

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation  
with effect from Semester A 2024 / 25**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Translation Methodology

**Course Code:** LT5604

**Course Duration:** One Semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P5

**Medium of Instruction:** 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.

**Medium of 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:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Precursors:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* CTL5604 Translation Methodology

**Exclusive Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

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.

### 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 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.		✓	✓	✓
		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. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

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

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
1	<b>Lectures and teacher-facilitated discussion</b> of key concepts, problems and strategies.	✓	✓	✓				
2	<b>A wide variety of in-class exercises</b> – 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.	✓	✓	✓	✓			

### 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	4				
Continuous Assessment: 60 %								
<b>Class activities and participation</b> Class translation activities and discussions in class or on Canvas or other eLearning platforms	✓	✓	✓	✓			10%	
<b>Translation assignment</b> Individual assignment. It will involve a translation with critical commentary on translation problems.	✓	✓	✓	✓			30%	
<b>Group presentation</b> , groups of students will be assigned presentation tasks on translation of variety of text types or topics on translation issues.	✓	✓	✓	✓			20%	
<b>Examination:</b> 40 % (duration: 2 hours) Translation questions: English-Chinese, Chinese-English, plus commentary on translation problems. (CILO No. 1-4)								
							100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

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

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Class activities and participation	Assessing students' general performance through the semester, for instance in practical class translation activities and discussions in class or on Canvas or other eLearning platforms	Abundant evidence of quality input as observed in in-class and online participation	Significant evidence of in-class and online participation	Some evidence of in-class and online participation	Little evidence of in-class and online participation	Little to no evidence of in-class and online participation
2. Translation assignment	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.	Excellent command of the course content	Good command of the course content	Fair command of the course content	Marginal command of the course content	Inadequate command of the course content
3. Group presentation	Identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating	Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of	Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of	Acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of	Marginally acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of	Poor presentation skills showing an inadequate understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of

	creative solutions to such problems, translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all within an appropriate conceptual framework; or carrying out in-depth research on topics related to translation.	translation introduced in class	translation introduced in class	translation introduced in class	translation introduced in class	translation introduced in class
4. Examination	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.	Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter related to literary translation; Excellent analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Excellent analysis and translation of source texts provided	Demonstration of good command of subject matter related to literary translation; Good analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Good analysis and translation of source texts provided	Demonstration of adequate command of subject matter related to literary translation; Adequate analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Adequate analysis and translation of source texts provided	Demonstration of marginal command of subject matter related to literary translation; Marginal analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Marginal analysis and translation of source texts	Failure to meet most or all the criterion

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Class activities and participation	Assessing students' general performance through the semester, for instance in practical class translation activities and discussions in class or on Canvas or other eLearning platforms	Abundant evidence of quality input as observed in in-class and online participation	Significant evidence of in-class and online participation	Some evidence of in-class and online participation	Little to no evidence of in-class and online participation
2. Translation assignment	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.	Excellent command of the course content	Good command of the course content	Fair command of the course content	Inadequate command of the course content
3. Group presentation	Identifying recurrent translation problems, formulating appropriate strategies for addressing such problems, generating creative solutions to such problems,	Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in	Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in	Acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.	Poor presentation skills showing an inadequate understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

	translating accurately and appropriately, and reflecting critically on their own translation output, all within an appropriate conceptual framework; or carrying out in-depth research on topics related to translation.	class.	class.		
4. Examination	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.	Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter related to literary translation; Excellent analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Excellent analysis and translation of source texts provided	Demonstration of good command of subject matter related to literary translation; Good analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Good analysis and translation of source texts provided	Demonstration of adequate command of subject matter related to literary translation; Adequate analytical, problem-solving abilities and creativity; Adequate analysis and translation of source texts	Failure to meet most or all the criterion

**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.)

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.

**2. Reading List**

**Recommended Readings**

**Text(s)**

1.	Baker, Mona, <i>In Other Words: a Coursebook on Translation</i> , London: Routledge, 1992.
2.	Chau, Simon (周兆祥), <i>Fanyi Shiwu 翻譯實務 (Translating in Practice)</i> , Hong Kong, 1986, reprinted Taipei: Taiwan Shangwu Yinshuguan, 1995.
3.	Chen Ding'an 陳定安, <i>Ying Han Bijiao yu Fanyi 英漢比較與翻譯</i> , Beijing: Zhongguo Duiwai Fanyi Chubanshe, 1998.
4.	Fawcett, Peter, <i>Translation and Language: Linguistic Theories Explained</i> , Manchester: St. Jerome, 1997.
5.	Hatim, Basil, <i>Communication Across Cultures: Translation Theory and Contrastive Text Linguistics</i> , Exeter: Exeter University Press, 1997.
6.	Hatim, Basil, and Jeremy Munday, <i>Translation: An Advanced Resource Book</i> , London and New York: Routledge, 2004.
7.	Hervey, S., and I. Higgins, <i>Thinking Translation: A Course in Translation Method, French-English</i> , London: Routledge, 1992.
8.	House, Juliane. <i>Translation</i> . Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge, 2018.
9.	Newmark, Peter, <i>A Textbook of Translation</i> , New York: Prentice-Hall, 1988.
10.	Newmark, Peter, <i>Approaches to Translation</i> , Prentice Hall, 1988.