

<b>Course Title</b>	: Contemporary Translation Theory
<b>Course Code</b>	: TRA4303
<b>Recommended Study Year</b>	: 3 or 4
<b>No. of Credits/Term</b>	: 3
<b>Mode of Tuition</b>	: Lecture-tutorial
<b>Class Contact Hours</b>	: 2-hour lecture per week 1-hour tutorial per week
<b>Category</b>	: Elective (Category B)
<b>Prerequisite</b>	: Nil
<b>Co-requisite</b>	: Nil
<b>Exclusion</b>	: Nil
<b>Exemption Requirement</b>	: Nil

**Brief Course Description:**

This course examines the concept of translation studies as an academic discipline, and critiques major translation theories. It will focus on contemporary issues in translation and translation studies, and on major schools of translation theories that have emerged in recent decades, including Polysystem theory and poststructuralist, feminist and postcolonial approaches. The applicability of these theories in case studies will also be discussed.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

**Aims:**

This course aims to enhance students' understanding of the state of the art of theoretical translation studies, and prepare them for further studies and academic research.

**Learning Outcomes (LOs):**

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

1. adopt a theoretical approach to translation studies;
2. explain major contemporary translation theories;
3. compare and contrast these theories;
4. apply translation theories to the description, analysis and criticism of translation phenomena;
5. assess the validity and limitations of these theories; and
6. discuss the different cultural values behind the theories.

**Indicative Content:**

1. Translation as an academic discipline.
2. Pure translation theories such as Polysystem theory, Descriptive Translation Studies and the theory of rewriting.
3. Functionalist approaches to translation.
4. Post-structuralist, post-colonialist and gender theories.
5. Theoretical issues such as the concept of norms, translation and globalisation, and translation and cultures.

**Teaching Method:**

Lectures, and presentations and discussions in tutorials

### Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcome	Assessment Method		
	Presentation	Test	Term paper
Adopt a theoretical approach to translation studies	X	X	X
Explain major contemporary translation theories	X	X	X
Compare and contrast these theories			X
Apply translation theories to the description, analysis and criticism of translation phenomena	X		X
Assess the validity and limitations of these theories	X	X	X
Discuss the different cultural values behind the theories	X		X

### Assessment:

Continuous assessment: 100% (Presentation 30%, Test 30%, Term paper 40%)

### Readings:

陳德鴻、張南峰編：《西方翻譯理論精選》，香港：香港城市大學出版社，2001年。

孫藝風：《視覺、闡釋、文化：文學翻譯與翻譯理論》，北京：清華大學出版社，2006年。

張南峰：《多元系統翻譯研究》，長沙：湖南人民出版社，2012年。

Davis, Kathleen, *Deconstruction and Translation*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 2001.

Even-Zohar, Itamar, *Polysystem Studies*, *Poetics Today* 11:1 (1990).

Gentzler, Edwin, *Contemporary Translation Theories* (Revised 2nd Edition). Clevedon: Multilingual Matters, 2001.

Hermans, Theo, *Translation in Systems: Descriptive and System-oriented Approaches Explained*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 1999.

Lefevere, André, *Translation, Rewriting, & the Manipulation of Literary Fame*, London and New York: Routledge, 1992.

Munday, Jeremy, *Introducing Translation Studies: Theories and Applications*, London/New York: Routledge, 2001.

Pym, Anthony, *Method in Translation History*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 1998.

Robinson, Douglas, *Translation and Empire: Postcolonial Theories Explained*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 1997.

Toury, Gideon, *Descriptive Translation Studies and Beyond*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1995.

Von Flotow-Evans, Luise, *Translation and Gender: Translating in the 'Era of Feminism'*, Manchester: St. Jerome, 1997.

### 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/>.