

# LT4365: ADVANCED LITERARY TRANSLATION

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## Effective Term

Semester B 2023/24

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Advanced Literary Translation

### Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

### Course Number

4365

### 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 / Chinese

### Medium of Assessment

Other Languages

### Other Languages for Medium of Assessment

English and Chinese

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

LT3351 Literary Translation

### Equivalent Courses

CTL4365 Advanced Literary Translation

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course aims to help students explore, understand and appreciate the subtleties and complexities of sophisticated Chinese and English literary texts through close readings of selected works on the one hand, and develop their ability to tackle the theoretical issues involved and devise appropriate strategies in translation on the other.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1 Describe and explain more subtle and complex communicative possibilities of language, especially as used in fiction, drama, and poetry;	10	x		
2 Respond to the more subtle ways in which the forms of the literary genre are the writer's way of thinking about a particular subject;	10	x	x	x
3 Demonstrate a good knowledge of the repertoire of main forms available to the producer of fiction, of drama, and of poetry, and the appropriateness of various main forms to a particular subject matter, content, or theme;	20	x	x	
4 Demonstrate the ability to analyse the elements and articulations of main forms in the various genres;	20	x	x	x
5 Evaluate, at a more sophisticated level, the products of literary translation from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese; and understand some possible applications of translation theory to the translation of literature, and the limitations of such applications.	40	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	Lectures, reading assignments, and analysis of successful or unsuccessful literary translations to gain knowledge of literary language and its power and effect.	1, 2, 3	
2	Reading discussions, quizzes and term paper to recognize different literary genres and the appropriate ways of translation.	3, 4, 5	
3	Group discussions on literary translations to realize the correlation of cultural differences and affinities with the activity of literary translation.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1 Coursework 1: 2 individual assignments requiring the students to translate selected passages of literary texts attached with a short commentary (under 300 words) for each translation.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	Graded individually (15% x 2)
2 Coursework 2: 2 group projects requiring students to evaluate from a critical perspective some renowned literary translations from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese; with in-class presentations.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	Graded as a group (15% x 2)
3 In-class Activities: A further ten percent is awarded to assess students' performance regarding in-class translation exercises.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	10	Graded individually

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

**Examination (%)**

30

**Examination Duration (Hours)**

2

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)**

**Assessment Task**

1. Coursework: 2 individual assignments

**Criterion**

Translation skills

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

Very idiomatic translation.

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

Smooth translation.

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

Fair translation.

**Marginal (D)**

Marginally acceptable translation.

**Failure (F)**

Poor translation.

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**Assessment Task**

2. Coursework: 2 group projects

**Criterion**

Analytical skills

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

Excellent analysis to demonstrate in-depth understanding of the issues of literary translation.

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

Good analysis to demonstrate good understanding of the issues of literary translation.

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

Adequate analysis to demonstrate adequate understanding of the issues of literary translation.

**Marginal (D)**

Fair analysis to demonstrate adequate understanding of the issues of literary translation.

**Failure (F)**

Inability to demonstrate adequate understanding of the issues of literary translation.

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**Assessment Task**

3. Examination

### **Criterion**

Translation skills and ability to analyse the translation of literary works

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

Very idiomatic translation. Excellent analysis of the literary translation giving full insights into the translation.

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

Smooth translation. Good analysis of the literary translation explaining most issues of the translation.

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

Fair translation. Adequate analysis of the literary translation explaining some issues of the translation.

#### **Marginal (D)**

Marginally acceptable translation. Fair analysis of the literary translation explaining one or two issues of the translation.

#### **Failure (F)**

Poor translation. Inability to analyse the literary translation so as to explain any issue of the translation.

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### **Assessment Task**

#### 4. In-class Activities

### **Criterion**

Translation skills

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

Very idiomatic translation.

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

Smooth translation.

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

Fair translation.

#### **Marginal (D)**

Marginally acceptable translation.

#### **Failure (F)**

Poor translation.

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## **Part III Other Information**

### **Keyword Syllabus**

Technical matters and the acquisition of translation techniques; literary and non-literary languages; literary forms and genres; rhetorical and stylistic devices; narrative and dramatic discourses; verbal imagery; irony, symbol, and allegory; translation and translation theory.

### **Reading List**

### **Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Selections from literary works: fiction, prose, poetry, and drama
2	Essays on translation
3	Samples of translation
4	Other relevant materials

### Additional Readings

Title	
1	Bellos, David. <i>Is That a Fish in Your Ear?—Translation and the Meaning of Everything</i> . New York: Faber and Faber, 2011.
2	Wong, Laurence K. P., and Chan Sin-wai, eds. <i>The Dancer and the Dance: Essays in Translation Studies</i> . Cambridge Scholars Publishing: New Castle upon Tyne, UK, 2013.
3	陳德鴻、張南峰，編。《西方翻譯理論精選》。香港城市大學出版社：香港，2000。
4	彭鏡禧，著。《摸象：文學翻譯評論集》。書林：臺北，2009。第二版。
5	彭鏡禧，主編。《文學翻譯自由談》。書林：臺北，2016。
6	謝天振，著。《海上譯談》。復旦大學出版社：上海，2013。