

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2016-2017 (First Term)

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 (as stated in the Student Handbook) 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

(Please explain concisely what the course is about, how it will support student learning in the context of the translation programme, how it relates to other courses, whether any prior knowledge is required, etc)

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

(A listing (preferably in point form) of the expected learning outcomes, probably across the knowledge, skills and values/attitudes (KSV) domains, limited to ~15 items to allow students to appreciate the breadth of the programme while not getting lost in minutiae.)

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

(The statement should describe the range of learning activities that will be used to support the development of these learning outcomes. Some comments on the proportion of each type of learning activity are desirable. Possible learning activities include: lectures, interactive tutorials, laboratory work, discussion of cases, field trips, clinical placement, projects, web-based 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

(The statement should describe the range of assessment tasks that will be used to gauge attainments of these learning outcomes. Some comments on the proportion of each type of assessment are desirable. Possible assessment strategies include, essay test or examinations, short-answer test or examinations, objective test or examinations, essays, presentations, problem sets, lab reports, projects, cases.)

Students will be assessed via several take-home 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)	50%
Class participation	10%
Final test	40%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

(Please provide details about any textbooks and/or suggested readings, including title, publisher, edition and year of publication, and list any recommended web pages with specific URL addresses.)

1. 董明 (2006) 《翻譯：創造性叛逆》。北京：中央編譯出版社。（Online copy 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。（E-book available at the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library system）
3. 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。
4. 許鈞（2001）《文學翻譯的理論與實踐》。南京：譯林出版社。（E-book available at the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library system）
5. 陸文慧（2002）《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》。香港：中華書局。
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. 周兆祥（1996）《翻譯初階》。香港：商務印書館。
8. Chan, S.W. (Ed.). (2002). *Translation and information technology*. Hong Kong: Chinese University of Hong Kong.
9. Bowker, L. (2002). *Computer-aided translation technology : a practical introduction*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press.

Please note that readings (which include chapters of the books listed above) will be distributed in-class; these books are recommended sources only and there is no need to buy any of them.

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	5 th Sept & 7 th Sept	➤ Why translation? – Translations in everyday life	Reading 1
02	12 ^h Sept & 14 th Sept	➤ Why translation? – Translations in everyday life (Cont'd) ➤ 'Accurate' translation and translation as recreation	
03	19 st Sept & 21 st Sept	➤ 'Accurate' translation and translation as recreation (Cont'd)	Assignment 1 (21 st Sept) Reading 2
04	26 th Sept & 28 th Sept	➤ 'Accurate' translation and translation as recreation (Cont'd) ➤ Writing and translation	
05	3 rd Oct &	➤ Writing and translation	

	5 th Oct		
06	10 th Oct (Chung Yeung Festival) & 12 th Oct	➤ Good and poor translations	Assignment 1 due (12 th Oct) Reading 3
07	17 th Oct & 19 th Oct	➤ Good and poor translations (Cont'd)	
08	24 th Oct & 26 th Oct	➤ Difficulties of translation (a balance between adequacy and acceptability)	Assignment 1 discussion (28 th Oct) Reading 4
09	31 st Oct & 2 nd Nov	➤ Difficulties of translation (a balance between adequacy and acceptability) ➤ The unit of translation – from sounds to text	Assignment 2 (2 nd Nov)
10	7 th Nov & 9 th Nov	➤ The unit of translation – from sounds to text (Cont'd) ➤ Information technology and translation: some aspects (e.g. the use of corpus in translation and the merits and demerits of technology)	Reading 5
11	14 th Nov & 16 th Nov	➤ The nature of technical translation	Assignment 2 due (16 th Nov)
12	21 st Nov & 23 th Nov	➤ The nature of literary translation	
13	28 th Nov & 30 th Nov	➤ Final test (30 th Nov)	Assignment 2 Discussion (28 th Nov)

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
Name:	CHU Shiao Ying Sharon
Office Location:	KKL Building, Rm 110
Telephone:	39431866
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Teaching Venue:	Lecture (Wed): LSK 308; tutorial (Mon): YIA 503
Office Hours:	TBC

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Course announcements and materials will be posted on WebCT / distributed in class (please delete as appropriate)

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

(Please add relevant course-specific information if necessary)

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/>.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed **declaration** that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. In the case of group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible should there be any plagiarized contents in the group project, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed directly or indirectly to the plagiarized contents.

For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submission. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.