

City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

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

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Theory of Translation

Course Code: LT5603

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction:

English is the main medium of instruction and assessment, but Chinese is allowed in situations where English-Chinese translation and interpretation, bilingual legal drafting, or study of Chinese language, literature and culture, is involved.

Medium of Assessment:

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Prerequisites:

(Course Code and Title)

Nil

Precursors:

(Course Code and Title)

Nil

Equivalent Courses:

(Course Code and Title)

CTL5603 Theory of Translation

Exclusive Courses:

(Course Code and Title)

Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

This course aims to give students an overview of the theory of translation and to introduce them to the fundamental aspects of translation as a profession and academic discipline, encouraging them to discover interfaces between different theories as well as creating new modes of conceptualizing translation as an academic discipline with linguistic, communicational, and above all intellectual significance.

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 remember the main features of basic theoretical approaches to translation			✓	
2.	Understand and state important theoretical considerations in the process of translation		✓	✓	✓
3.	Explain translation studies as a discipline			✓	
4.	Describe analytically the basic concepts of translation		✓	✓	✓
5.	Discuss to discover interfaces between the basic concepts of translation			✓	✓
6.	Apply theory to practice and to the evaluation of such practice		✓	✓	✓
7.	Discuss to create new modes of conceptualizing translation with reference to its academic significance		✓	✓	✓

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	4	5	6	7	
1	Lecture and Tutorial: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of translation theory - An analytical review of major theorists and models to illustrate interfaces among such models - Translation Studies: Holmes and beyond - Chinese and non-Chinese traditions: Some key concepts examined to create new conceptions of translation drawing on the two traditions, - Tutorial exercises to test understanding of concepts taught. 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

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	4	5	6	7		
Continuous Assessment: 100%									
1. First Essay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	30%	
2. Second Essay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	50%	
3. Tutorial Exercise and Participation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
								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. Essays	Ability to apply translation theories learned to the evaluation of translated texts	Excellent mastery of major schools of traditional and contemporary translation theories. Excellent linguistic competence to present the translation theories effectively and to provide relevant and original examples when required.	Good mastery of major schools of traditional and contemporary translation theories. Good linguistic competence to present the translation theories effectively and to provide relevant and original examples when required.	Adequate mastery of major schools of traditional and contemporary translation theories. Adequate linguistic competence to present the translation theories effectively and to provide relevant and original examples when required.	Fair mastery of major schools of traditional and contemporary translation theories. Fair linguistic competence to present the translation theories effectively and to provide relevant and original examples when required.	Inability to master major schools of traditional and contemporary translation theories. Poor linguistic competence to present the translation theories effectively and to provide relevant and original examples when required.
2. Tutorial Exercise and Participation	Hands-on translation and discussion	Excellent translation and analysis of translated texts with reference to translation theories. Very active and effective participation in classroom discussion and/or online discussion forum.	Good translation and analysis of translated texts with reference to translation theories. Active and effective participation in classroom discussion and/or online discussion forum.	Adequate translation and analysis of translated texts with reference to translation theories. Satisfactory participation in classroom discussion and/or online discussion forum.	Fair translation and analysis of translated texts with reference to translation theories. Marginal participation in classroom discussion and/or online discussion forum.	Poor translation and analysis of translated texts with reference to translation theories. Inadequate participation in classroom discussion and/or online discussion forum.

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.)

Major historical and contemporary approaches to translation; issues central to the theory of translation; issues central to the process of translation; overview of translation as a profession and an academic discipline.

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.)

Munday, J. 2016. *Introducing translation studies: Theories and applications*. (4th ed.) London: Routledge.

2.2 Additional Readings

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

1.	Baker, M. (ed.). 2011. <i>The Routledge encyclopedia of translation studies</i> . (2 ⁿ Ed.). London: Routledge.
2.	Bassnett, S. & Lefevere, L. (eds.). 1990. <i>Translation, history and culture</i> . London: Pinter.
3.	Benjamin, A. 1989. <i>Translation and the nature of philosophy: A new theory of words</i> . London: Routledge.
4.	Catford, J.C. 1965. <i>A linguistic theory of translation</i> . London: Oxford University Press.
5.	Chesterman, A. and E. Wagner. 2002. <i>Can theory help translators? : a dialogue between the ivory tower and the wordface</i> . Manchester, UK ; Northampton, MA : St. Jerome.
6.	Gentzler, E. 2001. <i>Contemporary translation theories</i> . (2 nd ed.). Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
7.	Hatim, B. & Mason, I. 1997. <i>The translator as communicator</i> . London: Routledge.
8.	Hermans, T. 1999. <i>Translation in systems</i> . Manchester: St. Jerome.
9.	Newmark, P. 1988. <i>A textbook of translation</i> . New York: Prentice Hall.
10.	Nida, E.A. & Taber, C.R. 1969. <i>The theory and practice of translation</i> . Leiden: E.J. Brill.
11.	Nord, C. 1997. <i>Translating as a purposeful activity: Functionalist approaches explained</i> . Manchester: St. Jerome.
12.	Steiner, G. 1998. <i>After Babel: aspects of language and translation</i> . (3 rd Ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
13.	Toury, G. 1995. <i>Descriptive translation studies – And beyond</i> . Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
14.	Venuti, L. 1995. <i>The translator's invisibility: A history of translation</i> . London: Routledge.
15.	Venuti, L. (ed.). 2004. <i>The translation studies reader</i> . (2 nd Ed.). London: Routledge.
16.	陳德鴻, 張南峰. (編). 2000. <i>西方翻譯理論精選</i> . 香港: 香港城市大學出版社.
17.	沈蘇儒. 1998. <i>論信, 達, 雅 : 嚴復翻譯理論研究</i> . 北京: 商務印書館.