

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A in 2014 / 2015

Part I

Course Title: Contrastive Studies of Chinese and English Grammar

Course Code: LT5510

Course Duration: 1 Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: CTL5402 Syntax and Morphology, LT5402 Syntax and Morphology

Equivalent Courses: CTL5510 Contrastive Studies of Chinese and English
Grammar

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to enable students to compare and contrast the differences between Chinese and English with respect to phonology, morphology and syntax. It shows how these can be accounted for by general principles of linguistic theory and brings them to bear on the acquisition of one language by speakers of the other.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Compare and contrast the differences between the phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic structures of Chinese and English;	40%
2.	Discuss and apply the concepts and techniques of argumentation acquired in class to new data.	40%
3.	Apply the analytic skills learned in class and tutorials to new problems and discover new solutions.	20%

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1-3	Lectures: Learn (a) the similarities and differences between Chinese and English with respect to phonology, morphology and syntax; (b) how these can be explained in terms of general principles of linguistic theory; (c) how the differences between the two languages underlie the acquisition of one language by speakers of the other.	2 hours
CILO 1-3	Discussion and practice in the tutorials: Discuss and elaborate what is learned in the lectures. Practice by applying the concepts and argumentation for old problems to new data.	1 hour
CILO 1-3	Assignments: Practice and apply what is learned in the lectures and tutorials to new data. Give an alternative solution to what is learned in class.	2 hours

CILO 1-3	Blackboard: Clarification and other questions going beyond the lectures may be raised.	0.5 hour
-------------	--	----------

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1, 2	Mid-term quiz A 2-hour mid-term quiz that makes the students integrate what they have learnt and analyze problem-solving questions	40%	
CILO 1,3	Final exam A 2-hour final exam that makes the students integrate what they have learnt and analyze problem-solving questions	40%	
CILO 1-3	Assignments Exercises to help students apply the knowledge acquired in class to new data.	20%	

Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Grading pattern: standard (A+, A, A-...F). Grading is based on students' performance in assessment tasks/activities.

A+ A A-	Tutorial/Classwork: Strong evidence of original thinking; excellent ability to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; zealous participation Assignments: Evidence of extensive knowledge in the field; excellent work applying a variety of relevant theories and tools to approach a corpus-based translation study or translation task.
---------------	---

<p>B+</p> <p>B</p> <p>B-</p>	<p>Tutorial/Classwork: Evidence of critical and analytical ability; good grasp of the subject; active participation</p> <p>Assignments: Evidence of adequate knowledge in the field; good work applying theories and tools to approach a corpus-based translation study or practice task</p>
<p>C+</p> <p>C</p> <p>C-</p>	<p>Tutorial/classwork: Evidence of satisfactory grasp of the subject; satisfactory participation</p> <p>Assignments: Evidence of satisfactory knowledge in the field; satisfactory work applying theories and tools to approach a corpus-based translation study or practice task</p>
<p>D</p>	<p>Tutorial/classwork: Ability to follow the subject in spite of some difficulty; satisfactory participation</p> <p>Assignments: Ability to apply knowledge in the field in spite of difficulty; barely adequate work applying theories and tools to approach a corpus-based translation study or practice task.</p>
<p>F</p>	<p>Tutorial/classwork: Little or no evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; insufficient participation</p> <p>Assignments: Very limited knowledge of subject matter and insufficient ability to apply theories and tools to approach a corpus-based translation study or practice task.</p>

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Segmental and supersegmental feature; contrastive phonology, acquisition of phonology; word formation principles, constraints on nominal and verbal compounds; syntactic structures; phrases, clauses; word-order variation, topicalization; movement and constraints on movement; nominal and verbal modifiers;

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

Phonology

Duanmu, San. 2007. The phonology of standard Chinese. Oxford University Press.

Lin, Yen-hwei. 2007. The sounds of Chinese. Cambridge University Press.

Morphology

Packard, Jerome. 2000. The morphology of Chinese: A linguistic and cognitive approach. Cambridge University Press.

Syntax

Huang, James C-T, Audrey Y-H Li and Yafei Li. 2009. The syntax of Chinese. Cambridge University Press.

Reference grammars

Chao, Yuen Ren. 1968. A grammar of spoken Chinese.

Li, Charles and Sandra Thompson. 2001. A reference grammar of Mandarin Chinese. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Quirk, Randolph, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik. 1986. A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. London: Longman.

Online Resources