

City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A 2017 / 18

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Advanced Legal Translation

Course Code: LT6514

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P6

Medium of Instruction: English is the primary medium of instruction and assessment, but where necessary, Chinese is used for discussing issues relating to legal translation.

Medium of Assessment: English is the primary medium of instruction and assessment, but where necessary, Chinese is used for discussing issues relating to legal translation.

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) LT6505 Legal Translation
CTL6505 Legal Translation

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) CTL6514 Advanced Legal Translation

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course aims to help students understand and explore the specific translation problems arising from law and the lexical, syntactic, semantic, discoursal, pragmatic, and sociolinguistic features of legal texts. It develops their analytical and critical ability for tackling the subtle and complex problems inherent in the translation of difficult legal texts.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick ✓ where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify, explain, and tackle the variety of linguistic and conceptual problems inherent in legal translation		✓	✓	
2.	Identify, explain, and tackle the peculiar problems inherent in the translation of legal texts between English and Chinese		✓	✓	
3.	Translate a variety of difficult legal texts		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3				
1	Lecture; tutorial (classwork and group discussion)	✓	✓	✓				2 hours lecture; 1 hour tutorial

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3					
Continuous Assessment: 70%								
Classwork and home assignment	✓	✓	✓				20%	
Classwork and home assignment	✓	✓	✓				20%	
Classwork and home assignment	✓	✓	✓				20%	
Legal Research		✓	✓				10%	
Examination: 30% (duration: 2 hours) (CILO No. 1-3)								
							100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Classwork and home assignment	Ability to apply skills and techniques to translating different legal texts	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. Classwork and home assignment	Ability to apply skills and techniques to translating different legal texts	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Not even reaching marginal levels
3. Classwork and home assignment	Ability to apply skills and techniques to translating different legal texts	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Not even reaching marginal levels
4. Examination	Ability to master skills and techniques to translating different legal texts	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Linguistic problems in legal translation; further practice in translating English legal texts; translating Chinese legal texts.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Chan, Clara Ho-yan. 2012. Bridging the Gap between Language and Law: Translational Issues in Creating Legal Chinese in Hong Kong. <i>Babel</i> . 58(2):127–144. DOI: 10.1075/babel.58.2.01cha
2.	Chan, Clara Ho-yan. 2011. The Use and Translation of Chinese Legal Terminology in the Property Laws of Mainland China and Hong Kong: Problems, Strategies and Future Development. <i>Terminology: International Journal of Theoretical and Applied Issues in Specialized Communication</i> . 17(2):249–273.
3.	Garner, Bryan A. (Ed.). 2009. <i>Black's Law Dictionary</i> (9 th ed.). St. Paul, MN: West.
4.	Morris, Marshall. Ed. 1995. <i>Translation and the Law</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
5.	Poon, Emily Wai-ye. 2002. The Pitfalls of Linguistic Equivalence: The Challenge for Legal Translation. <i>Target</i> 14(1), 75-106.
6.	Sarcevic, Susan. 1997. <i>New Approaches to Legal Translation</i> . The Hague: Kluwer Law.
7.	Zhao, Yuhong. 2000. Drafting Policy on Bilingual Legislation: Comments on the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Bill. <i>The Legislative Council Library, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China</i> , 1-25, http://sc.legco.gov.hk/sc/library.legco.gov.hk:1080/search*cht/X?SEARCH=m%3A%28drafting+policy+on+bilingual+legislation%29&searchscope=10&l=&m=&Da=&Db=&SORT=D
8.	管歐, 劉得寬等編著, 1997年, <i>法律類似語辨異</i> , 臺北: 五南圖書出版公司。
9.	李宗鏗、潘慧儀編. 1999. <i>英漢法律大辭典 (English-Chinese Dictionary of Law)</i> , 香港: 商務; 北京: 法律。
10.	陸文慧編. 2002. <i>法律翻譯: 從實踐出發</i> , 香港: 中華書局。
11.	孫萬彪. 2003. <i>英漢法律翻譯教程</i> . 上海: 上海外語教育。
12.	孫萬彪. 2004. <i>漢英法律翻譯教程</i> , 上海, 上海外語教育出版社。
13.	王道庚. 2006. <i>法律翻譯: 理論與實踐</i> . 香港, 香港城市大學出版社。
14.	王巍. 2002. “論法律翻譯中譯者的創造性.” <i>中國翻譯</i> 2002年3月, Vol. 23, No. 2. 41 – 43.
15.	吳靄儀. 1997. “裁決書的翻譯問題” 5文. <i>明報</i> 1997年10月20-24日.

16.	張福林. 1998. <i>實用法律英漢翻譯</i> . 武漢: 武漢測繪科技大學出版社.
17.	張家偉. 1991. “現行法例翻譯上的幾個難題.” 載於劉靖之編 <i>翻譯新論集</i> . 香港: 商務印書館. 302 – 318.

Online Resources

1.	http://www.legislation.gov.hk/index.htm
2.	http://www.lexisnexis.com
3.	http://libweb.cityu.edu.hk/lbdinst/westlaw.htm
4.	http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/eres/database/info/chinalawinfo.htm
5.	http://law.moj.gov.tw/

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Bidin, Aishah. 1995. “Issues in Translation of Legal Texts in Malaysia.” <i>Perspectives: Studies in Translatology</i> 3: 2. 205 – 213.
2.	Capellas-Espuny. 1998. “The Problem of Terminological Equivalence in International Maritime
3.	Davies, Daniel R. 1996. “Trade Mark Law: Linguistic Issues.” <i>Language and Communication</i> . Vol. 16, No. 3. 255 – 262.
4.	Milsky, Constantin. 1989. “In Search of a Term Translation Strategies for Chinese Medical Classics.” In Paul U. Unshuld (Ed.), <i>Approaches to Traditional Chinese Medical Literature</i> . London: Kluwer Academic Publishers. 77 – 81.
5.	Sacco, Rodolfo. 1991. “Legal Formants: A Dynamic Approach to Comparative law.” <i>The American Journal of Comparative Law</i> . Vol. 39, 1-35.
6.	Saeed, John I. 1997. <i>Semantics</i> . Oxford: Blackwell.
7.	Ziff, Paul. 1972. “What Is Said.” In Davidson and Harman (Eds.), <i>Semantics of Natural Language</i> . Dordrecht: Reidel Publishing Company. 709 – 721.
8.	Selected articles of Law Draftsman. <i>Hong Kong Lawyer</i> .
9.	何美歡. 1995. <i>香港合同法</i> . 前言. 北京: 北京大學出版社.
10.	張慶路. 1996. “為 Common Sense 正名, 兼探其多種漢譯法.” <i>上海科技翻譯</i> . No. 1. 19 – 24.
11.	鄭戈. 1999. “法律學術翻譯的規範.” <i>北大法律評論</i> . 第2卷 第1輯. 300 – 316.