French Section. It is possible to include French in a combined Honours course, usually by doing 8 points in French, and in a double Honours course, usually by doing 9 points in French. Students enrolled in the BA/LLB degree can also take Honours in French; they usually require 10 points in French.

All candidates for Honours are normally expected to reach at least Credit standard in all of their 2nd & 3rd-year French units.

¹ In 1998, the Convener of the French Section is James Grieve.

French Language IIB and French Language IIIB (1998)

(Note : the course co-ordinator of IIB in 1998 is James Grieve)

At least one of these units is compulsory for students doing any of the majors in the B-stream. They each consist of two classes a week throughout the year: one hour of written language and one hour of stylistics and oral. All teaching is in French.

FRENCH LANGUAGE IIIB

Written work is set in the writing class and in the stylistics class. Work for the writing class will be set fortnightly, 13 exercises in the year. That for stylistics will be less frequent. See below, page 7, for the programme of written work for the year.

Written class (Thursdays at 3 p.m. in room 120)

lecturer : Mr J. Grieve

In this class, unlike the two earlier stages of the B-stream, a central focus will be on translation of prose, mainly from English into French. The aim is dual: to use translation partly as a pedagogical exercise, a means to the end of writing correct contemporary French, partly as a set of linguistic skills worth acquiring in its own right. The course does not aim to give a professional training in literary translation. However, among related aims will be a comparative appreciation of some of the distinctive features of French and English styles; a recognition of the separability of word and meaning and the ability to reword an idea (to 'translate' it?) within a single language; an acquaintance with some other notions, theories or practices of literary translation, such as: the contradictory principles of total 'naturalisation' of the translated text and a minimal but irreducible alienness; the pervasiveness of translationese (or queerspeak); the degree to which a translation is an interpretation; the 'faithful' translation and the 'free'; the 'spirit' of a language or a period; 'untranslatability', 'compensation' and 'professionalism'; the identification of textual strategies such as discursive, descriptive, narrative, and of biases or tones such as formal, familiar, intellectual, etc, and the cultural dilemmas these may create for the translator; the apt use of reference works in the choice of vocabulary and structures appropriate to differences in style and register.

We shall also from time to time study certain structures belonging mainly to the discursive style. See the list below.

Other exercises, such as *résumé*, will be used for other writing purposes less suited to translation.

NB : For this class, your normal deadline is Fridays, at 5.30 p.m.

« Cacambo expliquait les bons mots du roi à Candide, et quoique traduits, ils paraissaient toujours des bons mots. De tout ce qui étonnait Candide, ce n'était pas ce qui l'étonna le moins. »

liste des structures dont nous étudierons quelques-unes en IIIB

Cette année, contrairement à ce que nous avons fait en IIB, je n'ai pas dressé de programme hebdomadaire de connecteurs et de structures de liaison. Cependant, nous aurons sans doute l'occasion pendant l'année de nous pencher sur le détail d'au moins certaines des structures figurant sur la liste qui suit.

à ceci près que	après tout
à [son] tour	à tout prendre
au-delà	au fait
au point que	autant dire (que)
avec	car
cela dit	cela étant
c'est dire (que)	de ce fait
de là	d'où
du coup	du même coup
du moins	encore faut-il
en tout cas	et ce
force est de	il n'est que de
inversion : adjectif	inversion : verbe
l'idée que	la petite proposition intercalée
ne serait-ce que	quand même
question	qui ne voit que
quitte à	s'agissant de
sauf à	séries de points
si bien que	si ce n'est
sinon	tant il est vrai que
toujours est-il que	tout de même
tout juste/tout au plus	tout se passe comme si
	transitions mécaniques

Oral (in 1st semester, Dr K. Muller)

See the noticeboard for two times to choose from: Thursdays at 12 noon. or 3 p.m.

In 2nd semester, the class will be taken by Dr P. Brown, who will probably include stylistics as well as oral work, exploring with students different styles, different genres, taken from different periods and, perhaps, *pourquoi pas*, different places of literature of French expression: autobiography, essay and reflexion, novel, poetry, theatre, with Alain, Apollinaire, Balzac, Baudelaire, Flaubert, La Bruyère, La Rochefoucauld, Leiris, Molière, Pascal, Proust, Racine, Robbe-Grillet, Rousseau, Sartre, Voltaire et les autres

Some written exercises in stylistics may be set during 2nd semester.

