

Course Title	: Translation for the Media (E-C & C-E)
Course Code	: TRA3208
Recommended Study Year	: 2 to 4
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 introduces students to the basic techniques of translating for the media, especially in the Hong Kong context. The linguistic, stylistic and cultural features of news reports and other forms of journalistic writing in Chinese and English will be compared, providing a basis for the formulation of strategies for translating such texts between the two languages. Attention will also be paid to the standard reference tools for this kind of translation.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

Aims:

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the media in Hong Kong and prepare them for work as news translators.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

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

1. identify the basic linguistic, stylistic and cultural features of journalistic writing in Chinese and in English;
2. master the types of complex English sentence structures required for writing news reports;
3. demonstrate an understanding of the varieties of Chinese used by major newspapers in Hong Kong;
4. master the norms for translating proper names;
5. use appropriate reference tools for translating news reports; and
6. apply appropriate strategies for translating/adapting news reports between Chinese and English, especially in the Hong Kong context.

Indicative Content:

1. The working environment of journalists in Hong Kong.
2. The issues of freedom of the press and political correctness in the Chinese and English media of Hong Kong.
3. The translation of proper names.
4. The linguistic, stylistic and cultural features of news reports and other forms of journalistic writing in Chinese and English.
5. The formulation of strategies for translating news report.
6. Reference tools for translating news reports.

Teaching Method:

Lectures and tutorial discussions

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcome	Assessment Method	
	Home assignment	Examination
Identify the basic linguistic, stylistic and cultural features of journalistic writing in Chinese and in English	X	X
Master the types of complex English sentence structures required for writing news reports	X	X
Demonstrate an understanding of the varieties of Chinese used by major newspapers in Hong Kong	X	X
Master the norms for translating proper names	X	X
Use appropriate reference tools for translating news reports	X	X
Apply appropriate strategies for translating/adapting news reports between Chinese and English, especially in the Hong Kong context	X	X

Assessment:

Examination: 50% (One 2.5-hour paper)

Continuous assessment: 50% (Five to six translation exercises)

Readings:

Texts for analysis and translation will be chosen from prominent newspapers and current affairs magazines.

賴蘭香：《傳媒中文寫作》，香港：中華書局，1997年。

張健編著：《新聞傳媒寫作，要領與範文》，北京：高等教育出版社，2008年。

李德鳳：《新聞翻譯：原則與方法》，香港：香港大學出版社，2009年。

岳海翔主編：《報刊語言翻譯》，北京：中國言實出版社，2009年。

Bagnall, Nicholas, *Newspaper Language*, Oxford: Focal Press, 1993.

Cappon, René J., *The Associated Press Guide to News Writing* (3rd edition). Forest City, CA: IDG Books Worldwide, 2000.

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/>.