

**THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION**

**2016-17**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

<b>COURSE CODE:</b>  TRAN1120A
<b>ENGLISH TITLE:</b>  Basic Skills of Translation
<b>CHINESE TITLE:</b>  翻譯基本技巧
<b>NUMBER OF UNITS:</b>  3
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>  This course introduces the fundamental techniques of Chinese-English/English-Chinese translation. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, and exercises are in the form of group projects as well as individual assignments. Common errors are analysed and corrections explained.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

<p>This course focuses on the acquisition of fundamental techniques of Chinese-English and English-Chinese translation. Emphasis is placed on practical skills and application of basic translation principles on various text-types, preparing students for more advanced and specialized translation courses in future. Common errors in translation will be analyzed, based on real-life examples, and students will be encouraged to explain in their own words the methods they have chosen and the principles violated, so that they can produce better translations in future.</p>
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**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

<p><b>Expected learning outcomes</b></p> <p>Through the course of their studies, students learn to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. appreciate and apply the basic practical skills and principles of translation (K/S);</li><li>2. analyze critically and express communicatively the strengths and weaknesses of different source texts and target texts, including their own translations (K/S/V),</li><li>3. heighten their sensitivity to language use and cultural reference (K/V);</li><li>4. increase their awareness of the differences between the reference network of the source text readers and the target text readers (K/V);</li><li>5. develop appropriate translation strategies for different text-types for different purposes (K/S);</li><li>6. utilize various reference tools for translation and background research (K/S); and</li><li>7. cultivate an appropriate mindset for more advanced and specialized translation (K/S/V).</li></ol> <p>K=Knowledge Outcomes; S=Skills Outcomes; V=Values and Attitude Outcomes.</p>
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### Implication for learning activities

The course is essentially knowledge-based and skill-based. Lectures and interactive tutorials will be the dominant activities. Students learn to apply the appropriate writing and translation skills in individual translation assignments. There will also be a group project that requires students to critically analyze translated texts taken from real-life examples with the integrated knowledge and skills acquired.

Lecturers and interactive tutorials will be the dominant activities:

- lectures: ~50% of budgeted class time.
- interactive tutorials: ~25% budgeted class time.
- project and discussion with an emphasis on group work to develop analytical team-work and communication skills: ~25% budgeted class time.

### Implication for assessment

Continuous assessment will be carried out, without a final examination. The range of assessments includes class participation, individual and group translation assignments, group project and presentation, and a translation test.

### LIST OF TOPICS

- Practical skills of translation
- Comparative study of Chinese and English
- Equivalence in translation
- Cultural issues in translation
- Translation, rewriting and recreation
- Basic skills of news translation
- Basic skills of fiction translation

### LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Lecture	Tutorial	Others:
Hours per week 1 hr 45 minutes	Hours per week 45 minutes	Hours per week

### ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Class participation	10%
Home assignments	30%
Group presentation	20%
Term test	40%

### RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

- Newmark, P. (1988). *A Textbook Of Translation*. Hemel Hempstead: Prentice Hall.
- -- (1988). *Approaches To Translation*. Hemel Hempstead: Prentice Hall.
- Nida, E. A. (1993). *Language, Culture and Translating*. Shanghai: Shanghai Foreign Language
- Nida, E. A. (1982). *Translating Meaning*. CA: English Language Institute.
- Nida, E. A., and Taber, Charles R. (1974). *The Theory and Practice of Translation*. Leiden: E.J. Brill.

- 陳小慰 (2006)。《新編實用翻譯教程》。北京：經濟科學出版社。
- 金隄 (1997)。《等效翻譯探索》（增訂版）。北京：對外翻譯。
- 李青編 (2003)。《新編英漢漢英翻譯教程：翻譯技巧與誤譯評析》。北京：北京大學出版社。
- 劉宓慶 (1986)。《文體與翻譯》。北京：對外翻譯。
- 劉宓慶 (1992)。《漢英對比與翻譯》。江西：江西教育。
- 劉宓慶 (1993)。《當代翻譯理論》。台北：書林出版社。
- 蒙興燦、孔令翠編 (2002)。《實用英漢翻譯》。成都：四川大學出版社。
- 邵志洪 (2005)。《漢英對比翻譯導論》。上海：華東理工大學出版社。
- 思果 (2002)。《譯道探微》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版社。
- 蘇紹興 (2008)。《英漢翻譯 100 心法》。香港：商務印書館。
- 翁鳳翔編 (2002)。《實用翻譯》。杭州：浙江大學出版社。
- 蕭立明 (1992)。《翻譯新探》。台北：書林。
- 張培基等著 (1993)。《英漢翻譯教程》。香港：三聯書店。

### FEEDBACK FOR EVALUATION

Students are welcome to provide feedback on the course through

- mid-term questionnaires
- end-of-term questionnaires
- email

### COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Activities/Requirements
1	Introduction Use of references for translation	Group discussion
2	Basic issues of translation I: literal translation, liberal translation, and transliteration	Group discussion
3	Basic issues of translation II: the process of translation, Chinglish and translationese	Group discussion
4	Chines New Year Holiday	
5	The question of equivalence; Nida's translation theory	Group discussion
6	Basic translation skills I: omission and addition	Group discussion Home Assignment 1
7	Basic translation skills II: translation of numbers	Group discussion
8	Basic translation skills III: translation of long sentences	Group discussion Home Assignment 1 due
9	Comparative studies and translation skills I: hypotaxis and parataxis	Group presentation 1
10	Comparative studies and translation skills II: parts of speech	Group presentation 2 Home Assignment 2
11	Cultural issues I: domestication and foreignization; translation of appellative	Group presentation 3

	terms Review of Home Assignment 1	
12	Cultural issues II: translating in context	Group presentation 4 Home Assignment 2 due
13	Basic skills of fiction translation	Group presentation 5
14	Course review Review of Home Assignment 2	Group presentation 6
15	Term Test	Group presentation 7

### CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Lecturer</b>	
Name:	Dr Law Wai On, Kurt
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Teaching Venue:	LSK208
Website (optional):	
Office Hours:	

### COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Course announcements and materials will be posted on CU eLearning System / distributed in class

#### **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/>.

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.