Notes

Written work submitted late for any class will not normally be marked.
Medical certificates submitted late will not normally be taken into account.

la classe écrite : programme des devoirs de l'année

premier semestre

mars

- vendredi 13, 1^{er} exercice, traduction anglais-français
James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*
vendredi 27, 2^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
C. Day-Lewis: 'On Translating Poetry'

avril

- jeudi 9, 3^{ème} exercice, traduction français-anglais²
François de Closets, *La France et ses mensonges*
le jeudi 9 avril, fin de la première période des cours

mai

- vendredi 8, 4^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
P. Thody, *The Analysis of Poetry: a Barthesian Approach*
vendredi 22, 5^{ème} exercice, résumé
P. Enckell, « Orthographe »

juin

- vendredi 5, 6^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
D. W. Brogan, *The Development of Modern France*
le vendredi 12 juin, fin de la deuxième période des cours

second semestre

juillet

- vendredi 24, 7^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
D. Muecke, *The Compass of Irony*

août

- vendredi 7, 8^{ème} exercice, traduction français-anglais
Michel Leiris, *De la littérature considérée comme une tauromachie*
vendredi 21, 9^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
P.O.M. Dumoy, *The Crime of Crimes*

septembre

- vendredi 4, 10^{ème} exercice, traduction français-anglais
Colette, *La chatte*
vendredi 18, 11^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
Jill Tweedie: *In the Name of Love*
le vendredi 18 septembre, fin de la troisième période des cours

octobre

- vendredi 16, 12^{ème} exercice, traduction anglais-français
Virgil Thomson, 'Music Does Not Flow'
vendredi 30, 13^{ème} exercice, résumé
Ph. Perrot, *Le travail des apparences*

² Exceptionnellement jeudi, bicoze nous perdons le Vendredi saint.

Proposed Assessment Arrangements

Proposed assessment	Marks
Written language Best 75% of work set	150
Stylistics exercises set	50
Three-hour end-of-year examination in written	100
Oral One test in each semester, 75 marks each	150
TOTAL	450

Notes

No requests for special examinations will be considered, except those supported by a current medical certificate or evidence of unforeseeable circumstances clearly beyond a student's control.

Marks given to work during the year may be moderated by the Examiners.

Working rules for assessment

All written work must be handed in on time. Late exercises cannot be accepted, except in cases of illness attested by a current medical certificate. Continued absences from class will also result in exercises not being accepted. Failure to hand in at least 50% of the exercises set during the year, in both written class and stylistics, will result in ineligibility for the examination in November. This would entail failure in the unit.

After experimenting for several years with various methods of assessment, we are convinced that a combination of the year's work and end-of-year examinations is the fairest and most appropriate system. Since language learning is a cumulative process, there is a need for proper testing at the conclusion of each unit, in circumstances where students show what they can do with their own resources. This has become all the more necessary as some work handed in, showing evidence of collaboration or outside assistance, cannot be accepted as a reliable guide to some students' progress.

You should be careful not to engage in improper collaboration with other people. The consultation of printed sources is permissible; having recourse to the superior knowledge of another person such as a native speaker so as to solve individual difficulties in, for instance, a language assignment, is not. The essential distinction between the two modes of consultation lies in the exercise of choice and judgement. In consulting books or even a computer programme, one must exercise these faculties; in consulting another person one borrows, not understanding, but a mere answer to a punctual problem. Group working, such as sometimes takes place in the Departmental Centre, can be open to this objection.

Students are therefore urged to do their language assignments by themselves. In proven cases of illicit collaboration on such assignments, the Department will apply the principles of the Faculty's policy on plagiarism. This policy, which also refers to essays and other assignments, is set out on the last page of the Department's 'Student Handbook' for 1997.

Requests for special examinations

In accordance with Faculty policy, we shall be unwilling to approve requests for special examinations from students who might wish to leave Canberra before the end of the examinations period. The only requests which might be approved would be those arising from circumstances beyond your control and supported by a current medical certificate.

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY GRADES & MARKS

GRADE	MARK	ABBREVIATION
High Distinction	80-100%	HD
Distinction	70-79%	D
Credit	60-69%	C
Pass	50-59%	P
Fail	below 50%	N

Students who like to be clear about their real academic aims will note the following.

Those who do not do all or nearly all of the work set may have difficulty in being considered for the Alliance Française de Canberra prize or for the grade of High Distinction.

Those who choose to do less than three quarters of the work set will have difficulty in being considered for the grade of Distinction.

Those who choose to do about half of the work set must expect to achieve at best a grade of Pass.

« Chercher à connaître n'est souvent qu'apprendre à douter »

WATCH THE FRENCH NOTICEBOARD!

