

TRA 3280 Translation Knowledge (7): Theories and Philosophies I (3,3,0) (C/P)

Prerequisite: TRA 1110 Translation Knowledge (1): Principles and Methods

This course familiarizes students with the various views and ideas on translation that have appeared in history, both Chinese and Western. It covers some of the most important historical as well as contemporary figures and events within the Chinese and Western traditions of translation. Students are encouraged to reflect on past and present theories and philosophies of translation, build up for themselves a historical data-bank about translation scholarship, and thus construct a basis on which to develop their own thoughts and ideas about the art and profession of translation, and about how they can best formulate strategies to tackle translation in their daily practices. This course is open to Translation majors only.

TRA 3591-2 Honours Project (3,0,0) (C/P)

This is a year-long project which will engage students in the production of an extended piece of translation. The text to be translated will be either English into Chinese or Chinese into English, generally between 10,000 and 12,000 words/characters in the source language. Along with the translation, students will submit an introductory essay which will give the rationale for the selection of the text for translation, and provide an analysis of the source text as well as a discussion of the problems encountered during the process of translating, and the approaches and strategies used for handling these problems. This course is open to Translation majors only.

TRA 3630 Legal and Government Document Translation (3,3,0) (C/P)

Prerequisite: TRA 1110 Translation Knowledge (1): Principles and Methods or TRA 1770 Principles and Techniques of Translation

This course is designed to develop students' ability in analysing and translating legal and government documents. It will familiarize students with the existing genres of these documents in the linguistic context of Hong Kong and also equip students with the research skills of a professional translator so they will be able to keep up with current practice.

TRA 3650 Literary Translation (3,3,0) (C/P)

Prerequisite: TRA 1110 Translation Knowledge (1): Principles and Methods or TRA 1770 Principles and Techniques of Translation

This course aims to train students to translate both English and Chinese literary texts of different genres and from different periods. It begins with an introduction to the basic concepts of literary translation. Students will learn the techniques of stylistic and thematic analysis in order to appreciate fully the sophistication of the texts they will be asked to read and translate. Existing translations of a few texts, studied in detail, will help to acquaint students with the art of literary translation. Students will put their knowledge into practice through the completion of translation assignments and in-depth discussion of their work. When they have familiarized themselves with the conventional approach to literary translation, they will be introduced to the impact of recent translation theories on literary translation.

TRA 7010 Western Translation Theory (3,3,1)

This course discusses some of the most important historical as well as contemporary ideas on translation within the Western tradition of translation theory. Building on the basic knowledge about translation which students may have already acquired from their undergraduate studies, the course focuses on translation theory at a more sophisticated and advanced level. Students are encouraged to think critically about translation issues and discuss existing theories and models, so that they may develop their own views on translation. This course works in tandem with TRA 7020 Chinese Discourse on Translation.

TRA 7020 Chinese Discourse on Translation (3,3,0)

This course is designed to acquaint students with the views and ideas on translation that have emerged in China, from earliest times to the present day. Through the reading of primary texts and the analysis of these texts in their historical contexts, students are encouraged to develop a sense of the Chinese tradition of discourse on translation, identify its distinctive features, examine important moments of disruption and dynamic growth, and reflect critically on the contemporary relevance of such a heritage. The use of the term "discourse" in the subject title is deliberate. The purpose is to invite questions on why the term "theory" is not used, and thus to provoke discussions on the theoretical differences between the concept of "discourse" and that of "theory". The course works in tandem with TRA 7010 Western Translation Theory to provide students with a sound foundation upon which to conduct comparative studies and to develop their own thinking about translation and intercultural exchange.

TRA 7030 Essential Reading in Translation Studies (3,3,0)

This course engages students in research reading in order to broaden their vision of translation and translation theory. Emphasis is placed on major contemporary works on translation theory published in the English language. Through guided reading and in-depth discussion, students should be able to better understand and appreciate some of the most influential translation theories and approaches in the modern translation studies field, and develop their own thinking about translation studies.

TRA 7040 Research Methodology (3,3,0)

This course is designed to engage students in choosing, designing and applying research methods that are commonly used in translation and bilingual communication studies. Students are encouraged to conduct reflections on these methodologies. In addition, they are trained to acquire the skills necessary for the writing of research reports for academic and/or professional purposes.

TRA 7050-60 Translation Seminars I & II (3,3,0)

This course provides a platform for discussion and dialogue among postgraduate students, research supervisors and colleagues in the field of translation studies. Seminars are organized to facilitate intellectual exchange and friendly debates in order to further invigorate the pursuit of knowledge and ideas in translation. Students are encouraged to engage critically with topics in a wide range of domains including translation theory, translation history, translation practice, translation criticism, the relation between translation and bilingual communication, and others. In addition to giving seminar presentations, students get the opportunity to attend the seminars held at the Centre for Translation of HKBU. These seminars, each of which lasts for an hour, followed by an hour of discussion, offer a good introduction to the latest landmarks in the field.

TRA 7070 Methods and Strategies of Translation (3,3,0) (E-C and C-E)

This is a practical course. It is designed to familiarize students with the various methods and principles of translation. The different considerations in translating texts of different genres for different purposes will be highlighted. Practical exercises are taken from a variety of sources including newspapers, magazines, legal and government documents, stage scripts and film subtitles, literary works and others. Students will be required to reflect on their own experience of translating these texts and formulate their own strategies in order to prepare themselves for professional practice.

