

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: Interpretation Methodology

Course Code: LT5605

Course Duration: One semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English supplemented by Chinese

Medium of Assessment: English and Chinese

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: CTL5605 Interpretation Methodology

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

The course aims to lay a firm foundation for building and developing students' interpreting skills and techniques. It provides students with an overview of the interpretation profession in Hong Kong and other parts of the world, and inculcates in students the professional ethics of a professional interpreter. This is a course where students use principles derived from the existing theoretical studies to discover for themselves possible solutions to particular problems which an interpreter may encounter in practice.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Use researched materials judiciously in presentations and interpretation practice	

2.	Present in an organized way in Chinese and English on topics of general interest	
3.	Apply the basic concepts and principles of interpretation to actual practice	
4.	Demonstrate the skills and techniques for interpretation of general topics	
5.	Proceed to training in interpretation at a more advanced level	

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	Teacher introduction followed by group presentations by students of researched materials	
CILO 2	Short prepared talks individually by students followed by peer evaluation and Blackboard discussion	
CILO 3-4	Teacher introduction of basic concepts such as sight translation and how they relate to the practice of interpreting, followed by weekly practice in sight translation and consecutive interpretation	
CILO 3-4	Weekly practice in active listening, note-taking and consecutive interpretation, with constructive feedback by teacher and in-class discussion	
CILO 5	Two quizzes, in addition to above activities, to gauge progress of students, with assistance to individual needs where necessary	

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	Group presentation of pre-assigned researched materials	10%	
CILO 2	Individual presentation on self-chosen topics	10%	
CILO 1-5	Attendance, in-class and Blackboard discussion	20%	
CILO 1-5	In-class drills (sight translation, consecutive interpretation, note-taking, etc.)	20%	
CILO1-5	Quiz 1 (30 minutes to 1 hour)	15%	
CILO1-5	Quiz 2 (30 minutes to 1 hour)	25%	

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)
1. Excellent understanding of texts for interpretation; 2. Main points of such texts captured clearly and systematically; 3. Idiomatic delivery of interpretation.	1. Good understanding of texts for interpretation; 2. Main points of such texts captured on the whole; 3. Smooth delivery of interpretation on the whole.	1. Some misunderstanding of texts for interpretation; 2. Some omission of main points of such texts; 3. Occasional grammatical mistakes in delivery of interpretation.	1. Complete misunderstanding of texts for interpretation; 2. Glaring omission of main points of such texts; 3. Nonsensical delivery of interpretation.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

- overview of profession
- fundamental principles of translation;
- oral speaking skills,
- active listening skills,
- note-taking techniques,
- oral summary,
- consecutive interpretation of general topics.

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

Chau, Simon. (1988) *The theory and practice of interpreting*. Hong Kong: Commercial Press.

刘和平编著 (2005) 口译理论与教学 北京市: 中国对外翻译出版公司

Phelan, Mary. (2001) *The interpreter's resource*. Buffalo: Multilingual Matters.

Jones, Roderick. (2002) *Conference interpreting explained*. Manchester: St. Jerome Pub.