

Course Title	: Language Studies for Translation: Syntax
Course Code	: TRA2106
Recommended Study Year	: 1 or 2
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Lecture-tutorial
Class Contact Hours	: 2-hour lecture per week 1-hour tutorial per week
Category	: Elective (Category A)
Prerequisite	: Nil
Co-requisite	: Nil
Exclusion	: Nil
Exemption Requirement	: Nil

Brief Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to English and Chinese syntax, particularly focusing on differences which concern C-E/E-C translation. Topics include phrase and clause structure and the semantics-syntax interface in both English and Chinese. The two languages will be compared in terms of their syntactic structures and functions, in other words syntax will be related to pragmatics.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

Aims:

This course will provide students with syntactic knowledge of English and Chinese, so that they will be aware of the linguistic aspects that affect C-E/E-C translation.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. identify potential syntactical and semantic difficulties in E-C/C-E translation;
2. use a contrastive approach to systematically analyse and overcome practical syntactic problems in translation;
3. recognize common syntactic errors in Chinese and English; and
4. undertake small-scale contrastive analyses.

Indicative Content:

1. Introduction to syntax.
2. Methods of syntactic analysis.
3. Words and phrases in English and Chinese.
4. Constituent structures in English and Chinese.
5. Determining constituent structures and tree diagrams in English and Chinese.
6. Complementation and sub-categorisation in English and Chinese.
7. Contrastive studies: the interplay between syntactic structures and English-Chinese translation.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Students' progress towards the learning outcomes will be measured by means of:

1. Four to six assignments on syntactic analysis of English and Chinese; [LOs 3-4]
2. Mid-term; [LOs 3-4]
3. Final examination. [LOs 1-2]

Assessment:

Examination: 30% (One 1.5-hour paper)

Continuous assessment: 70% (Four to six assignments 40%, Midterm 20%, Attendance and Participation 10%)

Readings:

To be compiled by the lecturer(s), with selections adopted mainly from but not limited to the following reading list:

吳竟存、侯學超：《現代漢語句法分析》，北京：北京大學出版社，1988年。

李運興著：《語篇翻譯引論》，北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司，2001年。

胡裕樹：《現代漢語》，上海：上海教育出版社，2011年。

邵敬敏等主編：《現代漢語通論參考文獻精選》，上海市：上海教育出版社，2002年。

邵敬敏等主編：《現代漢語通論》，上海市：上海教育出版社，2007年。

Fabb, Nigel, *Sentence Structure*, London: Routledge, Second Edition, 2005.

Fromkin, V., Rodman, R. and Hyams, N., *An Introduction to Language*, 9th ed. USA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.

Tallerman, Maggie, *Understanding Syntax*, London: Hodder Arnold, 2005.

Vedrana, M. and Christin, W., *Language Files: Materials for An Introduction to Language and Linguistics*, 11th ed. **Columbus**: Ohio State University Press, 2011.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.