

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION

2017-18

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE CODE TRAN6103
ENGLISH TITLE Translation of Legal Writings
CHINESE TITLE 法律文獻翻譯
NUMBER OF UNITS 3
DESCRIPTION This course aims at familiarizing students with the language used in legal documents in both English and Chinese and developing their skills in translating these documents. Students are required to do home and class assignments. Group discussions are held to study issues related to legal translation.

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course is a highly practical course, enabling students to deal with various issues in legal translation. During the whole learning process, students will be provided with the basic knowledge, skills and techniques in handling various issues in legal writings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Expected learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to:

- understand general features of legal texts and legal systems;
- familiarize common legal terms and legal concepts;
- acquire skills in understanding and translating long and complex legal sentences;
- demonstrate their analytical ability and critical attitude in tackling the specific problems confronting them in legal translation.

Implication for learning activities

For course where the outcomes are strongly in the knowledge domain, lectures will be the dominant activities. Students will be involved in various translation exercises and discussions in lectures.

Implication for assessment

As a general rule, the course will use a range of continuous assessment and not rely merely on final examination. The continuous assessment consists of three assignments and one final test.

LIST OF TOPICS

- General features of legal texts
- Legal translation strategies, principles and methods
- Translating legal words, phrases and sentences

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Lecture	Tutorial	Others: Please specify
Hours per week 2 hrs. 15 mins.	Hours per week	Hours per week

ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Task nature	Weight
Assignments (×3)	60%
Final test	40%

RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

1. Coode, George (1852). *Legislative Expression or The Language of the Written Law*. In Appendix to Stanley Robinson, *Drafting: its applications to conveyancing and commercial documents*. London: Butterworths, 1980.
 2. Mellinkoff, David (1963). *The Language of the Law*. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. A classic scholarly work on the special features of the language of the common law and its development. A must for all serious students of law and translation.
 3. Sarcevic, Susan (1997). *New Approach to Legal Translation*. The Hague: Kluwer Law International.
 4. 陳忠誠 (1992)。《法窗譯話》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
 5. 李克興、張新紅 (2006)。《法律文本與法律翻譯》。北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司。
 6. 陸文慧 (2002)。《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》。香港：中華書局。
 7. 王道庚 (2013)。《法律翻譯—理論與實踐》(第二版)。香港：香港城市大學出版社。
- Note: There is no need to buy or borrow any of these references, as the required reading materials will be provided by the teacher.

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	General introduction	Class discussion
2	General features of legal texts (1)	Class discussion
3	General features of legal texts (2)	Class discussion
4	Legal translation strategies, principles and methods (1)	Assignment 01
5	Legal translation strategies, principles and methods (2)	Class discussion
6	Legal translation strategies, principles and methods (3)	Class discussion
7	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (1)	Assignment 02
8	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (2)	Class discussion
9	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (3)	Class discussion
10	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (4)	Assignment 03
11	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (5)	Class discussion
12	Translating legal words, phrases and sentences (6)	Class discussion
13	Course summary	
14	Final test	

(Tentative)

CONTACT DETAILS

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor	Lecturer
Name:	Dr. WANG Yan
Office Location:	KKB108
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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

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 be given a failure grade.

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.