

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

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

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Corpora and Translation

Course Code: LT5631

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) LT5604 Translation Methodology
LT5603 Theory of Translation
LT5411 Computational Linguistics
LT5628 Human-machine Interactive Translation

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) CTL5631 Corpora and Translation

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course aims to study the potential for text corpora to be used in the field of translation. Students will acquire a critical understanding of relevant concepts and methods of corpora design, compilation and manipulation and will learn to apply them in translation studies and practice.

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 and apply key concepts and methodology in corpus design, compilation and annotation from the perspective of translation studies and practice.		✓	✓	✓
2.	Search and extract data from a corpus for use in translation studies and practice.		✓	✓	✓
3.	Use corpora resources to critically study and discuss existing translations of important works of different genres.		✓	✓	✓
4.	Use corpora resources to translate works of different genres.		✓	✓	✓
5.	Conduct independent research in translation studies based on CILOs 1 – 4 above, discovering and formulating hypotheses that are descriptively, explanatorily and theoretically adequate.		✓	✓	✓
		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	5	
1	Lecturing On topics identified for the course	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	Tutorial Question-answering sessions, exercises and practical work, discussion of assignments	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

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	5		
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
Tutorial assignments and discussion Attendance, participation, diligence and willingness and ability to analyse and explore; grasp of concepts and mastery of tools/methods.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
Corpus design/development and criticism assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30%	
Critical translation study (using corpora) assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	50%	
Examination: % (duration: , if applicable)						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. Tutorial assignments and discussion	(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents (2) demonstration of analytical analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora	1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation 2) demonstrating accurate and appropriate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;	1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation 2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;	1) moderate or limited understanding on topics and contents of the course; 2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) appropriate format in the writing, but writing content merely shows some understanding of the differences between academic and non-academic style of writing and put that understanding to practice;	1) little understanding on topics and contents of the course; 2) insufficient knowledge on course contents; 3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;	1) no understanding on topics and contents of the course; 2) incorrect knowledge on course contents; 3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;

<p>2. Corpus design/development and criticism assignment</p>	<p>(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents</p> <p>(2) demonstration of analytical analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora</p>	<p>1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate and appropriate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;</p>	<p>1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;</p>	<p>1) moderate or limited understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) appropriate format in the writing, but writing content merely shows some understanding of the differences between academic and non-academic style of writing and put that understanding to practice;</p>	<p>1) little understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) insufficient knowledge on course contents;</p> <p>3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;</p>	<p>1) no understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) incorrect knowledge on course contents;</p> <p>3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;</p>
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<p>3. Critical translation study (using corpora) assignment</p>	<p>(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents</p> <p>(2) demonstration of analytical analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora</p>	<p>1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate and appropriate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;</p>	<p>1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;</p>	<p>1) moderate or limited understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation</p> <p>3) appropriate format in the writing, but writing content merely shows some understanding of the differences between academic and non-academic style of writing and put that understanding to practice;</p>	<p>1) little understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) insufficient knowledge on course contents;</p> <p>3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;</p>	<p>1) no understanding on topics and contents of the course;</p> <p>2) incorrect knowledge on course contents;</p> <p>3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;</p>
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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. Tutorial assignments and discussion	(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents (2) demonstration of analytical analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora	1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation 2) demonstrating accurate and appropriate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;	1) comprehensive understanding of the course contents and being able to explain the role of corpora in machine translation 2) demonstrating accurate analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) writing format is appropriate in an academic style and standard;	1) limited or little understanding on topics and contents of the course; 2) demonstrating limited or poor analysis and explanation of the role of corpora in machine translation 3) poor format in writing for academic purposes	1) no understanding on topics and contents of the course; 2) incorrect knowledge on course contents; 3) inappropriate writing style and format for academic paper;
2. Corpus design/development and criticism assignment	(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents (2) demonstration of analytical				

	analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora				
3. Critical translation study (using corpora) assignment	(1) demonstration of understanding of the course contents (2) demonstration of analytical analysis and explanation of linguistic properties based on corpora				

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.)

1. Principles and methodology of text corpora study
2. Design, compilation and annotation of corpora
3. Use of corpora in translation studies
4. Use of corpora in translation practice
5. Software tools including, in particular, concordancers

2. Reading List

Additional Readings

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

1.	Biber, Douglas, Susan Conrad and Randi Reppen. <i>Corpus Linguistics – Investigating Language Structure and Use</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.
2.	McEnery, Tony and Andrew Wilson. <i>Corpus Linguistics</i> . Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1996.
3.	Nida, Eugene A. and Charles R. Taber. <i>The Theory and Practice of Translation</i> . Leiden: E.J. Brill (for the United Bible Societies), 1982.
4.	Somers, Harold. (ed.) <i>Computers and Translation</i> . John Benjamins, 2003.