

Translation

Course List

<i>Code</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Unit</i>
TRA 1010	Principles of Translation	3
TRA 1020	Basic Skills of Translation	3
TRA 1110	Culture and Translation	3
TRA 1210	History of Translation	3
TRA 2030	Introduction to Interpretation	3
TRA 2040	Basic Skills of Interpreting	3
TRA 2050	Lexicography and Translation	3
TRA 2910	Fundamentals of French-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 2920	Fundamentals of German-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 2930	Fundamentals of Italian-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 2940	Fundamentals of Japanese-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 2950	Fundamentals of Spanish-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 3020	Writing Skills and Translation	3
TRA 3050	Consecutive Interpretation: Chinese-English	3
TRA 3060	Consecutive Interpretation: English-Chinese	3
TRA 3070	Introduction to Translation Studies	3
TRA 3170	Literary Translation Strategies: Chinese-English	3
TRA 3180	Genres in Literary Translation: Chinese-English	3
TRA 3270	Literary Translation Strategies: English-Chinese	3
TRA 3280	Genres in Literary Translation: English-Chinese	3
TRA 3610	Computers and Translation	3
TRA 3620	Machine Translation	3
TRA 3810	Government and Public Affairs Translation	3
TRA 3820	Introduction to Commercial Translation	3
TRA 3830	Mass Media Translation	3
TRA 3840	Legal Translation	3
TRA 3850	Science and Technology Translation	3
TRA 3860	Film and Television Subtitles Translation	3
TRA 3910	Techniques of French-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 3920	Techniques of German-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 3930	Techniques of Italian-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 3940	Techniques of Japanese-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 3950	Techniques of Spanish-Chinese Translation	3
TRA 4070	Language Studies for Translation	3
TRA 4150	Simultaneous Interpretation: Chinese-English	3
TRA 4160	Simultaneous Interpretation: English-Chinese	3
TRA 4210	Translation Criticism	3
TRA 4510	Translation Project: English-Chinese	3
TRA 4520	Translation Project: Chinese-English	3
TRA 4530	Translation Workshop: English-Chinese	3
TRA 4540	Translation Workshop: Chinese-English	3
TRA 4710	Special Topic in Translation	3
TRA 4820	Advanced Commercial Translation	3

Course Description

(Unless otherwise specified, all are 3-unit term courses of two hours of lecture and one hour of tutorial per week.)

TRA 1010

Principles of Translation

This course acquaints students with the general principles of translation. Theory is introduced in so far as it provides an intellectual framework and conceptual background to the practice of translation.

TRA 1020

Basic Skills of Translation

This course introduces the fundamental techniques of Chinese-English/English-Chinese translation. Emphasis is placed on practical skills, and exercises are in the form of group projects as well as individual assignments. Common errors are analysed and corrections explained.

TRA 1110

Culture and Translation

This course examines the distance between source text and target text cultures, considers the origins of this difference, addresses the issues of translation and cultural exchange, and studies the techniques of finding information needed to understand cultural specifics. (Not for students who have taken GEE 127B.)

TRA 1210

History of Translation

This course introduces the history of Chinese and foreign translation in the context of translation conventions on both sides. Areas to be covered include historical milieu, common translation practices, selection of texts and outstanding translators. (Not for students who have taken GEE 128B.)

TRA 2030

Introduction to Interpretation

This course aims at providing a first introduction to interpretation to students who basically have no knowledge of the subject. The instructor will lecture on the different forms of interpretation (including sight translation, consecutive interpretation and simultaneous interpretation), explain the training methods and introduce various techniques for interpretation. To boost confidence and enhance their understanding of the subject, students will have hands-on practices in the multimedia classroom.

TRA 2040

Basic Skills of Interpreting

This course will mainly be conducted in the multimedia classroom so that students can improve their interpreting skills through large volume of practices. Emphasis is placed on sight translation and consecutive interpretation. Students are also given opportunities to try their hands at simultaneous interpretation.

TRA 2050

Lexicography and Translation

This course studies the history of lexicography in China and in the West, examines the strategies of dictionary compilation and discusses how dictionaries can be effectively used in translating. Printed and electronic dictionaries are both covered, and emphasis is given to C-E and E-C bilingual dictionaries.

TRA 2910

Fundamentals of French-Chinese Translation

This course provides the foundation for translating French into Chinese. Students are taught the methods and techniques in French-Chinese translation.

TRA 2920

Fundamentals of German-Chinese Translation

This course provides the foundation for translating German into Chinese. Students are taught the methods and techniques in German-Chinese translation.

TRA 2930

Fundamentals of Italian-Chinese Translation

This course provides the foundation for translating Italian into Chinese. Students are taught the methods and techniques in Italian-Chinese translation.

TRA 2940

Fundamentals of Japanese-Chinese Translation

This course provides the foundation for translating Japanese into Chinese. Students are taught the methods and techniques in Japanese-Chinese translation.

TRA 2950

Fundamentals of Spanish-Chinese Translation

This course provides the foundation for translating Spanish into Chinese. Students are taught the methods and techniques in Spanish-Chinese translation.

