

City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A 2020/21

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Fundamentals of Translation

Course Code: LT2341

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: B2

Arts and Humanities

Proposed Area:
(for GE courses only)

Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations

Science and Technology

Medium of Instruction: English and Chinese

Medium of Assessment: English and Chinese

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) CTL2341 General Translation

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This is a theme-based course that introduces the basic concepts, issues, and techniques of translation and its related activities such as editing and proofreading. We will traverse a wide range of materials (literature, arts, news, commercial posts, political slogans, and arts) in order to understand how translation is evaluated and conducted in different contexts. In this course, we propose to expand and complicate the concept of “translation” to include various linguistic, literary, and artistic practices in order to train the students to meet the industry standards and develop an innovative approach to translation studies and practices.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs [#]	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick ✓ where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify and evaluate the suitability of the methods of translation for various kinds of English-to-Chinese and/or from Chinese-to-English translation tasks.		✓	✓	
2.	Translate from English to Chinese and/or from Chinese to English various text types in their respective appropriate styles.			✓	✓
3.	Identify and explore one or two major schools of contemporary translation theories.		✓	✓	✓
4.	Apply the translation theories learned to the evaluation of practical translation work.			✓	✓

* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

[#] Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course.

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
1	Lectures – Translation techniques and theories are introduced in lectures. Authentic examples of translation works will be used to highlight the relevant points.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
2	Translation Projects – Two translation projects will be assigned to students to reflect on the real-world problems and come up with solutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
3	Translation exercises – Students are required to do translation exercises every week before coming to the tutorial.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
4	Canvas or other online facilities – Students are encouraged to make use of the web for research, exchange of views and online assessment.	✓	✓	✓	✓			

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course.

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4				
Continuous Assessment: 100%								
Participation/Presentation Participation assumes regular attendance and coverage of all required materials. It is expressed through active, critical and intelligent comments and questions in class.	✓	✓	✓	✓			25%	
Translation projects Two translation projects will be assigned to help students develop different skills needed for various translation practices.	✓	✓	✓	✓			50%	
Midterm Test A midterm test will be given to assess students' understanding of course materials and ability to apply the translation theories they learned in class.	✓	✓	✓	✓			25%	
							100%	

* The weightings should add up to 100%.

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Participation/presentation	Participation assumes regular attendance and coverage of all required materials. It is expressed through active, critical and intelligent comments and questions in class.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. Midterm test	2.1 Command of knowledge of key aspects of general translation	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
	2.2 linguistic competence and translation skills to perform general translation tasks effectively.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
3. Translation projects	1.1 Command of knowledge of key aspects of general translation	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
	2.2 linguistic competence and translation skills to perform general translation tasks effectively.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Basic concepts, methods, theories, definitions, and techniques of translation, use of reference materials and transliteration table; Pinyin system; Wade–Giles system; commercial translation; translation of advertising posts; translation of literary texts; academic translation; film translation (subtitling and dubbing); translating cultures; psychology of translation; proverbs and idioms; common and proper nouns; tones and meanings; translation of reference books; translation of footnotes; formal equivalence and dynamic equivalence.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Selections from Jeremy Munday's <i>Introducing Translation Studies-Theories and Applications</i> (Fourth Edition). New York: Routledge, 2016.
2.	Selections from Di Jin's and Eugene A. Nida's <i>On Translation</i> . Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press, 2006.
3.	All other readings will be uploaded to Canvas.

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Hatim, Basil and Jeremy Munday. (2004). <i>Translation: An Advanced Resource Book</i> . London and New York: Routledge.
2.	Jin, Di and Eugene Nida. (2006). <i>On Translation</i> . An Expanded Edition. Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong Press.
3.	Munday, Jeremy. (2001/08) <i>Introducing Translation Studies</i> . 1 st /2 nd Ed. London: Routledge.
4.	Venuti, Lawrence. (Ed.) (2004), <i>The Translation Studies Reader</i> ; 2 nd Ed. N.Y. & London: Routledge.
5.	彭鏡禧主編，2016。《文學翻譯自由談》台北，書林。
6.	葉子南，2000。《英漢翻譯理論與實踐》，台北，書林。
7.	邵志洪，2003。《翻譯理論、實踐與評析》，上海，華東理工大學。