WL 106
B-HUM
SPECIAL TOPICS:
Translation Nation: The Languages of Canada (100-level STT)  Fall 2017

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OFFICE HOURS: W 3:30-5 or by appt.  CLASS LOCATION: DFA 300
CLASS HOURS: T 14:30-16:20 (LEC)

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A true definition of Canada must include its dynamic and tumultuous history of multilingualism -- from First Nations languages to French/English bilingualism, and now the blend of Asian languages brought by more recent waves of immigration. Yet this linguistic diversity is not often in the spotlight, despite its profound effect on Canadian history and everyday life. This course captures the vibrancy of languages in Canada’s past and present to show how they have shaped the nation’s social and cultural imagination – and reality. The course will be colloquium-style: a different visiting speaker each week, representing a variety of disciplines. Additionally, there will be three marquee events shared with HIST 331, “Speaking Canadian: 150 years of linguistic diversity and language politics.”

EDUCATIONAL GOALS
• students will gain an overview of the history of multilingualism in Canada
• students will gain an understanding of language policy and its role in Canadian language politics
• along with official bilingualism and the history of First Nations Languages, students will gain a deeper appreciation of the true linguistic diversity that has shaped Canadian culture and identity, past and present
• students will be introduced to a number of real-world contexts in which linguistic diversity affects daily Canadian life
• students will learn to understand linguistic diversity as both a challenge and an asset to Canadian society

REQUIRED TEXT(S)/READINGS
All readings will be made available on Canvas. No purchases required.

ASSIGNMENTS/EVALUATION
10x quizzes  50%  Group project  20%  Final paper  25%  FASS Forward Initiative Participation  5%