TRA 7080 Bilingual Communication: Style, Rhetoric and Delivery (3,3,0)

This course is practical in orientation. It is designed to sensitize students to the intricacies of the English and the Chinese languages in use in different situations, and to help students accomplish stylistic manoeuvres in acts of communication.

Students will be required to read up, write about and speak on an extensive range of topics so that they will become familiar with a wide range of genres. Special attention will be given to the cultivation of writing styles, application of rhetoric and ways of delivery in both written and spoken communication. Linguistic and cultural contrasts in the use of English and Chinese will be highlighted. Speech Act Theory and other current communication theories will be used to help students better understand what takes place in the act of communication.

TRA 7090 Bilingual Presentation: Adaptation and Rewriting (3,3,0)

This course is practical in orientation. It is designed to help students produce texts by using materials effectively in cross-lingual situations, i.e. to produce texts in English using Chinese source materials and vice versa. Exercises will cover a wide range of genres and areas including news, entertainment, information technology, science, business and others. Focus will be placed on the skills of contextual interpretation of materials, concise expression of ideas, accurate translation of terminology, effective management of information and good communication. Students will learn to handle information in a discriminating and target-oriented manner. They will be given help to improve their language skills in both English and Chinese. They will also be alerted to the importance of presenting and packaging information in attractive ways. Special attention will be given to cultural sensitivity in handling information in cross-cultural situations.

TRA 7100 Bilingual Writing for Creative Industries (3,3,0)

This course is designed to help students cope with the increasing demand for bilingual writers for the creative industries. Students will be introduced to the various creative industries such as advertising, publishing, broadcasting, performing and fine arts, film making and antique dealing. They will learn to conduct research on these areas, and to appreciate the conventions and requirements of writing for the creative industries in English and in Chinese. Students' attention will also be drawn to culturally and politically sensitive issues relating to creativity and culture in the context of Hong Kong.

TRA 7110 Master Classes in Translation (3,3,0)

This course is designed to provide students with more advanced practical knowledge in translation. Each semester, established practitioners in specific fields of translation will be invited to give classes. These fields include literary translation, drama translation, media translation, legal translation, finance translation, translation of Chinese medicine and others. These practitioners will share their skills and experience with the students. They will also offer diagnosis of individual students' performance. In the course of discussion, certain aspects of the translation process will be highlighted and some preconceived notions of translation problematized.

TRA 7121-2 Dissertation/Project (3,3,0)

This course spans two semesters. Students in the Research Stream will produce an extended piece of translation or bilingual writing, or a dissertation. Students in the Practical Stream will produce an extend piece of translation or bilingual writing. Translation projects should be from English into Chinese or vice versa. Bilingual writing projects require output in both Chinese and English. Dissertations can be in either English or Chinese, depending on the research topics. The length of the dissertation/project should normally be between the lower limit of 12,000 words/characters and the upper limit of 16,000 words/characters, although greater flexibility is allowed under special circumstances. Students will receive individual supervision.

TRA 7130 Gender Issues in Translation (3,3,0)

This course is designed to introduce students to gender issues involved in translation. It covers topics including gender construction, gender politics, gendered discourse and gendered language. Students will discuss how these issues would affect

translation strategies adopted by individual translators. They will also examine Chinese translations of key terms in gender studies ("gender discourse", "gendered discourse", for example) and analyse the theoretical and ideological implications of these translations. An interdisciplinary approach is adopted.

TRA 7140 Corpus-Based Approach to Translation (3,3,0)

This course is designed to introduce students to the application of corpora to the practice of and research on translation. It helps students to design, conduct research and report research findings using the corpora approach.

TRA 7150 Translation Theory: A Comparative Approach (3,3,0)

This course helps students acquire an in-depth view of translation theory from a comparative perspective. It examines Western thinking about translation in comparison with Chinese discourse on translation. It investigates and analyses some of the major areas where Chinese and Western discourses on translation are similar to or different from each other. Through discussion of these similarities and differences, as well as the socio-cultural contexts under which they are found, students will learn to approach such fundamental issues as the nature, principles and methods of translation with enhanced skills and a broadened vision.

TRA 7160 Patronage and Translation of Christian Tracts (3,3,0)

This course is designed to introduce students to a lesser-known, yet hugely influential, Protestant institution—the Religious Tract Society, London (founded in 1799)—which played a predominant role in sponsoring the global enterprise of translating Christian tracts in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Subject aims to scrutinize the role of institutional patronage in the translation of Christian tracts into Chinese. In particular, it examines the policies of tract societies which had a significant impact on of the selection of texts for translation and on ideological censorship. Also explored in depth will be the issues surrounding the transplantation of RTS ideology onto Chinese soil, and the institution-individual power relations in the process of cross-cultural translation activity.

TRA 7170 Introduction to Interpreting (3,3,0)

This course aims to enable students to develop the basic skills of consecutive interpreting. Through interpreting practice and other learning activities, students will be introduced to basic interpreting concepts and techniques.

TRA 7510 Required Readings for Translation Studies (3,0,0)

The supervisor and the student will be required to work out a reading list to cover the areas of translation pertaining to the student's research area. The list will be submitted to the department for record.

TRAN 1005 Introduction to Translation (3,3,0) (E/P)

Translating is an excellent way to try life in another language. This course aims to give students hands-on experience and a chance to find out more about translating. Through a range of different learning activities, students will be introduced to basic translation concepts and approaches to help them develop the ability to translate a variety of texts between Chinese and English. Different aspects of translation as both art and profession will be discussed to enable students to identify problems in translating, develop appropriate strategies, reflect critically on their strategies, and enhance their awareness of the dynamics of communication across languages.