

<b>Course Title</b>	: Legal Translation (E-C)
<b>Course Code</b>	: TRA4324
<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 A)
<b>Prerequisite</b>	: Nil
<b>Co-requisite</b>	: Nil
<b>Exclusion</b>	: Nil
<b>Exemption Requirement</b>	: Nil

### **Brief Course Description:**

This course deals with translating legal documents from English into Chinese, with a special focus on understanding and translating a variety of legal contracts and other business-related legal documents that commonly require English-Chinese translation. Various aspects of business-related laws, such as corporate law, environmental law, intellectual property law and labour law, will be introduced and relevant documents from these areas studied and translated. Elements of legal writing style as they relate to such documents will be introduced as essential preparation for this type of formal translation work.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

### **Objectives:**

This course aims to:

1. Equip students with an understanding of Hong Kong's legal translation environment and the types of legal texts that require translation from English into Chinese;
2. Improve students' comprehension of what is involved in legal translation using real-world examples of legal texts; and
3. Prepare students for job opportunities in the field of legal translation.

### **Learning Outcomes (LOs):**

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

1. Recognise the stylistic elements of legal language in both Chinese and English;
2. Produce accurate and stylistically appropriate translations of legal texts in Chinese;
3. Identify the major types of legal documents, specifically contracts and other business-related legal documents;
4. Understand such documents and the terminology used therein;
5. Evaluate and properly address the needs of end-users in translating the different types of legal documents discussed;
6. Evaluate and appropriately apply the relevant translation norms to the translation of the different types of legal documents discussed;
7. Demonstrate skills and techniques in handling and translating contracts and other legal documents; and
8. Identify common errors and edit their own and others' translation work.

**Indicative Content:**

1. Elements of the style of legal language in both Chinese and English.
2. Types of legal contracts (e.g. employment, real estate, joint venture, etc.).
3. English legal contracts and the way to translate them into Chinese.
4. Types of business-related laws, such as corporate law, environmental law, intellectual property law and labour law.
5. Business-related legal documents in English and the way to translate them into Chinese.
6. Legal terminology used in contracts and other types of business-related legal writing.
7. Electronic reference tools for translating legal documents.

**Teaching Method:**

Lectures present the materials outlined above and provide bilingual legal documents and translations for study and comparison. Tutorials are designed to give ample opportunities for students to practise translating a variety of legal texts, and to equip them with the ability to use legal vocabulary in context. Each student is required to take part in a group project and a presentation. .

**Measurement of Intended Learning Outcomes:**

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

1. A variety of assignments designed to test their skills and knowledge acquired, such as translation assignments.
2. A group presentation on a topic relevant to legal translation.
3. A vocabulary quiz at the end of term to assess their understanding and usage of key legal terminology.
4. An examination consisting of a) short essay questions on topics covered during lectures and b) the translation of a legal text.

**Assessment:**

Examination: 40% (One 2-hour paper)

Continuous assessment: 60%

(Three translation assignments 30%, One group presentation 10%, One vocabulary quiz 10%, Tutorial participation 10%)

**Alignment of Assessment Tasks/Activities with LOs:**

Learning Outcome	Assessment Method				
	Three written assignments	Group presentation	Vocabulary quiz	Tutorial participation	Examination
Students will be able to recognise the stylistic elements of legal language in both Chinese and English	X	X	X	X	X
Students will be able to produce accurate and stylistically appropriate translations of legal texts in Chinese	X			X	X
Students will be able to identify the major types of legal documents, specifically contracts	X	X		X	X

and other business-related legal documents					
Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of such documents and the terminology used therein	X	X	X	X	X
Students will be able to evaluate and properly address the needs of end-users in translating the different types of legal documents discussed	X	X		X	X
Students will be able to evaluate and appropriately apply the relevant translation norms to the translation of the different types of legal documents discussed	X	X	X	X	X
Students will be able to demonstrate skills and techniques in handling and translating contracts and other legal documents	X			X	X
Students will be able to identify common errors and edit their own and others' translation work.		X		X	

### **Required Readings:**

陸文慧編：《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》，香港：中華書局，2002年。  
Cao, Deborah, *Translating Law*, London: Multilingual Matters, 2007.

### **Recommended Readings:**

王道庚：《法律翻譯：理論與實踐》，香港：城市大學出版社，2006年。  
李克興、張新紅：《法律文本和法律翻譯》，北京：中國對外翻譯出版公司，2006年。  
李克興：《法律翻譯理論與實踐》，北京：北京大學出版社，2007年。  
李宗鏢、何冠驥、呂哲盈、潘慧儀：《英漢法律大詞典（修訂版）》，香港：香港商務印書館，2015年。  
范文祥：《英文合同閱讀與分析技巧》，中國：法律出版社，2008年。  
陳可欣：《兩岸三地合約法主要詞彙》，香港：城市大學出版社，2014年。  
Chui, Carole and Derek Roebuck, *Hong Kong Contracts*, 2nd ed. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1991.  
Alcaraz Varó, Enrique. *Legal Translation Explained*. UK: St. Jerome, 2002.

### **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/>.