

CANG 9277 (Spring semester)

Transatlantic Translation Workshop

(in collaboration with Barnard College of Columbia University)

Course instructors: L. Roesler (ENSL) and L. Postlewaite (Barnard/Columbia)



This “atypical” course, run in partnership with Barnard College of Columbia University, proposes an interactive and collaborative translation experience. ENS students are paired with an American translation partner and work to translate texts from French into English and English into French. Typically, the texts chosen for translation are as yet untranslated. When possible, the course instructors seek publishing possibilities for translations that meet the necessary criteria. Thanks to the expansion of the partnership with Columbia University, students may have the possibility of attending a translation seminar bringing together all the workshop students at some point during the semester.

Course objectives are both pedagogical and professional.

They include:

- ⇒ Improving language skills, both in terms of translation and in terms of communication/interaction competency
- ⇒ Enabling students to become aware the dynamics of translation as a professional activity through all the steps leading up to publication
- ⇒ Familiarizing students with the technologies used by contemporary translators (software, translation platforms, etc.)
- ⇒ Use and/or development of social media to communicate during the on-going translation process

Course structure

- In addition to a classic classroom setting for a number of sessions, several scheduled video-conference exchanges allow the whole class more formal interaction with their American counterparts. Much of the actual translation work is done in an autonomous setting determined by each set of partners.
- Joint ENSL/Columbia translation workshop seminar (dates as yet undetermined).

Requirements: C1 level in English. Limited number of slots for this class (10). High level of personal investment is required for this class.

Course assessment: based on written reports on process of translation; oral presentations of on-going translation; final translations.

Course credit: 3 or 5 ECTS, depending on individual course of study.