

TRAN4840 - Advanced Legal Translation

Course learning outcome

1. Understand the theoretical framework of legal translation, legal terminology and culture-bound language of legal discourse
2. Be able to identify the basic problems facing, and the solutions available to the legal translator when doing legal translation between Chinese and English
3. Be able to grasp the basic skills in legal translation and translate with ease and skill common types of legal text in Hong Kong and Mainland China

Course syllabus

1. Problems in legal translation 法律翻譯的問題
2. Characteristics of the Hong Kong Common Law legal system 香港普通法系的特點
3. Characteristics of the legal system in PRC. 中國大陸法系的特點
4. Understanding legal language of the Common Law 理解普通法法律語言
5. Understanding legal language of the PRC's law. 理解中國大陸法律語言
6. Comparative study of translation of legislation in Hong Kong and PRC 比較香港與中國大陸的法例翻譯
7. Comparative study Translation of Legal Correspondence 比較香港與中國大陸的法律信函翻譯
8. Comparative study of translation of other private legal documents in in Hong Kong and PRC 比較香港與中國大陸的其他非官方法律文本的翻譯

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. Daniel C.K. Chow. (2003) The legal system of the People's Republic of China in a nutshell St. Paul, Minn. : West Group.
2. Zhang Fusen. (2004). China, outlines of the legal system of the People's Republic of China China : Law Press.
3. Bhatia V. K. (1997) Translating Legal Genres. In Anna Trosborg(ed.) Text Typology and Translation. Amsterdam/Philadelphia:John Benjamins Publishing Company, 202-213
4. Bhatia V. K. (1983) Applied Discourse Analysis of English Legislative Writing. A Language Studies Research Report. Birmingham: University of Aston in Birmingham.
5. Hiltunen, Risto (1990) Chapters on Legal English: Aspects Past and Present of the Language of the Law.
6. Kurzon, Dennis (1983) The Linguistic Structure of English Legislative Texts. Hebrew University.
7. Sarcevic, Susan (1997) New Approach To Legal Translation. The Hague .Longdon. Boston: Kluwer Law International
8. 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.
9. Tiersma, Peter M. (1999) Legal Language. Chicago: the University of Chicago Press
10. Vanstone, Bobby (1998) Understanding Law: Skills and Sources for Students. Addison 甲、Wesley Longman Limited.
11. Watson, Alan (1993) Legal Transplants: An Approach to Comparative Law. The University of Georgia Press.
12. 陸文慧(主編) 法律翻譯：從實踐出發 香港：中華書局, 2002.
13. 唐磊, 李平(主編). 海峽兩岸法律制度比較研究. 成都：四川大學出版社, 2001.