

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION
2016-17 (First Term)

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE TRAN1010A
ENGLISH TITLE Principles of Translation
CHINESE TITLE 翻譯概論
NUMBER OF UNITS 3
DESCRIPTION This course acquaints students with the general principles of translation. Theory is introduced in so far as it provides an intellectual framework and conceptual background to the practice of translation between Chinese and English.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This is an elementary translation course to introduce the general issues about the nature and process of translation. Emphasis is placed on the nature of translation as a communicative act and relevant topics concerning English and Chinese as the working languages. Basic theories and concepts of translation studies will be discussed and examples of different text types are used to illustrate the dynamics in translation practices.

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.)

Upon completion of this course, students will

- be equipped with a basic framework of the elementary knowledge on translation;
- be aware of the basic problems encountered in English and Chinese translation;
- be alerted to various factors affecting the translators' decision;
- acquire the basic techniques for analysing and translating a text;
- be able to reflect on the nature of translation as a communicative act

Implication for learning activities

The course is made up of lectures and tutorials. Students are introduced to the basic concepts and theories in translation studies in the lectures and seminars. They are provided with translation examples and different text types to enhance their understanding of relevant ideas, and are

encouraged to exchange ideas and produce translations of selected materials in both Chinese and English in-class. Special topics are used to facilitate a focused study of specific texts or cases so as to stimulate interest in the discipline.

Implication for assessment

Students are assessed on their translation and analytical skills (mainly through individual assignments), and communication skills (through their participation in class discussions). Through continuous assessment students are given the opportunity to improve overtime.

LIST OF TOPICS

- Concepts in Translation Studies such as ‘equivalence’, ‘literal translation’ and ‘free translation’, ‘meaning’, and the relevant theories;
- The linguistic aspects of translation;
- The cultural aspect of translation;
- The relationship between text type and translation skills;
- General translation strategies

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Continuous Assessment:	60%
● Assignments (2 in total)	(50%)
● Class Participation	(10%)
Final Test:	40%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Required readings

1. Baker, Mona (1992) *In Other Words: A Coursebook on Translation*. London and New York: Routledge.
2. Jin Di & Eugene A. Nida. (1984). *On translation: With special reference to Chinese and English*. Beijing: China Translation & Publish Corporation.
3. Munday, Jeremy (2008). *Introducing Translation Studies* (2nd ed.). London & New York: Routledge.
4. 周兆祥 (1996) 《翻譯初階》。香港：商務印書館。
5. 譚載喜(1984) 《奈達論翻譯》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。

Recommended readings

1. 陳定安 (1992) 《英漢比較與翻譯》。香港：商務印書館。
2. 張培基導編 (1993) 《英漢翻譯教程》。香港：三聯書店。
3. 毛榮貴編著 (2002) 《新世紀大學漢英翻譯教程》。上海：上海交通大學出版社。
4. 周志培 (2003) 《漢英對比與翻譯中的轉換》。上海：華東理工大學出版社。
5. 孫述宇，金聖華 (1981) 《英譯中：英漢翻譯概論》。香港：香港中文大學校外進修部。
6. 羅新璋，陳應年編著 (2009) 《翻譯論集》。北京：商務印書館。
7. 思果 (1994) 《翻譯新究》。台北：大地出版社。
8. 黃國彬 (1996) 《翻譯途徑》。台北：書林。
9. 金聖華，黃國彬 (1996) 《因難見巧：名家翻譯經驗談》。台北：書林。
10. 孫致禮 (1999) 《翻譯：理論與實踐探索》。南京：譯林出版社。
11. Newmark, Peter (1988) *A Textbook of Translation*. London and New York: Prentice Hall.
12. Bassnett, Susan (1991) *Translation Studies*. London: Routledge.

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	Introduction: Principles of translation – why do we need them? (Relationship with the concept ‘theory’)	Reading 1 (on the principles of translation)
02	12 ^h Sept & 14 th Sept	On literal and free translation, and the concept of equivalence	Assignment 1 (14 th Sept) Reading 2-4 (on the notion ‘equivalence’)
03	19 st Sept & 21 st Sept	Elements of a text: what is “meaning”?	Reading 2-4 (same as above)
04	26 th Sept & 28 th Sept	Elements of a text: what is “meaning”? (Cont’d)	Reading 5 (on the notion ‘meaning’) Assignment 1 due (28 th Sept)
05	3 rd Oct & 5 th Oct	A contrastive comparison between the Chinese and English languages (1)	
06	10 th Oct (Chung Yeung Festival) & 12 th Oct	A contrastive comparison between the Chinese and English languages (2)	Assignment 1 discussion (12 th Oct) Assignment 2 (12 th Oct)
07	17 th Oct & 19 th Oct	Applying what you have learnt – Translating sentences	Reading 6 (on the translation of sentences)

08	24 th Oct & 26 th Oct	The cultural aspect of translation: translating culture-specific terms as a case in point	Assignment 2 due (26 th Oct) Reading 7 (on the relationship between culture and translation)
09	31 st Oct & 2 nd Nov	Text as a unit of translation (1) – text typology Special Topic 1: Why the text matters – language style and the legal language as a case in point	Assignment 3 (31 st Oct)
10	7 th Nov & 9 th Nov	Text as a unit of translation (2) – text typology Special Topic 2: Features of poetic language	Assignment 2 discussion (9 th Nov)
11	14 th Nov & 16 th Nov	Text as a unit of translation (2 Cont'd) – text typology Special Topic 2: Features of poetic language	Assignment 3 due (14 th Nov)
12	21 st Nov & 23 th Nov	Text as a unit of translation (3) – an introduction to cohesion and coherence	Reading 8 (on the relationship between translation and cohesion)
13	28 th Nov & 30 th Nov	Text as a unit of translation (3) – an introduction to cohesion and coherence Final test (30 th Nov)	Assignment 3 Discussion (28 th Nov)

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
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Teaching Venue:	TUT (Mon): UCC110 ; LEC (Wed): LSK206
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.