

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: Theory of Translation

Course Code: LT5603

Course Duration: 1 semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction & Assessment: English is the main medium of instruction and assessment, but Chinese is allowed in situations where English-Chinese translation and interpretation, bilingual legal drafting, or study of Chinese language, literature and culture, is involved.

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: CTL5603 Theory of Translation

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to give students an overview of the theory of translation and to introduce them to the fundamental aspects of translation as a profession and academic discipline, encouraging them to discover interfaces between different theories as well as creating new modes of conceptualizing translation as an academic discipline with linguistic, communicational, and above all intellectual significance.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

| No. | CILOs | Weighting (if applicable) |
|-----|--|---------------------------|
| 1. | Identify and remember the main features of basic theoretical approaches to translation | |

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|----|--|--|
| 2. | Understand and state important theoretical considerations in the process of translation | |
| 3. | Explain translation studies as a discipline | |
| 4. | Describe analytically the basic concepts of translation | |
| 5. | Discuss to discover interfaces between the basic concepts of translation | |
| 6 | Apply theory to practice and to the evaluation of such practice | |
| 7. | Discuss to create new modes of conceptualizing translation with reference to its academic significance | |

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 | Lecture and Tutorial: Overview of translation theory | |
| CILO 2&5 | Lecture and Tutorial: An analytical review of exemplary authors and models to illustrate interfaces among such models | |
| CILO 3 | Lecture and Tutorial: Translation Studies: Holmes and beyond | |
| CILO 4&5 | Lecture and Tutorial: Chinese and non-Chinese traditions: Some key concepts examined to create new conceptions of translation drawing on the two traditions | |
| CILO 6&7 | Group Project Work: Hands-on translation and discussion to report on discoveries and creative insights | |

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 |
|-----------|---|---------------------------|---------|
| CILOs 1-7 | Attendance to and participation in tutorials and group projects | 50% | |
| CILOs 1-7 | Semester-end test: multiple-choice questions and essay questions (1 hour) | 50% | |

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 student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

| Excellent (A-, A, A+) | Good (B-, B, B+) | Adequate (C-, C, C+) | Marginal (D) |
|--|--|--|---|
| (i) Clear and critical understanding of key concepts; (ii) perceptive critique of existing literature; (iii) original idea and point of view; (iv) very good management of research processes; (v) personal views strongly supported and comprehensively substantiated; (vi) strategic use of other people's ideas and information; (vii) logical organization of ideas; (viii) excellent use of argumentation strategies; (ix) writing in an effective academic style and format; (x) excellent command of the English language | (i) Adequate knowledge of key concepts; (ii) adequate critical literature review; (iii) some originality; (iv) good understanding and practice of the research processes; (v) personal views supported and substantiated; (vi) good use of other people's ideas and information; (vii) logical organization of ideas; (viii) good use of argumentation strategies; (ix) writing in the appropriate academic style and format; (x) good command of the English language | (i) Acceptable knowledge of key concepts; (ii) limited critical literature review; (iii) some attempt to derive insights; (iv) acceptable understanding and practice of the research processes; (v) good summary of other people's ideas and information; (vi) logical organization of ideas; (vii) some support for personal views; (viii) appropriate use of argumentation strategies; (ix) present the academic writing in an acceptable style and format; (x) adequate command of the English language | (i) Poor knowledge of key concepts; (ii) very limited critical literature review; (iii) little attempt to derive insights; (iv) poor understanding and practice of the research processes; (v) mere collection of other people's ideas and information; (vi) poor organization and argumentation; (vii) little support for personal views; (viii) little or inappropriate use of argumentation strategies; (ix) inappropriate writing style and format for academic discourse; (x) poor command of the English language |

Ten criteria, of equal weighting, are used to define the student's performance.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Major historical and contemporary approaches to translation; issues central to the theory of translation; issues central to the process of translation; overview of translation as a profession and an academic discipline.

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

The reading list will be periodically updated.

Baker, M. (ed.). 1997. *The Routledge encyclopedia of translation studies*. London: Routledge.

Bassnett, S. & Lefevere, L. (eds.). 1990. *Translation, history and culture*. London: Pinter.

Benjamin, A. 1989. *Translation and the nature of philosophy: A new theory of words*. London: Routledge.

Catford, J.C. 1965. *A linguistic theory of translation*. London: Oxford University Press.

陳德鴻, 張南峰. (編). 2000. *西方翻譯理論精選*. 香港: 香港城市大學出版社.

Chesterman, A. 2002. *Can theory help translators?* Manchester: St. Jerome.

Fawcett, P.D. 1997. *Translation and language: Linguistic theories explained*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

Granger, S, Lerot, J. & Petch-Tyson, S. (eds.). 2003. *Corpus-based approaches to contrastive linguistics and translation studies*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Gentzler, E. 2001. *Contemporary translation theories. (2nd ed.)*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.

Hatim, B. & Mason, I. 1997. *The translator as communicator*. London: Routledge.

Hermans, T. 1999. *Translation in system*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

劉宓慶. 1995. *翻譯美學導論*. 台北市: 書林出版有限公司.

Munday, J. 2001. *Introducing translation studies: Theories and applications*. London: Routledge.

Newmark, P. 1988. *A textbook of translation*. New York: Prentice-Hall.

Nida, E.A. & Taber, C.R. 1969. *The theory and practice of translation*. Leiden: E.J. Brill.

Nord, C. 1997. *Translating as a purposeful activity: Functionalist approaches explained*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

Robinson, D. 1997. *Translation and empire: Postcolonial theories explained*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

沈蘇儒. 1998. *論信, 達, 雅: 嚴復翻譯理論研究*. 北京: 商務印書館.

Steiner, G. 1998. *After Babel: aspects of language and translation. (3rd Ed.)*.

Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Toury, G. 1995. *Descriptive translation studies – And beyond*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Venuti, L. 1995. *The translator's invisibility: A history of translation*. London: Routledge.

Venuti, L. (ed.). 2000. *The translation studies reader*. London: Routledge.

Von Flotow, L. 1997. *Translation and gender: Translating in the “era of feminism”*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

Journals

中國翻譯

翻譯季刊

翻譯學報

Babel

Bibliography of Translation Studies

Meta

Perspectives: Studies in Translatology

Target

Translation Studies Abstracts

The Translator

The Interpreter and Translator Trainer