

## CREATIVE TRANSLATION

For this assignment, you will be asked to think about translation as something that goes beyond simply conveying the grammar and syntax of the Greek. Translation includes much more than that, and this assignment is meant to get you thinking about translation in a much larger sense.

1. Read Benjamin's "On The Task of the Translator and/or "Schleiermacher's On the Different Methods of Translating."
2. Pick a passage of approximately 20-50 lines (ideally, something that forms some sort of coherent unit—the line guidelines are flexible) and send me your chosen passage.
3. Compose a translation of your chosen passage which aims to convey **something other than the grammar** of the Greek you have chosen. I will provide you with some examples of more radical translations, to give you a sense of the range of possibilities.

The final product will be a translation (in any form/medium that you choose) along with a short reflection on the interpretive choices you made. This reflection (c. 500 words) should include some thoughts about your chosen translation theory text (Benjamin or Schleiermacher), though these thoughts can agree or disagree with that text. All I'm asking is that you engage in some sense with a theory of translation and think about what translation can/should entail, beyond just the most precise grammatical representation of the source text.

### GRADING BREAKDOWN:

The translation itself will constitute 30% of your grade for this assignment. The reflection will constitute the other 70%. Rubrics for each portion are below.

For results of this assignment, you can go [here](#).

## TRANSLATION RUBRIC

Creativity, ambition, and vision (25%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Noticeable departure from the source text with some clear vision for the project; takes significant creative chances.</i>	<i>Moderate departure from the source text; chances were taken, but not substantial ones</i>	<i>Some departure from the source text; lack of significant creative risk</i>	<i>No discernable departure from source text; standard and literal translation</i>
Use of source text (25%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Translation has a significant and thoughtful relationship to the source text – artistic choices reflect the text you chose in some way.</i>	<i>Translation bears some relationship to the source text but some departures seem unmotivated or counter to the project's goal.</i>	<i>Translation is in many ways unrelated to the source text – verges into creative writing at times, rather than translation or adaptation.</i>	<i>Translation has little or no connection to the source text. Departures are not done with any overall vision in mind.</i>
Language choice (20%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Diction is well suited to your overall goals. Register and tone advances your vision.</i>	<i>Word choices are generally appropriate but haphazard at times.</i>	<i>In general, word choices are not made carefully.</i>	<i>Word choices are not made with any regard for your piece as a whole.</i>
Execution (5%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Final product reflects your goals and vision for the project (as detailed in the reflection paper)</i>	<i>Final product approaches your goals and vision but doesn't entirely succeed</i>	<i>Final product falls significantly short of your vision and goals.</i>	<i>Final product does not reflect your goals and vision for the project</i>

## REFLECTION PAPER RUBRIC

Choices made and overall vision (35%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Your text was chosen carefully and you had a clear idea in mind about what you wanted to do with your chosen text. You laid out a clear vision and goal for the work.</i>	<i>Your text was chosen with some thought, and you had a vision for your work, but your vision and goals were not well developed.</i>	<i>Little thought went into your choice of text and you had only vague goals for what your translation would look like.</i>	<i>No discernable thought went into your choice of text and you did not articulate any goals for the project as a whole.</i>
Challenges and Take-Aways (35%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>You engage in careful and thoughtful reflection about challenges you encountered and places you may not have succeeded in creating the intended effect.</i>	<i>Your reflection is somewhat superficial and only treats challenges in a cursory manner, rather than engaging deeply with the translation process.</i>	<i>Your reflection is entirely superficial and does not explore challenges you faced and how you addressed them.</i>	<i>Little or no evidence of reflection upon the translation process.</i>
Engagement with Secondary Readings (25%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>You have carefully read and thought about your chosen reading(s) and made translation choices that in some way engage with that reading.</i>	<i>You demonstrate engagement with the readings but you do not show a very deep knowledge of or engagement with that text. You know <b>what</b> the reading said, but you have not fully engaged critically.</i>	<i>The secondary readings are addressed in some sense, but their treatment is cursory.</i>	<i>You do not engage in any significant way with the secondary reading.</i>
Grammar, Spelling, and Style (5%)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Poor
	<i>Essay has been proofread and has very few grammatical errors; style is clear.</i>	<i>Some grammatical errors and stylistic failings, but not enough that it distracts from the reader's ability to easily read your writing.</i>	<i>Many grammatical errors, such that it's difficult for the reader to understand your meaning. Style needs improvement.</i>	<i>Paper has significant grammar and style issues that detract substantially from readability.</i>