TRA 3020

Writing Skills and Translation

This course introduces the stylistic features and writing techniques of major text types in English and Chinese, and the corresponding methods and techniques of translating. Also included in this course are topics such as summary translation and abridged translation. Lectures combined with drills aim at improving students' writing and translating skills.

TRA 3050

Consecutive Interpretation: Chinese-English

This course provides intensive training in Chinese-English consecutive interpretation techniques, which include memory-strengthening, concentrated listening, paraphrasing, note-taking and note-reading and message reconstitution. Students are required to prepare material, carry out terminology research and compile glossaries on prescribed topics.

TRA 3060

Consecutive Interpretation: English-Chinese

This course provides intensive training in English-Chinese consecutive interpretation techniques, which include memory-strengthening, concentrated listening, paraphrasing, note-taking and note-reading and message reconstitution. Students are required to prepare material, carry out terminology research and compile glossaries on prescribed topics.

TRA 3070

Introduction to Translation Studies

This course introduces the history, objectives and major approaches of translation studies. The aim is to equip students with a theoretical and methodological background for evaluating and studying translation.

TRA 3170

Literary Translation Strategies: Chinese-English

This course studies the major theoretical issues in literary translation, including stylistic transfer, the concept of equivalence, and reader-response theory. Selections from representative works of translation are analysed to illustrate the problems and their solutions.

TRA 3180

Genres in Literary Translation: Chinese-English

This course explores the theory and techniques of translating various literary genres, including poetry, drama, fiction and essay. Special attention will be paid to the differences between Chinese and English literary conventions and cultures.

TRA 3270

Literary Translation Strategies: English-Chinese

This course studies the major theoretical issues in literary translation, including stylistic transfer, the concept of equivalence, and reader-response theory. Selections from representative works of translation are analysed to illustrate the problems and their solutions.

TRA 3280

Genres in Literary Translation: English-Chinese

This course explores the theory and techniques of translating various literary genres, including poetry, drama, fiction and essay. Special attention will be paid to the differences between Chinese and English literary conventions and cultures.

TRA 3610

Computers and Translation

This course aims at teaching students how to apply computer knowledge to translating. Topics include bilingual word-processing, desk-top publishing of translation, translated texts and other professional techniques.

TRA 3620

Machine Translation

This course introduces the general development of machine translation in the last fifty years, the areas of knowledge required for machine translation, and the capabilities and limitations of the various machine translation systems used in different parts of the world.

TRA 3810

Government and Public Affairs Translation

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the register and discourse characteristics of the relevant language variety in both English and Chinese, and to develop and reinforce the skills and techniques required of their translation into/from Chinese/English. This course is essentially practical in that it concentrates on translating representative and graded material through regular home and class assignments.

TRA 3820

Introduction to Commercial Translation

This course introduces to students the format, features and related translation methods and techniques in translating business correspondence. Class lectures combined with students' practice and discussions familiarize students with the useful terms and key sentence patterns in writing and translating business letters.

TRA 3830

Mass Media Translation

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the register and discourse characteristics of the relevant language variety in both English and Chinese, and to develop and reinforce the skills and techniques required of their translation into/from Chinese/English. This course is essentially practical in that it concentrates on translating representative and graded material through regular home and class assignments.

TRA 3840

Legal Translation

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the register and discourse characteristics of the relevant language variety in both English and Chinese, and to develop and reinforce the skills and techniques required of their translation into/from Chinese/English. This course is essentially practical in that it concentrates on translating representative and graded material through regular home and class assignments.

TRA 3850

Science and Technology Translation

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the register and discourse characteristics of the relevant language variety in both English and Chinese, and to develop and reinforce the skills and techniques required of their translation into/from Chinese/English. This course is essentially practical in that it concentrates on translating representative and graded material through regular home and class assignments.

TRA 3860

Film and Television Subtitles Translation

This course aims to train students in translating film and television subtitles. Technical problems in translation are analysed and cultural issues are discussed. Assignments are chosen from English-language films and television programmes. Students are also exposed to the varieties of English and Chinese used in film and television. (Not for students who have taken GEE 212B.)

TRA 3910

Techniques of French-Chinese Translation

This course is to enable students with a good knowledge of French to develop their skills and techniques in translating French into Chinese. Emphasis is given to translation of different text types between the two languages.

TRA 3920

Techniques of German-Chinese Translation

This course is to enable students with a good knowledge of German to develop their skills and techniques in translating German into Chinese. Emphasis is given to translation of different text types between the two languages.

TRA 3930

Techniques of Italian-Chinese Translation

This course is to enable students with a good knowledge of Italian to develop their skills and techniques in translating Italian into Chinese. Emphasis is given to translation of different text types between the two languages.

TRA 3940

Techniques of Japanese-Chinese Translation

This course is to enable students with a good knowledge of Japanese to develop their skills and techniques in translating Japanese into Chinese. Emphasis is given to translation of different text types between the two languages.

TRA 3950

Techniques of Spanish-Chinese Translation

This course is to enable students with a good knowledge of Spanish to develop their skills and techniques in translating Spanish into Chinese. Emphasis is given to translation of different text types between the two languages.

