

**City University of Hong Kong**  
**Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation with  
effect from Semester A 2017 / 18**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Legal Translation

**Course Code:** LT3349

**Course Duration:** One Semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** B3

**Proposed Area:**  
(for GE courses only)

Arts and Humanities  
 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) CTL3349 Legal Translation

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course aims to help students explore and tackle the problems peculiar to translation for legal purposes, with a view to fostering among them an awareness of the special needs and requirements of the variety of tasks involved, equipping them with the linguistic, conceptual and research tools for performing such tasks, and providing them with guided and independent practice in legal translation.

### 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 <sup>#</sup>	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick ✓ where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Demonstrate a good grasp of the basic problems facing, and some of the common solutions available to, the translator and interpreter who must respond to, and manipulate the terminology, idiom, and culture-bound language of legal discourse		✓	✓	✓
2.	Manipulate the terminology, idiom, and culture-bound language of legal discourse		✓	✓	✓
3.	Translate with ease and skill common types of legal text		✓	✓	✓

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

100%

<sup>#</sup> 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.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.					Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3			
1	<b>Lecture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The profession of legal translation in Hong Kong</li> <li>Special features of legal language</li> <li>Legal terminology</li> <li>Simple case analysis and statutory analysis</li> <li>Common types of legal document</li> </ul>	✓	✓				
2	<b>Tutorial</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open class discussion</li> <li>Small group discussion</li> <li>Simple legal research</li> </ul>	✓	✓				
3	<b>In-class exercises and discussion</b>			✓			
4	<b>Home assignment</b>			✓			

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

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

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3				
Continuous Assessment: 70%							
<b>Class participation</b>	✓	✓	✓			10%	
<b>Coursework</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 class/home assignments</li> <li>a piece of simple legal research</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓			60%	
<b>Examination:</b> 30% (duration: , if applicable) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 or 3 legal texts for E – C translation</li> <li>2 or 3 legal texts for C – E translation</li> </ul> (CILO No. 1-3)							
* The weightings should add up to 100%.							
						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. simple legal research	Ability to organise and analyse what they have learned and discovered in the course	Shown exceptional analysis of the subject matter with excellent discovery of the translation issues.	Shown good analysis of the subject matter with good discovery of the translation issues.	Shown some analysis of the subject matter with fair discovery of the translation issues.	Shown marginally acceptable analysis of the subject matter with fair discovery of the translation issues.	Shown poor analysis of the subject matter with little discovery of the translation issues.
2. class/home assignments	Command of subject matter	Excellent command of the course content.	Good command of the course content.	Fair command of the course content.	Fair command of the course content.	Inadequate command of the course content.
3. Examination	Accuracy and clarity, organization and fluency in writing and translation	1. Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter taught in the course related to legal translation. 2. Excellent application of concepts and theories taught in class. 3. Excellent analyses of source texts provided. 4. Demonstration of excellent analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.	1. Demonstration of good command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of legal translation. 2. Good application of concepts and theories taught in class. 3. Good analyses of source texts provided. 4. Demonstration of good analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.	1. Demonstration of fair command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of legal translation. 2. Fair application of concepts and theories taught in class. 3. Fair analyses of source texts provided. 4. Demonstration of fair analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.	1. Demonstration of marginal command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of legal translation. 2. Marginal application of concepts and theories taught in class. 3. Marginal analyses of source texts provided. 4. Demonstration of marginal analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.	Failure to meet most or all the criterion.

**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.)

The profession of legal translation. Characteristics of Chinese and English as used in legal discourse. Case analysis: common law analysis and statutory analysis. Translation practice in various kinds of legal texts.

**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	Nil
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**2.2 Additional Readings**

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

1	Clegg, Leonard J. 1939. <i>The Common Law</i> . London: Heath Cranton Ltd. 甘寶琦等譯《普通法》。專題研究及翻譯。香港城市理工學院，1992。
2	Cottrell, Jill. 1997. Holland, James A. and Webb, Julian S. 1996. <i>Learning Legal Rules</i> . 3 <sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Blackstone Press Ltd. A more technical guide for finding, reading and using legal materials in general and for solving legal problems in particular.
3	Curzon, L. B. 1985. <i>Basic Law: An Introduction for Students</i> . 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed. Plymouth: Macdonald and Evans.
4	<i>Legal System in Hong Kong</i> . Hong Kong: The Government Printer. <a href="http://www.info.gov.hk/jud/index.htm">http://www.info.gov.hk/jud/index.htm</a> . The bilingual texts of the legislation can be obtained from <a href="http://www.justice.gov.hk">http://www.justice.gov.hk</a> .
5	Padfield, Colin F. 1989. <i>Law Made Simple</i> . 7 <sup>th</sup> ed. Revised by D. L. A. Barker. London: Heinemann.
6	Roebuck, Derek. 1990. <i>The Background of the Common Law</i> . 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed. Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.
7	Russell, Frances and Locke, Christine. 1992. <i>English Law and Language</i> . London: Cassell. Written for foreign students.
8	Wesley-Smith, Peter. 1993. <i>An Introduction to the Hong Kong Legal System</i> . 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed. Hong Kong: oxford University Press.
9	Williams, Glanville. 1982. <i>Learning the Law</i> . 11 <sup>th</sup> ed. London: Stevens and Sons. Bradney, A. et al. 1995. <i>How to Study Law</i> . 3 <sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Sweet & Maxwell.
10	陳培嬌等譯《基本英國法律手冊》。專題研究及翻譯。香港城市工學院，1993。
11	姜劍雲，1995，《法律語言與言語研究》，北京：群眾出版社。
12	李澤沛。1987。《香港法律概述》。法律出版社。A comprehensive introduction to the various branches of Hong Kong law.
13	潘慶雲，1989，《法律語言藝術》，上海：學林出版社。
14	<a href="http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/eres/database/info/chinalawinfo.htm">http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/eres/database/info/chinalawinfo.htm</a>
15	<a href="http://www.judiciary.gov.hk/tc/index/index.htm">http://www.judiciary.gov.hk/tc/index/index.htm</a>
16	<a href="http://www.justice.gov.hk/index.htm">http://www.justice.gov.hk/index.htm</a>
17	<a href="http://law.moj.gov.tw/">http://law.moj.gov.tw/</a>
18	<a href="http://www.lexisnexis.com">http://www.lexisnexis.com</a>