

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2017-18

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE TRAN1000
ENGLISH TITLE Translation: Practices and Challenges
CHINESE TITLE 翻譯的實踐與挑戰
NUMBER OF UNITS 3
DESCRIPTION This course introduces the common practices in the field of translation and discusses the challenges the discipline faces in the present age of information technology.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is about the basics of translation. Through exploration of everyday life examples, students will be equipped with general ideas about how to approach a text for translation. There will also be discussions on the role of information technology in translation (note, however, that this course offers no training in the use of IT software for translation purposes).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Expected learning outcomes

1. Students are expected to be able to gain a basic understanding of what translation is about and various kinds of translation (K).
2. Students should have a general idea of how to differentiate a good translation from a poor one (no advanced-level theories on translation criticism will be imparted though) (K).
3. Students should have an understanding of the role of information technology in translation, and be aware of the different opinions regarding using IT in translation (K).
4. Students should be able to apply their knowledge to translation practices (S).

Implication for learning activities

Through the take-home assignments and in-class exercises, students should be able to see how

much they have understood regarding the major topics discussed. It is not intended that students will become very competent translators after just a few months, but having participated in the in-class activities and done all the required homework they should be in a better position to understand translation as an academic discipline and rectify any misconceptions they might have about the nature of translation.

Implication for assessment

Students will be assessed via several take-home tasks/assignments and a final test. They will have ample time to work on their homework, which enables them to apply the skills that they have learnt. They will also be graded upon an in-class participation score. These several components ensure that all students have the chance to demonstrate improvement over time instead of having their course grade dependent wholly on one final examination.

LIST OF TOPICS

1. Everyday life translations – examples and discussions
2. The fuzzy boundary between translations and non-translations
3. Writing and translation – some similarities and differences regarding the requirements
4. Features of good and poor translations
5. The general difficulties of translation
6. The unit of translation
7. Information technology and translation: a preliminary exploration of how it works
8. Information technology and translation: merits and demerits
9. The nature of technical translations
10. The nature of literary translations

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Lecture	Tutorial	Others: Please specify
Hours per week 1 hr 45 min	Hours per week 45 min	Hours per week N.A.

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Assignments (2 in total)	40%
Class participation	20%
Final test	40%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Required readings

1. 金隄 (1998) 不是魚和熊掌。載於等效翻譯探索 (119-130 頁)。臺北市：書林出版有限公司。
2. 李長栓 (2004) 《非文學翻譯理論與實踐》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
3. 劉靖之主編 (1991) 《翻譯工作者手冊》。香港：商務印書館香港有限公司。
4. 羅曼麗 (2002) 英譯中法律檔譯例評析。載于陸文慧 (主編) 法律翻譯：從實踐出發 (103-130 頁)。香港：中華書局。

5. 羅新璋 (1995) 釋‘譯作’。中國翻譯, 2, 9-12.
6. 羅選民 (1992) 。‘論翻譯的轉換單位’。外語教學與研究。4, 32-80.
7. 王璟,古緒滿 (2000) 。‘試論翻譯單位的靈活性’。安徽師範大學學報(人文社會科學版).28 (4) , 585-588.
8. 許鈞 (2003) 創造性叛逆與翻譯主體性的確立。中國翻譯, 24 (1) , 6-11.
9. 周兆祥 (1996) 直譯意譯的困惑。載于翻譯初階 (18-28 頁) 。香港: 商務印書館。
10. 周兆祥 (1996) 藝術性語言的翻譯。載于翻譯初階 (211-235 頁) 。香港: 商務印書館。
11. Bowker, L. (2002). *Computer-aided translation technology: a practical introduction*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press.

Recommended readings

1. 董明 (2006) 《翻譯：創造性叛逆》。北京：中央編譯出版社。（E-book available at the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library system）
2. 金聖華、黃國彬主編 (1996) 《因難見巧：名家翻譯經驗談》。香港：三聯書店（香港）有限公司。
3. 范文美主編 (2000) 《翻譯再思：可譯與不可譯之間》。臺北市：書林出版社。
4. 李長栓 (2004) 《非文學翻譯理論與實踐》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
5. 許鈞 (2001) 《文學翻譯的理論與實踐》。南京：譯林出版社。
6. 張慧儀、朱國藩編 (1993) 《各師各法談翻譯》。香港：中文大學出版社。
7. Chan, S.W. (Ed.). (2002). *Translation and information technology*. Hong Kong: Chinese University of Hong Kong.

