

# LT3351: LITERARY TRANSLATION

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2022/23

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Literary Translation

### Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

### Course Number

3351

### Academic Unit

Linguistics and Translation (LT)

### College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

Other Languages

### Other Languages for Medium of Instruction

English and Chinese

### Medium of Assessment

Other Languages

### Other Languages for Medium of Assessment

English and Chinese

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

CTL3351 Literary Translation

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course aims to develop students' linguistic, cultural and aesthetic sensitivity to the multifaceted features of literary texts by helping them explore through close readings of selected works how nuances in meaning are expressed so as to lay the foundations for literary translation.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify, describe and explain the basic problems of and solutions to literary translation.	x	x	x
2	Analyse the terminology, idiom and culture-bound language in literary texts.	x	x	x
3	Apply a knowledge of literary styles so as to translate with some ease and skill simpler texts in literature.	x	x	x

#### 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 real-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.

### Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Teacher-facilitated discussion of problems of and solutions to literary translation.	1, 2	
2	Student presentations of issues and strategies identified in translating different literary genres.	1, 2	
3	Translation of text passages from both Chinese and English source genres.	3	
4	Analysis and evaluation of students' translations derived from either Chinese or English source genres.	1, 2, 3	

5		Literary-critical approach to the evaluation of translated drama and fiction.	1, 2, 3	
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**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

	<b>ATs</b>	<b>CILO No.</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>	<b>Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)</b>
1	<p>Presentation</p> <p>Students will be required to give a small-group presentation in the second part of the course, drawing on the learning experience as well as applying the knowledge gained from the teacher-facilitated discussion conducted in the first part of the course. Students will be asked to analyse and comment on translation issues and strategies identified in the translation(s) of a literary passage as suggested by the instructor. They will also be required to comment on and assess each other's presentations.</p>	1, 2	30	
2	<p>Written assignments</p> <p>Two compulsory individual translation assignments will be given, involving one translation from a Chinese source genre and another from an English one. Optional translation assignments will also be given through the semester to students who wish to practise more on their own.</p>	3	30	

3	Class activities / Participation A further ten percent is awarded to assess students' general performance through the semester, for instance in practical class translation activities and discussions in class or on Canvas or other eLearning platforms.	1, 2, 3	10	
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**Continuous Assessment (%)**

70

**Examination (%)**

30

**Examination Duration (Hours)**

2

**Additional Information for ATs****Examination**

A two-hour final exam is given to assess students' ability to perform effective literary translation at speed.  
(CILO No. 1, 2, 3)

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

1. Presentation

**Criterion**

Presentation skills and knowledge of subject matter

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Excellent presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Good presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

**Marginal (D)**

Marginally acceptable presentation skills to demonstrate an understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

**Failure (F)**

Poor presentation skills showing an inadequate understanding of the key concepts of certain topic of translation introduced in class.

**Assessment Task**

2. Written assignments

**Criterion**

Command of subject matter

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Excellent command of the course content.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Good command of the course content.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Adequate command of the course content.

**Marginal (D)**

Fair command of the subject matter.

**Failure (F)**

Inadequate command of the course content.

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**Assessment Task**

3. Class activities / Participation

**Criterion**

Attendance and participation in class activities and discussions in class or on Canvas. Preparation for the homework and assigned readings.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Very active participation in group discussion and exceptional enthusiasm to the subject matter.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Active participation in group discussion and strong enthusiasm to the subject matter.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Acceptable participation in group discussion and some enthusiasm to the subject matter.

**Marginal (D)**

Marginally acceptable participation in group discussion and fair enthusiasm to the subject matter.

**Failure (F)**

Inadequate participation in group discussion and little enthusiasm to the subject matter.

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**Assessment Task**

4. Examination

**Criterion**

Accuracy and clarity, organization and fluency in writing and translation

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

1. Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter taught in the course related to literary 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.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

1. Demonstration of good command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of literary 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.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

1. Demonstration of adequate command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of literary translation.
2. Adequate application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Adequate analyses of source texts provided.
4. Demonstration of adequate analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.

**Marginal (D)**

1. Demonstration of marginal command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of literary 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 (F)**

Failure to meet most or all the criterion.

## Part III Other Information

### Keyword Syllabus

Application of the concept of function of translation to literary texts  
 Version, adaptation and translation of Chinese and English source genres  
 Problems of and solutions to literary translation  
 Translation strategies in a literature context  
 Cultural status of the literary text and the passage of time  
 Synchronic and diachronic translations of literary texts  
 Culture-specific items in literary translation  
 Traditional interpretations of writers and their works  
 Literary-critical approach to evaluation of the translation of translated drama and fiction

### Reading List

#### Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

#### Additional Readings

Title	
1	Aixelá, Javier Franco. "Culture-Specific Items in Translation". Translation, Power, Subversion. Ed. Román Álvarez & M. Carmen-África Vidal. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters. 1996. 52-78.
2	Bassnett, Susan. "Theatre and Opera". The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation. Ed. Peter France. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2000. 96-103.
3	Cheng, Nga Lai (Ed.). Translating Literary Texts: From Theory to Practice / 《文學作品的翻譯過程: 理論與實踐》. Hong Kong: Department of Chinese, Hong Kong University, 2000.
4	黃國彬。《翻譯途徑》。台北：書林出版有限公司, 1996。

5	彭鏡禧（編）。《文學翻譯自由談》。台北：書林出版有限公司，2016。
6	Roberts, Roda. “The Concept of Function of Translation and Its Application to Literary Texts” . Target 4.1 (1992): 1-16.
7	Chinese Literature. Peking: Foreign Languages Press.
8	The Chinese PEN: Contemporary Chinese Literature from Taiwan. Taipei: Chinese Center, International P.E.N.
9	Renditions: A Chinese-English Translation Magazine. Hong Kong: Research Centre for Translation, Chinese University of Hong Kong.
10	The Literature Network <a href="http://www.online-literature.com">http://www.online-literature.com</a>
11	Sparknotes – Literature Study Guides <a href="http://www.sparknotes.com/lit">http://www.sparknotes.com/lit</a>
12	王宏印。《文學翻譯批評論稿》。上海：上海外語教育出版社，2006。
13	張保紅（編）。《文學翻譯》。北京：外語教學與研究出版社，2011。