

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2017-18

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE
TRAN2050
ENGLISH TITLE
Lexicography and Translation
CHINESE TITLE
辭典學與翻譯
NUMBER OF UNITS
3
DESCRIPTION
This course studies the history of lexicography in China and in the West, examines the strategies of dictionary compilation and discusses how dictionaries can be effectively used in translation. Printed and electronic dictionaries are both covered, and emphasis is given to C-E and E-C bilingual dictionaries.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students with basic knowledge about various dictionaries and helps them select and use dictionaries effectively to solve various problems in practical translation. It will introduce the theoretical and practical issues in dictionary making, with particular focus on compiling and translating bilingual dictionaries. The relation and interaction among lexicography, corpus linguistics and computational linguistics in dictionary compilation will also be highlighted.

There is no pre-requisite for this course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Introduction: optional

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to acquire basic knowledge of the design, structure, and content of various kinds of dictionaries, and to gain hands-on experience of compiling dictionary entries. They should be able to critically select and effectively use appropriate printed or electronic dictionaries in practical translation.

Expected learning outcomes

1. Have basic knowledge about dictionaries and dictionary compilation.
2. Understand the characteristics and functions of different dictionaries.

3. Able to compare and evaluation different dictionaries.
4. Able to use dictionaries effectively to solve various problems in translation.

Implication for learning activities

We will experiment with delivering the course using the Flipped Classroom method and incorporating more e-learning activities. For selected topics, pre-class videos or readings will be provided for students to learn some theoretical content and basic concepts at home. Class times will then be spent mostly on recapturing major points, answering questions, group discussions and practical exercises. The theoretical aspects of lexicography to be covered include dictionary design, entry structure, definition writing, polysemy and bilingual dictionary compilation. The practical exercises will allow students to gain hands-on experience in compiling and translating dictionary entries. The assignments and project will give students a chance to incrementally build up their knowledge and apply what they have learned in class to perform practical lexicographic tasks.

Implication for assessment (maximum length: 150 words in English and 120 words in Chinese)
 (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 by checkpoint questions, individual assignments and a group project, which will demonstrate how much they have understood and how well they can apply the knowledge and skills learned in class. Active participation in learning activities including pre-class reading and video watching, in-class discussions and practical exercises will also be important.

LIST OF TOPICS

- Lexicography and translation
- Dictionary compilation
- Computational and corpus-based lexicography
- Polysemy and sense distinction
- Monolingual and bilingual dictionaries
- Electronic/online dictionaries
- Specialized dictionaries
- The use of different dictionaries in translation
- Brief history of lexicography

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Lecture	Tutorial	Others: Please specify
Hours per week 1 hr 45 mins	Hours per week 45 mins	Hours per week

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Checkpoint questions	15%
Assignments	40%
Participation in learning activities	15%
Project and Presentation	30%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Required readings, including but not limited to selected sections from the following books, will be distributed in class.

- Atkins, B.T. Sue and Rundell, Michael (2008) *The Oxford Guide to Practical Lexicography*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Chan, Sin-wai (ed.) (2004) *Translation and Bilingual Dictionaries*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag.
- Cowie, Anthony Paul (1999) *English Dictionaries for Foreign Learners: a History*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Fellbaum, Christiane (ed.) (2007) *Idioms and Collocations: Corpus-based Linguistic and Lexicographic Studies*. London; New York: Continuum.
- Hartmann, Reinhard R. K. (1995) “Contrastive Textology, Bilingual Lexicography and Translation”, in Chan, Sin-wai & David E. Pollard (eds.), *An Encyclopaedia of Translation*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 505-518.
- Hartmann, Reinhard R. K. (2007) *Interlingual Lexicography: Selected Essays on Translation Equivalence, Contrastive Linguistics and the Bilingual Dictionary*. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag.
- Hartmann, Reinhard R. K. (2001) *Teaching and Researching Lexicography*. Harlow: Longman Pearson Education.
- Jackson, Howard (2002) *Lexicography: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Landau, Sidney I. (2001) *Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Sinclair, John (ed.) (1987) *Looking Up: An Account of the COBUILD Project in Lexical Computing*. London and Glasgow: Collins ELT.
- Snell-Hornby, Mary (1995) “Lexicography and Translation”, in Chan, Sin-wai & David E. Pollard (eds.), *An Encyclopaedia of Translation*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 533-545.
- Wu, Jingrong (1995) “Chinese-English Dictionaries”, in Chan, Sin-wai & David E. Pollard (eds.), *An Encyclopaedia of Translation*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 519-532.
- Yong, Heming & Jing Peng (2008) *Chinese Lexicography: a History from 1046 BC to AD 1911*. Oxford; New York : Oxford University Press.

FEEDBACK FOR EVALUATION

Students are welcome to provide feedback on the course through

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Activities/Requirements
1	Course Introduction	
2	Dictionary Design (1): Dictionary types, User profile	
3	Dictionary Design (2): Planning a dictionary project	
4	Corpus-based Lexicography (1): Polysemy and sense distinction	Assignment 1
5	Corpus-based Lexicography (2): Writing definitions	
6	Corpus-based Lexicography (3): Selecting examples	Assignment 1 due
7	(Lunar New Year Break)	
8	Bilingual Dictionaries (1): Translating entries	
9	Bilingual Dictionaries (2): Finding equivalents, Filling gaps	Assignment 2
10	Bilingual Dictionaries (3): Culture-specific items	
11	Thesauri and Semantic Webs	Assignment 2 due
12	Cognitive Aspects of the Lexicon	Project consultation
13	Lexical Access and Translation	Project consultation
14	Project Presentation	Student Presentation and Discussion
15	Project Presentation	Student Presentation and Discussion

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
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Teaching Venue:	
Website (optional):	
Office Hours:	

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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.