FEEDBACK FOR EVALUATION

Students are welcome to provide feedback on the course through

- mid-term questionnaires
- end-of-term questionnaires
- emails

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Activities/Requirements
01	4th Sept, 6th Sept	Lesson 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translations in everyday life and general issues of translation – An introduction 	Reading 1 (《翻譯工作者手冊》第一章：翻譯的種類與標準)
02	11th Sept, 13th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translations in everyday life and general issues of translation – An introduction (Cont’d) Lesson 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Accurate’ translation and 	Reading 2 (《翻譯初階》第三章：直譯意譯的困惑)

		translation as recreation	
03	18th Sept, 20th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ‘Accurate’ translation and translation as recreation (Cont’d) 	Assignment 1 (20th Sept) Reading 3 (《中國翻譯》‘創造性叛逆與翻譯主體性的確立’)
04	25th Sept, 27th Sept	Lesson 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing and translation – Their relationships 	
05	2nd Oct (Holiday – the day following National Day); 4th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing and translation – Their relationships (Cont’d) Lesson 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to assess the quality of translations 	
06	9th Oct, 11th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to assess the quality of translations (Cont’d) 	Assignment 1 due (11th Oct) Reading 4(《中國翻譯》‘釋“譯作”’)
07	16th Oct, 18th Oct	Lesson 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties of translation – Balancing adequacy and acceptability 	Reading 5 (《等效翻譯探索》第七章：不是魚和熊掌)
08	23rd Oct; 25th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulties of translation – Balancing adequacy and acceptability (Cont’d) Lesson 6 The unit of translation – from sound to text	Assignment 1 discussion (25th Oct) Reading 6 (《安徽師範大學學報》‘試論翻譯單位的靈活性’) Reading 7 (《外語教學與研究》‘論翻譯的轉換單位’)
09	30th Oct; 1st Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The unit of translation – from sound to text (Cont’d) 	Assignment 2 (1st Nov)
10	6th Nov; 8th Nov	Lesson 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information technology and translation: Some aspects (e.g. the use of corpus in translation and the merits and demerits of technology) 	Reading 8 (Computer-aided translation technology: a practical introduction. Introductory Chapter)
11	13th Nov; 15th Nov	Lesson 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of technical translation 	Assignment 2 due (15th Nov) Reading 9 (《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》第五章：英譯中法律檔譯例評析)
12	20th Nov; 22nd Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of technical translation (Cont’d) Lesson 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of literary translation 	Reading 10 (《翻譯初階》第十七章：藝術性語言的翻譯)
13	27th Nov; 29th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of literary translation (Cont’d) Final test (29th Nov)	Assignment 2 Discussion (27th Nov)

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
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Office Hours:	Mon: 2:30-4:00p.m.; Wed: 12:30-2:00p.m.

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Course materials will be distributed in-class and posted on <https://elearn.cuhk.edu.hk/>

Policy on Absenteeism

In respect of individual courses, a student who, without permission to take leave, has been absent for a continuous period exceeding 4 weeks shall, subject to the Department Board's approval, be given Grade F for the course(s) concerned.

Policy on Penalties for Late Submission of Written Work

Late submission of written work 1-7 days: Minus **ONE** Sub-grade.

Late submission of written work beyond 7 days: The work will not be graded and **Grade F** be given.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.

All assignments must be submitted via the **VeriGuide** (<https://veriguide1.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/cuhk/>) for plagiarism detection. A declaration, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon uploading your assignment. Please submit the signed declaration statement together with the hard copy of the assignment to the course teacher, according to the instructions as stipulated by him/her. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign on the declaration.

Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide. **Assignments without the receipt will not be graded.**