

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 Technology

Course Code: LT5620

Course Duration: One Semester

No. of Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction and Assessment: English, supplemented by Chinese, in situations where English-Chinese translation is involved.

Prerequisites: Pass departmental information technology (IT) proficiency test or Special approval by programme leader

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: CTL5620 Translation Technology

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

1. Course Aims:

The aim of this course is to study and explore the roles of the enabling language information technologies that are employed in translation processes. In particular, topics will include computers and information technology, machine translation (MT) systems, linguistic knowledge and translation expertise in the automation of multilingual translation. The course will also present a survey of different types of machine translation systems and translation memory retrieval facilities that integrate the best of human and machine intelligence to maximize translation productivity.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

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

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1	Describe the major milestones in the development of translation technology	
2	Apply different kinds of translation tools to help with different translation tasks	
3	Evaluate different types of translation technology in terms of translation quality	
4	Explore and describe the recent trends of translation technology research and development	

3. 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)
1-4	Lectures towards the above outcomes to explain and illustrate the major developments in translation technologies	1 hour/week
1-4	Readings of lecture notes, selected papers and selected chapters from textbooks	
1-4	Workshops to compare and contrast different translation technologies and services	1 hour/week
1-4	Tutorials to help students to resolve their learning problems and to demonstrate their achievements for the above tasks	1 hour/week

4. 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
1-4	Written assignment based on tutorial sessions (25%) and oral presentation of tutorial sessions (25%)	50%	
1-4	Two-hour final examination with essay-like analytical questions, and computations.	50%	

5. Grading of Student Achievement:

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

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-...F)

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

Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

- Survey of language information technology
- Historical review of translation technologies
- Major approaches to translation technologies
- Application of different types of translation technology for different translation tasks
- Evaluation of different types of translation technology
- Recent trends of research and development in translation technologies

Recommended Reading:

- Arnold, D., L. Balkan, R.L. Humphreys, S. Meijer and L. Sadler. 1994. *Machine Translation: An Introductory Guide*. Manchester and Oxford: NCC Blackwell.
- Bowker, L. 2002. *Computer-Aided Translation Technology: A Practical Introduction*. Ottawa: Univeristy of Ottawa press.
- Quah, C.K. 2006. *Translation and Technology*. Basingstoke, Hants.; New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Nirenburg, S., H. Somers, and Y. Wilks. 2003. *Readings in Machine Translation*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press