

Course Title	: Literature, Culture and Translation (II)
Course Code	: TRA3219
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 B)
Prerequisite	: Nil
Co-requisite	: Nil
Exclusion	: Nil
Exemption Requirement	: Nil

Brief Course Description:

This course examines the relationship between literature, culture and translation with reference to certain ideological issues. Questions that may be explored include gender, race, class, colonialism, totalitarianism, humanism and religion. Attention will be paid to the comparison of different writers' approaches in the same cultural tradition, and of differences in approach between different cultural traditions.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

Aims:

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the major ideological concerns of writers in different cultures. Texts of different periods, genres and backgrounds will be selected to achieve this aim.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

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

1. discuss Chinese approaches to ideological issues in literature;
2. discuss Western approaches to ideological issues in literature;
3. use advanced techniques on reading and analyzing literature;
4. analyze the relationship between literature, culture and translation; and
5. apply their understanding of literary texts to their translation.

Indicative Content:

1. On Style and Ideology

Literary journalism: George Orwell, "Why I Write"; 刘宾雁, 《在催人的背后》

2. On Genre, Culture, and Ideology:

Meaning through form: Ling Shuhua 凌书华, 《疯了的诗人》 (two translations EN)

The voice of poetry: Ling Shuhua and Robert Frost, "Birches" (various translations CH)

Anti-Traditionalism: Ling Shuhua and May Fourth women writers

Transgression as Ideology: Ling Shuhua and Haruki Murakami, "The Second Bakery Attack" (two translations CH)

3. The Novel as Ideological Text

History of the novel: Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger* (translation excerpts CH)

The culture of the novel: Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger*

Post-capitalism and the individual: Aravind Adiga and Liu Heng 刘恒, *Black Snow* 黑的雪 (film)

4. Dissemination as Ideology

Myths and tales: Angela Carter, “The Bloody Chamber” and other Grimm’s fairy tales

Close reading: Angela Carter, “The Bloody Chamber” (translation CH)

Teaching Method:

Lectures and tutorial discussions

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

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

1. An oral presentation, for which students have to carry out research on a particular issue as discussed in the lectures (see above) [LOs 1-3]
2. A term paper, which involves the translation of a key text and a commentary on the context and other stylistic and ideological issues involved. Students will draw on relevant books and articles on the subject [LOs 1-5]
3. An examination that requires students to show a clear understanding of the issues raised in the course and a knowledge of the literary texts being discussed [LOs 1-5].

Assessment:

Examination: 50% (One 2-hour paper)

Term paper: Translation with commentary 25%

Presentation: 25%

Readings:

王曉明：《在新意識形態的籠罩下：90 年代的文化 and 文學分析》，南京：江蘇人民出版社，2000 年。

宋劍華：《百年文學與主流意識形態》，長沙：湖南教育出版社，2002 年。

Bennett, Tony, ed., *Popular Fiction: Technology, Ideology, Production, Reading*, London, New York: Routledge, 1990.

Hawkes, David, *Ideology*, London: Routledge, 2003.

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

Ling, Jinqi, *Narrating Nationalisms: Ideology and Form in Asian American Literature*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Selden, Raman and Peter Widdowson, *A Reader’s Guide to Contemporary Literary Theory*, London: Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1993.

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/>.

