

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: Translation Methodology

Course Code: LT5604

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: CTL5604 Translation Methodology

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to give a first introduction to aspects of translation method (both in translation from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese), so as to equip students with a key understanding of commonly recurring translation problems and the various strategies or conceptual approaches that may be used to deal with them. It has a strongly practical focus.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Identify key recurrent problems in the translation of Chinese to English and English to Chinese, using an appropriate terminological framework.	

2.	Formulate appropriate strategies for and creative solutions to such problems.	
3.	Translate accurately and appropriately in a range of fields and text-types.	
4.	Reflect critically on their own translation output, using an appropriate conceptual framework.	

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 1,2,3	Lectures and teacher-facilitated discussion of key concepts, problems and strategies.	
CILO1,2,3,4	A wide variety of in-class exercises – to be performed in small groups, or where appropriate, individually. These will focus on identification of problems, translation of selected words, sentence patterns and paragraph-length text-samples. Class discussion of students' choices will follow.	

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 1,2,3,4	Translation assignment, from English-Chinese. Individual assignment. It will involve a translation with critical commentary on translation problems.	25%	
CILO 1,2,3,4	Translation assignment, from Chinese-English. Individual assignment. It will involve a translation with critical commentary on translation problems.	25%	
CILO 1,2, 3, 4	Examination. Translation questions: English-Chinese, Chinese-English, plus commentary on translation problems (2 hours)	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 students' performance in assessment tasks/activities.

Excellent (A-, A, A+)	Good (B-, B, B+)	Adequate (C-, C, C+)	Marginal (D)
Excellent in identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating creative solutions to such problems, translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all within an appropriate conceptual framework.	Good in identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating creative solutions to such problems, translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all within an appropriate conceptual framework.	Adequate in identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating creative solutions to such problems, translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all within an appropriate conceptual framework.	Poor in identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating creative solutions to such problems, translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all without an appropriate conceptual framework.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Ways of approaching translation; Source and Target text; cultural problems in translation; translation strategies, calque, neologism, domestication, foreignization, etc.; paratextual devices; lexical gaps; contrastive sentence patterns in Chinese and English; syntactic structures in translation; genre and text-typological issues.

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

[The following is a short, first list of suggested works. More will be offered during the course.]

Baker, Mona, *In Other Words: a Coursebook on Translation*, London: Routledge, 1992.

Chau, Simon (周兆祥), *Fanyi Shiwu 翻譯實務 (Translating in Practice)*, Hong Kong, 1986, reprinted Taipei: Taiwan Shangwu Yinshuguan, 1995.

Chen Ding'an 陳定安, *Ying Han Bijiao yu Fanyi 英漢比較與翻譯*, Beijing: Zhongguo Duiwai Fanyi Chubanshe, 1998.

- Fawcett, Peter, *Translation and Language: Linguistic Theories Explained*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 1997.
- Hatim, Basil, *Communication Across Cultures: Translation Theory and Contrastive Text Linguistics*, Exeter: Exeter University Press, 1997. (There is also Hatim, Basil, and Jeremy Munday, *Translation: An Advanced Resource Book*, London and New York: Routledge, 2004.)
- Hervey, S., and I. Higgins, *Thinking Translation: A Course in Translation Method, French-English*, London: Routledge, 1992.
- Newmark, Peter, *A textbook of translation*, New York: Prentice-Hall, 1988.
- Newmark, Peter, *Approaches to Translation*, Prentice Hall, 1988.