

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

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

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Specialized Translation in Law

**Course Code:** LT4362

**Course Duration:** One Semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** B4

Arts and Humanities

**Proposed Area:**  Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations

*(for GE courses only)*

Science and Technology

**Medium of Instruction:** English and Chinese

**Medium of Assessment:** English and Chinese

**Prerequisites:** Nil  
*(Course Code and Title)*

**Precursors:** LT3349 Legal Translation  
*(Course Code and Title)*

**Equivalent Courses:** CTL4362 Specialized Translation in Law  
*(Course Code and Title)*

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

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

The course further develops students' ability to translate more difficult texts for legal purposes by (1) sensitizing them to the subtle linguistic, cultural and legal issues involved; (2) stimulating them to explore for solutions to the multi-faceted problems confronting them; and (3) developing professionalism in performing a variety of tasks in legal settings.

### 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.	Describe the work environment of legal translators in Hong Kong.		✓		
2.	Demonstrate a working knowledge of the legal system in Hong Kong.		✓		
3.	Translate with an in-depth knowledge of the requirements of translation in the world of legal writing.		✓	✓	
4.	Translate with a better understanding of the principles and techniques of translating documents used in law and the administration of justice.		✓	✓	
5.	Produce professionally acceptable translation of various types of legal documents.		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

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

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	5	
1	<b>Lectures:</b> - Transformation from a unilingual to a bilingual legal system - Evolution of legal language in Hong Kong - Language problems confronting Hong Kong's legal profession - Different types of translation problem - Problems arising from the syntactic, stylistic, and discourse of legal English and legal Chinese - Bridging conceptual gaps; semantic reference scheme and equivalence in legal meaning - Translating legal terminology - Lexical analysis, componential analysis, terminological principles - Coode's analysis of legislative texts, structural analysis, restructuring	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	<b>Tutorial:</b> - Open class discussion - Small group discussion	✓	✓	✓	✓		
3	Translating legislation, judgments, private legal documents, witness statements	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

### 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	5		
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
<b>Class participation / Tutorial exercises:</b> Students' general performance throughout the semester, including in-class vocab exercises, practical translation exercises, and discussions	✓	✓				20%	
<b>Class Assignments:</b> <b>Translation</b> of selected legal texts related to topics covered in lectures			✓	✓	✓	60%	
<b>Research paper:</b> Students are asked to conduct research on a legal topic or visit the court and write a court visit report on court proceedings and translators at work			✓	✓	✓	20%	
<b>Examination: 0%</b>							
						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. Class Participation	Attendance and participation in group discussion	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Poor
2. Classwork	Ability to apply and master skills and techniques to translating different legal texts	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Poor
3. Research paper	A research assignment for students to understand how our legal system works.	High	Significant	Moderate	Below Average	Poor

### 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.)

Legal translation in Hong Kong: work environment and bilingual legal system; translation problems arising from legal language; principles and methods of legal translation; practice in legal translation

#### 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	Sarcevic, S. (1997) <i>New Approaches to Legal Translation</i> . The Hague: Kluwer Law.
2	陳可欣著 (2014) 《法律翻譯系列：兩岸三地合約法主要詞彙》 ( <i>Legal Translation Series: Key Terms in Contract Law of Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan</i> ) 香港：香港城市大學出版社。
3	_____ (2015) 《法律翻譯系列：兩岸三地侵權法主要詞彙》 ( <i>Legal Translation Series: Key Terms in Tort Law of Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan</i> ) 香港：香港城市大學出版社。
4	李克興著 (2013) 《高級法律翻譯與寫作》。北京：北京大學出版社。
5	_____ (2011) 《英漢法律翻譯案例講評》。北京：外文出版社。
6	陸文慧著 (1991) 「基本法的英譯問題」，載於劉靖之編《翻譯新論集》。香港：商務印書館，頁 319 – 334。
7	_____ 編 (2002) 《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》。香港：中華書局。
8	孫萬彪著 (2003) 《英漢法律翻譯教程》。上海：上海外語教育。
9	王道庚著 (2006) 《法律翻譯：理論與實踐》。香港：香港城市大學出版社。

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

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

1	陳弘毅等合編 (1999) 《香港法概論》。香港：三聯。
2	何美歡 (1999) 《香港合同法》。香港：中文大學出版社。
3	李昌道、龔曉航 (1990) 《30 常用香港法例新解》。香港：三聯書店。

4	李啟恩主編 (1991)《香港法教程》。韶關：中山大學出版社。
5	李澤沛主編 (1987)《香港法律概述》。北京：法律出版社。
6	李宗鏗著 (1986)《香港合約法與公司法》。香港：商務印書館。
7	李宗鏗著 (1988)《香港房地產法》。香港：商務印書館。
8	李宗鏗著 (1991)《香港日用法律大全》。香港：商務印書館。
9	呂光、楊楨著 (1984)《英美契約法概論》。台北：天工書局。
10	余振龍主編 (1989 - 1991)《香港法例中譯參考》。上海：上海翻譯出版公司。
11	張學仁主編 (1992)《香港法概論》。武漢：武漢大學出版社。
12	Wesley-Smith, Peter. (1998) <i>An Introduction to the Hong Kong Legal System</i> . 3rd ed. Hong Kong: oxford University Press. A brief and clear introduction to the legal system and constitutional framework of Hong Kong.
13	Nida, Eugene A. (1971) "Semantic components in translation theory." In G. E. Perren and J. L. M. Trun (Eds.), <i>Applications of Linguistics: Selected Papers of the Second International Congress of Applied Linguistics</i> . Cambridge: CUP. 341 – 348.
14	<a href="https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/glossary/en">https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/glossary/en</a>
15	<a href="https://www.judiciary.hk/en/home/index.html">https://www.judiciary.hk/en/home/index.html</a>
16	<a href="https://www.hklii.hk/chi/">https://www.hklii.hk/chi/</a>
17	<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>
18	<a href="http://en.pkulaw.cn/">http://en.pkulaw.cn/</a>
19	<a href="http://www.lexisnexis.com">http://www.lexisnexis.com</a>