

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2018-19

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE TRAN3270
ENGLISH TITLE Literary Translation Strategies: English-Chinese
CHINESE TITLE 文學翻譯策略：英譯中
NUMBER OF UNITS 3
DESCRIPTION This course studies the major theoretical issues in literary translation, including stylistic transfer, the concept of equivalence, and reader-response theory. Selections from representative works of translation are analyzed to illustrate problems and their solutions.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is designed to provide advanced instruction and supervised practice in literary translation from English into Chinese. It will consider some major theoretical perspectives on the nature of literature and translation, and will involve close reading of literary texts and their translations for better understanding of how translators make decisions of language, style and form in a literary context.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Expected learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. demonstrate a high level of competence in literary translation;
2. assess and critique a translation with a broad awareness of the technical, stylistic and interpretive issues involved;
3. cultivate a sensitivity to a wide range of English and Chinese literary strategies
4. demonstrate a humanistic understanding of literature and translation
5. identify and critically engage with key concepts in current debates on the theories and praxis of literary translation.

Implication for learning activities

The course will consist chiefly of lectures by the instructor and student-led seminars.

Seminars will be based on readings drawn from theoretical writings and representative translations assigned to particular weeks / topics. Students are expected to deliver concise and coherent presentation on subjects related to literary theories and interpretive approaches, translation strategies, and evaluative criteria.

There will be 3-4 in-class exercises, 3-4 translation assignments, and a final project consisting of translation (about 1500 words) and commentary

Implication for assessment

Students will be assessed on their translation and analytical skills through individual written assignments, seminar presentations, and a final project.

LIST OF TOPICS

1. Approaches to reading literature
2. Translation strategies for dealing with linguistic, stylistic, rhetorical and aesthetic issues in literature.
3. Evaluating literary translation
4. Understanding literary translation as a humanistic activity

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

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

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Translation assignments	35%
Class participation	10%
Presentations	25%
Final project	30 %

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

Bogel, Fredric V. 2013. *New Formalist Criticism: Theory and Practice*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Eagleton, Terry. 2013. *How to Read Literature*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Eagleton, Terry. 1996. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Eliot, T.S. 1960. “Tradition and the Individual Talent.” In *The sacred wood: Essays on Poetry and Criticism*. London: Barnes & Noble Import Division.

Eric, Hayot. 2012. *On Literary Worlds*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Fenton, James. 2002. *An introduction to English poetry*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Jakobson, Roman. 1960. “Closing Statement: Linguistics and Poetics.” In *Style in Language*, edited by Thomas A. Sebeok. Cambridge, M.A.: MIT Press.

Jin, Di. 2003. *Literary Translation: Quest for Artistic Integrity*. Manchester: St. Jerome.

Leavis, F.R. 1963. “The Great Tradition.” In *The Great Tradition: George Eliot, Henry James, Joseph Conrad*. New York: New York University Press.

Leech, Geoffrey. 2007. *Style in Fiction: A Linguistic Introduction to English Fictional Prose*. New York : Pearson Longman.

Lefevere, André. 1992. *Translating Literature: Practice and Theory in a Comparative Literature Context*. New York: Modern Languages Association of America.

Pater, Walter. 1973. “Preface.” In *The Renaissance: Studies in Art and Poetry*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Perloff, Marjorie. 2007. “Presidential Address 2006: It Must Change.” *PMLA* 122 (3): 652–662.

Soderholm, James. 1997. *Beauty and the Critic: Aesthetics in an Age of Cultural Studies*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press.

Wolf, Werner. 2011. “A Defence of (the Study of) Literature, or: Why (the Study of) Literature Cannot be Replaced by Cultural Studies and Film (Studies).” In *Why Study Literature?* edited by Jan Alber et al. Aarhus: Aarhus Universitetsforlag.

黃國彬 . 2006, 〈知其不易為而為之——談英詩漢譯〉. 《翻譯季刊》, 2006 年 12 月第 42 期.

余光中. 2002. 《余光中談翻譯》. 北京: 中國對外翻譯出版公司 .

林以亮 . 1984. 《文學與翻譯》. 臺北: 皇冠出版社.

金聖華,黃國彬 .1996. 《因難見巧 : 名家翻譯經驗談》. 台北:書林.

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	Introduction: literary translation and what makes it special?	Reading (1)
2	Reading for translating: form, content, context	Assignment (1)
3	Figurative language: imagery, metaphor, symbol	Discussion of Reading (1)
4	Semantic deviations: ambiguity, allusions, wordplays and other tropes	Discussion of Reading (1) Assignment (1) due
5	Syntactic foregrounding (I): words in their best order	Review of Assignment (1) Reading (2)
6	Syntactic foregrounding (II): rhythm and why does it matter so much?	Seminar Assignment (2) Discussion of Reading (2)
7	Sound and sense: musicality in translation(I)	Seminar Discussion of Reading (2)
8	Sound and sense: musicality in translation (II)	Seminar Assignment (2) due
9	Going “mental”: from textual to mind style (I)	Seminar Review of Assignment (2) Reading (3) Assignment (3)
10	Going “mental”: from textual to mind style (2)	Seminar Discussion of Reading (3)
11	With the “inner eye”: introducing an approach of embodiment	Seminar, Discussion of Reading (3) Assignment (3) due
12	Reading and appraisal of literary translations	Review of Assignment (3) Seminar Reading (4)
13	Textual Infatuation: what do literary translators say about literature and translation	Seminar Discussion of Reading (4)
14	Review	Discussion of Reading (4)

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	
Name:	Zhou Min
Office Location:	
Telephone:	

Email:	jasmine-0784@hotmail.com
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

(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.

