

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2018-19

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE TRAN2130
ENGLISH TITLE Language Studies for Translation
CHINESE TITLE 語言研究與翻譯
NUMBER OF UNITS 3
DESCRIPTION This course addresses the relationship between translation and linguistics, the scientific study of language. Mainly it concerns how consideration of linguistics issues has an impact on the approaches of translation. Comparison will be made between the language features of Chinese and English.

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)

The relationship between translation and linguistics will be explored with reference to both theories and application for students to appreciate the applicability of theoretical discussions of language issues to translation issues.

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 should be able to appreciate Chinese and English as two languages with distinct grammatical features, the understanding of which should get them better equipped with linguistics knowledge relevant to translation. (S/V)
2. Students should be able to understand translation from a more scientific point of view and appreciate that any language constitutes an organized system instead of just piecemeal rules. They should realize how language works at different levels including the textual level; such awareness should be quite different from what they might have learnt before that language accuracy is restricted only to grammaticality at the sentential level. (V)
3. Students should have a basic idea about the cross-disciplinary nature of translation. (V)

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.)

Linguistic theories are discussed in the context of translation examples in the lectures. Small-group discussions of issues on linguistics/translation are held during the tutorials.

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 their take-home assignments, in-class participation, and a final test. All forms of assessment have a consistent theme on the relationship between linguistic and translation issues. Students will, through the assessments, be able to apply the linguistic knowledge they have learnt to describe and approach the task of translation.

LIST OF TOPICS

- The sounds of Chinese and English, and the role they play in language rhetoric and transliteration.
- The parts of speech in Chinese and English (Differences and similarities in their categorization)
- The systems of tense and aspect in English
- Structural differences between Chinese and English phrases/clauses/sentences and the different ways they are categorized in the two languages
- Thematic ordering of sentences in Chinese & English; in what way the position where a sentential element is placed in a sentence has an impact on its communicative effect
- Topics on cohesion – various strategies to achieve cohesion in C & E
- The nature of Chinese being characterized by parataxis and English by hypotaxis

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
e.g. Assignments	40% (2 in total)
Class participation	20%
Exams	40%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Required readings:

1. Catford, J.C. (1965). *A linguistic theory of translation: an essay in applied linguistics*. London : Oxford University Press
2. Eppler, E.D. & Ozón, G. (2013). *English words and sentences: an introduction*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.
3. Halliday, M.A.K. & Hasan, R. (1976). *Cohesion in English*. London: Longman.
4. Huddleston, R. (1984). *Introduction to the Grammar of English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
5. Roach, P. (1983). *English phonetics and phonology: a practical course*.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

6. 程祥徽, 田小琳 (2013) 《現代漢語》。香港: 三聯書店(香港)有限公司。
7. 金積令 (1996) “英漢語主題結構的對比研究”, 摘自李瑞華 《英漢語言文化對比研究》, 上海: 上海外語教育出版社。

Recommended readings:

1. Biber, D., Johansson, S., Leech, G., Conrad, S., & Finegan, E. (1999). *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. Essex: Pearson Education Limited. (A very thick book for reference purpose)
2. Darling, C. Guide to Grammar and Writing. <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/> (An award-winning and comprehensive site of the grammar issues of English)
3. Swan, M. (2005). *Practical English Usage*. (3rd ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press. (A widely-used grammar book amongst university students)
4. 北京大學中文系現代漢語教研室 (2003) 《現代漢語專題教程》。北京: 北京大學出版社。
5. 黎錦熙 (2001) 《新著國語文法》。北京: 商務印書館。
6. 李濟中, 姚錫遠 (1997) 《現代漢語專題》。北京: 中國社會出版社。
7. 劉宓慶 (1986) 《文體與翻譯》。北京: 中國對外翻譯。

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 (TBC)	Topics	Activities/Requirements
01		• Lesson 1 Course introduction An overview of the interaction between language studies and translation	Reading 1 (<i>A Linguistic theory of translation: an essay in applied linguistics. Chapter 1: general linguistic theory</i>)
02		• Lesson 2 The parts of speech of Chinese and English	Assignment 1 (Date TBC) Reading 2 (<i>English words and Sentences: an Introduction. Chapter 2: Word classes.</i>)
03		• The parts of speech of Chinese and English (Cont'd)	Reading 3 (<i>《現代漢語》第三章: 詞類</i>) Reading 4 (<i>Introduction to the Grammar of English. Section 4.5: Tense; section: 4.7 Aspect</i>)
04		Lesson 3 • The sounds and syllable structures of Chinese and English	Assignment 1 due (Due date TBC) Reading 5 (<i>《現代漢語》第一章: 語音</i>)
05		• The sounds and syllable structures of Chinese and English (Cont'd)	Reading 6 (<i>English Phonetics and Phonology; selected parts from p.14-45</i>)
06		Lesson 4 • Chinese and English phrases and clauses	Assignment 1 discussion (Date TBC)

07		•Chinese and English phrases and clauses (Cont'd)	Assignment 2 (Date TBC)
08		Lesson 5 •Chinese and English sentences	Reading 7 (《英漢語言文化對比研究》。第五章：英漢語主題結構的對比研究)
09		•Chinese and English sentences (Cont'd)	Assignment 2 due (Due date TBC)
10		Lesson 6 •Thematic ordering - A discussion of how sentences are arranged in Chinese and English	Reading 8 (<i>Cohesion in English</i> . Chapter 7: The Meaning of Cohesion.)
11		•Thematic ordering - A discussion of how sentences are arranged in Chinese and English (Cont'd) Lesson 7 •Topics on cohesion	Assignment 2 discussion (Date TBC)
12		•Topics on cohesion (Cont'd)	
13		•Final test (Date TBC)	

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
Name:	CHU Shiao Ying Sharon
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Teaching Venue:	TBC
Office Hours:	TBC

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Course announcements and materials will be distributed in class or posted onto elearning.

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/>.

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.