

**THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSLATION**

**2018-2019  
COURSE OUTLINE**

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| <b>COURSE CODE</b><br>TRAN6117   |
| <b>ENGLISH TITLE</b><br>Bilingual Editing Skills   |
| <b>CHINESE TITLE</b><br>雙語編輯技巧   |
| <b>NUMBER OF UNITS</b><br>3  |
| <b>DESCRIPTION</b><br>This course aims at training students in the techniques of editing Chinese, English and translated texts, copywriting and electronic publishing. |

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

Editing is an important part of the global translation industry, and editing skills are a distinct subset of translation skills in general. Students will learn how to edit their own work in terms of style and accuracy. The course will offer the opportunity to work on different types of text, from magazines and newspapers to book manuscripts and film subtitles, with an emphasis on editing translations and improving language quality.

No prior knowledge is required for participation in this course.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Expected learning outcomes**

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- proofread and edit English texts, Chinese texts, translations, and bilingual texts
- identify key differences between Chinese and English
- understand strategies for editing book manuscripts, magazine articles etc.
- take socio-cultural factors into consideration when editing various texts

**Implication for learning activities**

Students will have the opportunity to edit real life examples of different texts in various stages of the publication process. Lectures will take the format of an opening discussion followed by in-class exercises. In addition, there will be weekly take-home editing exercises.

**Implication for assessment**

The assessment will be divided between regular homework assignments, three of which will be assessed for a total weighting of 50%, and a final editing test in the last week of term (40% of the final grade). The final test will cover the majority of areas that have already been discussed in class. In addition, 10% of the final grade will be awarded for class participation, as active discussion in class is highly encouraged.

## LIST OF TOPICS

- Editing and revising for translators
- Editing Chinese texts
- Editing English texts – how to write good English?
- Editing translations
- Editing bilingual texts
- Dealing with “Chinglish”
- The differences between Chinese and English

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

| Lecture                           | Tutorial       | Others: Please specify |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Hours per week<br>2 hrs. 15 mins. | Hours per week | Hours per week         |

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

| Task nature         | Weight |
|---------------------|--------|
| Assignments (x3)    | 50%    |
| Class participation | 10%    |
| Final test          | 40%    |

## RECOMMENDED LEARNING RESOURCES

- Baskette, Floyd F., Jack Z. Sissors, and Brian S. Brooks (1982). *The Art of Editing*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.
- Choy, Maria C. (1996). “The Art of Bilingual Editing of Magazines.” *Babel* 42 (2): 84–94.
- Lanham, Richard (2006). *Revising Prose*. London: Longman.
- Mossop, Brian (2007). *Revising and Editing for Translators*. Manchester: St. Jerome Publishing.
- Stainton, Elsie Myers (2002). *The Fine Art of Copyediting*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Strunk, W., Jr., and White, E.B. (1979). *The Elements of Style*. (3rd ed.). New York: Macmillan.
- Ward, James H. (1988). “Editing in a Bilingual Context.” *Technical Writing and Communication* 18 (3): 221–26.
- 北京出版社（1981）。《編輯雜談》。北京：北京出版社。
- <http://www.pinyin.info/rules/index.html> (see rules for pinyin)

## 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    | What is editing? What does an 'editor' do?       | Discussion and exercises    |
| 2    | Editing English texts and things to look out for | Exercises                   |
| 3    | Editing skills: making comments and queries      | Assignment 1                |
| 4    | Editing translations                             | Exercises                   |
| 5    | Editing bilingual texts                          | Exercises                   |
| 6    | Editing dictionaries                             | Exercises                   |
| 7    | Magazine editing (lifestyle writing)             | Assignment 2                |
| 8    | Editing translations 2                           | Exercises                   |
| 9    | Newspaper editing (journalistic writing)         | Exercises                   |
| 10   | Book editing                                     | Assignment 3                |
| 11   | Politics, censorship and the editor              | Exercises                   |
| 12   | Review   | Review and test preparation |
| 13   | End of term test                                 |                             |

*(Tentative)*

## CONTACT DETAILS

|                                      |                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Professor/Lecturer/Instructor</b> |                         |
| Name:                                | Prof. Duncan Poupard    |
| Office Location:                     | Room 126                |
| Telephone:                           |                         |
| Email:                               | duncan@arts.cuhk.edu.hk |
| 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.