BMNFT30400M Literary translation

Elective course from English into Hungarian. The course will acquaint the students with the manifold requirements and challenges of literary translation, pointing out the similarities to and the differences from technical translation. After appropriate preparation, the students will produce their own translations every week and these translations will be discussed in class. The objective of the course is to make the students understand that it is impossible to create a perfect literary translation, yet, one must strive for it. Having completed the course, the translators to be will be more daring in their solutions, will not be afraid to employ their creativity while translating, will seamlessly conform their translation to target language expectations, thus, they will only produce foreign-sounding texts on purpose.

All short stories must be translated and submitted before the deadline (Friday midnight before the class). Attendance is obligatory.

Assessment will be based on the quality of translations (60% or less: failure).

Short stories to be translated at home and discussed in class (50%):

Fredric Brown: Politeness (11 October, 317 words)

Hap Cawood: Synchromocracy (18 October, 277 words)

C. J. Cherryh: A much briefer history of time (13 September, 109 words)

Peter Phillips: Counter Charm (18 October, 432 words)

Terry Pratchett: The Prince and the Partridge (8-22 November, 1712 words)

Ruth Rendell: Expectations (29 November – 6 December, 1705 words)

Jane Yolen: Names (27 September – 4 October 1076 words)

Translation to be done on your own by 15 December (50%):

Margaret Atwood: Chicken Little Goes Too Far + Miel Tanburn: Faithful Viewer

or

Patricia McKillip: The Twelve Dancing Princesses