

**THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION**

**2017–18**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

<b>COURSE CODE</b> TRAN6110
<b>ENGLISH TITLE</b> Literary Translation
<b>CHINESE TITLE</b> 文學翻譯
<b>NUMBER OF UNITS</b> 3
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>  The course teaches the rhetorical features which characterize literary writing and the ways to reproduce these features in the translation. Special attention is paid to stylistic transfer between languages, cultural differences, and illocutionary meaning. Seminars are conducted by students to examine the particularities of different literary genres, such as poetry, drama, and fiction, and the special strategies required for their translation.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course will consider the theoretical and practical approaches to translation in three major literary genres: drama, poetry and prose fiction. Students will be guided to compare different translations and discuss how translators make decisions of language, style and cultural equivalency. The coursework will involve 3-4 practice assignments and one final project of translation and commentary.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Expected learning outcomes**

After completing the course, students will :

- have a deeper understanding of literary genres and conventions in both Chinese and English traditions;
- be able to identify different stylistic devices and rhetorical tropes, and to evaluate their functions in literary texts;
- be able to analyse and evaluate critically literary translations ;
- have a good grasp of skills for 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 work in small groups to produce concise and coherent presentation on subjects related to literary theories and interpretive approaches, translation strategies, and evaluative criteria.

There will be 3-4 translation exercises 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 assignments, seminar presentations, and a final project. .

**LIST OF TOPICS**

- The Familiarizing / De-familiarizing Controversy in translation studies
- Sentence styles and translation
- Dialogue and register
- Translating proverbs, idioms and dialects
- Translating poetry
- Translating for theater

**LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Tutorial</b>	<b>Others:</b> Please specify
<b>Hours per week</b> 2 hrs 15 mins	<b>Hours per week</b>	<b>Hours per week</b>

**ASSESSMENT SCHEME**

<b>Task nature</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Class participation	10%
Assignments	35%
Seminar Presentation	20%
Final Project	35%

**RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES**

Recommended Readings :

Bassnett, Susan and André Lefevere (1998). *Constructing Cultures: Essays on Literary Translation*. Clevedon, Philadelphia, Toronto, Sydney, and Johannesburg: Multilingual Matters.

Connors, Clare (2010). *Literary Theory: A Beginner's Guide*. Oxford; New York: Oneworld.

Epstein, B.J. (2012). *Translating Expressive Language in Children's Literature: Problems and Solutions*. Oxford; New York: Peter Lang.

Fenton, James (2002). *An Introduction to English Poetry*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

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

Landers, Clifford E. (c2001). *Literary Translation: A Practical Guide*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.

Leech, Geoffrey N. (1969). *A Linguistic Guide to English Poetry*. Harlow: Longman.

Leech, Geoffrey (2007). *Style in Fiction: A Linguistic Introduction to English Fictional Prose* (2nd ed.). New York: Pearson Longman.

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

Levý, Jiri (c2011). *The Art of Translation*. New Amsterdam; Philadelphia: John Benjamins Pub. Co.

Liu, James (1966). *The Art of Chinese Poetry*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Newmark, Peter (1981). *Approaches to Translation*. Oxford: Pergamon.

Venuti, Lawrence (1998). *The Scandals of Translation: Towards an Ethics of Difference*. London; New York: Routledge.

余光中 (2002) 。《余光中談翻譯》。北京市：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	The Familiarizing/ De-familiarizing Controversy in Translation Studies	Reading (1)
2	Sentence styles and Translation ( 1)	Assignment (1)
3	Sentence Styles and Translation (2)	
4	Dialogue and register (1)	Reading (2)
5	Dialogue and register (2)	Reading (3) , Assignment (2)
6	Translating politeness across cultures	Seminar
7	Reading English poetry	Seminar , Reading (4)
8	Translating English poetry	Seminar
9	Translating Chinese poetry	Seminar , Reading (5)
10	Translating idioms, proverbs and dialects	Seminar , Assignment (3)
11	Translating for Theater	Seminar
12	Rewriting Shakespeare	Seminar , Reading (6)
13	Review	

(Tentative)

## CONTACT DETAILS

<b>Professor/Lecturer/Instructor</b>	
Name:	Prof. Chan Man Sing
Office Location:	
Telephone:	
Email:	
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.