TRA 4070

Language Studies for Translation

This course introduces linguistics and its relation to translation. Four subjects - phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax - are taught with examples from a number of languages. Students learn how the language system works in language transfer so as to improve their ability of translation.

TRA 4150

Simultaneous Interpretation: Chinese-English

This course provides intensive training in the basic techniques of simultaneous interpretation by stages. These techniques include shadowing, memory retention anticipation, and skills of processing information received in one language (Chinese/English) for oral and simultaneous delivery into another (English/Chinese). Special attention is given to the fundamental differences between Chinese and English (grammatical, syntactical, cultural) in the training of all these techniques.

TRA 4160

Simultaneous Interpretation: English-Chinese

This course provides intensive training in the basic techniques of simultaneous interpretation by stages. These techniques include shadowing, memory retention anticipation, and skills of processing information received in one language (Chinese/English) for oral and simultaneous delivery into another (English/Chinese). Special attention will be given to the fundamental differences between Chinese and English (grammatical, syntactical, cultural) in the training of all these techniques.

TRA 4210

Translation Criticism

This course aims at expounding the salient features of various text types and the close relationship between text typology and translation so as to enable students to base their criticism of translated texts on various corresponding requirements.

TRA 4510

Translation Project: English-Chinese

Under the guidance of supervisors, students complete an English-Chinese translation with introduction and commentary. (For Translation Majors only, this course is taken during the final year of attendance.)

TRA 4520

Translation Project: Chinese-English

Under the guidance of supervisors, students complete a Chinese-English translation with introduction and commentary. (For Translation Majors only, this course is taken during the final year of attendance.)

TRA 4530

Translation Workshop: English-Chinese

This course aims at enhancing the knowledge and skills of English-Chinese translation through group discussion with fellow students as well as individual consultation with the teacher. Each student should have completed a substantial piece of translation by the end of term. (For Translation Majors only, this course is taken during the final year of attendance.)

TRA 4540

Translation Workshop: Chinese-English

This course aims at enhancing the knowledge and skills of Chinese-English translation through group discussion with fellow students as well as individual consultation with the teacher. Each student should have completed a substantial piece of translation by the end of term. (For Translation Majors only, this course is taken during the final year of attendance.)

TRA 4710

Special Topic in Translation

This course is a special seminar on a subject determined by the teacher's research interest.

TRA 4820

Advanced Commercial Translation

This course examines the formats, special features and the techniques in translating commercial texts other than commercial correspondence. Topics include business contracts and certificates, annual reports, minutes, notices, memos, catalogues, operational manuals, advertisements and other promotional materials.

Study Scheme

I. Major Programme

Students are required to complete a minimum of 54 units of courses as follows:

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| (i) | Required Courses:
<i>Final Year of Attendance:</i>
Either TRA 4510 and 4520 or TRA 4530 and 4540 | 6 units |
| (ii) | Elective Courses:
<i>Group A (Translation Skills):</i>
TRA 1010, 1020, 2050, 3020, 3610
<i>Group B (Translation Studies):</i>
TRA 1110, 1210, 3070, 4070, 4210, 4710
<i>Group C (Specialized Translation):</i>
TRA 3170, 3180, 3270, 3280, 3620, 3810, 3820,
3830, 3840, 3850, 3860, 4820
<i>Group D (Interpreting):</i>
TRA 2030, 2040, 3050, 3060, 4150, 4160
<i>Group E (Chinese and non-English Translation):</i>
TRA 2910, 2920, 2930, 2940, 2950, 3910, 3920,
3930, 3940, 3950
Students must select at least one course from each of
the Groups A, B, C and D. | 48 units |

Total: 54 units

- Notes: 1. Only Major courses which are coded 3000 and above will be included in the calculation of the Major GPA for degree classification assessment.
2. Students are also advised to take 4 units of Putonghua courses, 3 units of Chinese Writing Skills courses offered by the Department of Chinese Language and Literature, and 3 units of English Writing Skills courses offered by the English Language Teaching Unit, preferably in the first two years of attendance.

2. *Minor Programme*

Students are required to complete a minimum of 18 units.

3. *Faculty-based Core Courses Requirement*

All Major students of the Faculty of Arts admitted in 2001-02 and before are required to complete before graduation one of the specified Faculty-based core courses (please refer to the list of the Faculty-based core courses).

4. *Faculty Language Requirement*

English

Translation Majors who have obtained Grade “E” in “Use of English” of HKALE* (AS Level) are required to complete one of the following courses in their first year of attendance:

- ELT1107 English Improvement Strategies for Listening and Speaking
ELT 1108 English Improvement Strategies for Reading and Writing

Chinese

Translation Majors who have obtained Grade “E” in “Chinese Language and Culture” of HKALE* (AS Level) are required to complete CHI 1550 Grammar and Writing in their first year of attendance.

* Only applicable to students admitted on the strength of HKALE results. The HKALE results to be deemed necessary for the Faculty language requirement must be obtained in that particular sitting of HKALE which the University has used to assess the admission qualification of the student concerned.