

TRAN3841 - Chinese Writing and Legal Translation

Course learning outcome

1. Understand the legal terminology in English and Chinese and culture-bound language of legal discourse
2. Be able to identify the basic problems facing, and the solutions available to the legal translator
3. Be able to grasp the basic skills in bilingual drafting and legal translation; translate with ease and skill common types of legal text

Course syllabus

1. Basic skills in reading and writing Chinese legal documents 閱讀及起草中文法律文本的基本技巧
2. Types, formats and contents of legal documents 法律文本的類型,形式及內容
3. The language of the common law 普通法法律語言的特點
4. The language of the PRC law 中國大陸法律語言的特點
5. Translation of the Common law into Chinese 普通法中譯的方法技巧
6. Translation of legal correspondence 法律信函的翻譯
7. Translation of other types of legal documents 其他法律文本的翻譯

Assessment type and percentage

Assessment Type	Percentage
1. Essay test or exam	30%
2. Other	55%
3. Presentation	15%

Feedback for evaluation

Students are welcome to provide their feedback on the course through 歡迎學生透過以下途徑發表課程意見

- mid-term questionnaires 學期中問卷調查
- end-of-term questionnaires 學期尾問卷調查
- emails 電郵

Required readings

None

Recommended readings

1. Hiltunen, Risto (1990) Chapters on Legal English: Aspects Past and Present of the Language of the Law.
2. Kurzon, Dennis (1983) The Linguistic Structure of English Legislative Texts. Hebrew University.
3. Sarcevic, Susan (1997) New Approach To Legal Translation. The Hague .Longdon. Boston: Kluwer Law International
4. Sin, King-kui (1998) The common law in Uncommon Chinese: Linguistic Anomalies and Cultural Shocks. Journal of Translation Studies No.2. Hong Kong: Media Production. 127-141.
5. Tiersma, Peter M. (1999) Legal Language. Chicago: the University of Chicago Press
6. Vanstone, Bobby (1998) Understanding Law: Skills and Sources for Students. Addison Wesley Longman Limited.
7. Varga, Csaba (1992) Comparative Legal Culture. Dartmouth Publishing Co.Ltd.
8. Watson, Alan (1993) Legal Transplants: An Approach to Comparative Law. The University of Georgia Press.
9. Yuan, Boping (2003) Developing writing skills in Chinese London ; New York : Routledge.
10. 何勤華等編著 (1994) 中西法律文化通論 復旦大學出版社
11. 陸文慧(主編) 法律翻譯：從實踐出發 香港：中華書局, 2002.
12. 孫乃沅(主編) (2001) 中國公文實用大典.九州出版社.