

Course Title	: Legal Translation (E-C & C-E)
Course Code	: TRA4328
Recommended Study Year	: 3 or 4
No. of Credits/Term	: 3
Mode of Tuition	: Lecture-tutorial mode
Class Contact Hours	: Two-hour lecture per week One-hour tutorial per week
Category	: Elective (Category A: Skills-Based Courses for students of Year 1 intake up to 2021-22 Category C: Multimedia and Corporate Communication for students of Year 1 intake from 2022-23)
Prerequisite	: Nil
Co-requisite	: Nil
Exclusion	: Students who have taken TRA4323 Legal Translation (C-E) and TRA4324 Legal Translation (E-C) are not allowed to take this course
Exemption Requirement	: Nil

Brief Course Description:

This course deals with the various aspects of translating legal documents from English into Chinese and Chinese into English, with a special focus on understanding and translating both civil and criminal case documents from Hong Kong and mainland China, and a variety of statutes, contracts and business-related legal documents. Elements of legal writing style and background to the fundamentals of law as they relate to legal translation will be introduced. Students will have ample opportunities to practise translating legal documents from both Hong Kong and mainland China.

Language of instruction: English and Chinese

Aims:

The aim of this course aim is to equip students with an understanding of the basic legal concepts and practices related to different types of legal documents in Hong Kong and mainland China so that students can translate a variety of legal texts professionally.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

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

1. Recognise the stylistic elements of legal language in both English and Chinese;
2. Identify different types of legal documents, legal institutions, and the cultures and systems of law used in both Hong Kong and mainland China;
3. Interpret such documents and the terminology used therein;
4. Evaluate to satisfy the needs of end-users in translating the different types of legal documents discussed;
5. Appropriately apply and evaluate the relevant translation norms to the translation of the different types of legal documents discussed;
6. Produce accurate and stylistically appropriate translations of legal texts in English and

Chinese

Indicative Contents:

1. Types of legal texts such as statutes, litigation documents, judgments, contracts, and undertakings.
2. Elements of the style of legal language in terms of terminology and syntax in both English and Chinese.
3. Differences between the common law and civil law legal systems in terms of legislation and legal procedures.
4. Culture-specific items in legal texts and the ways to translate them.
5. The court systems of Hong Kong and mainland China, and the translation of court cases from the two jurisdictions.
6. The translation of statutes, judgments, contracts and business-related legal documents.
7. Electronic reference tools for translating legal documents.

Teaching Method:

There are two hours of lecture and one hour of tutorial per week. Whilst legal concepts and bilingual legal documents and translations will be explained and discussed in lectures, tutorials will provide students with the opportunity to analyse and translate a variety of legal texts, and to take part in a group project and a presentation.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:

	Translation Assignments	Group Presentation	Vocabulary Quiz	Tests	Tutorial Participation
1. Recognise the stylistic elements of legal language in both English and Chinese	X	X	X	X	X
2. Identify different types of legal documents, legal institutions, and the cultures and systems of law used in both Hong Kong and mainland China	X	X		X	X
3. Demonstrate understanding of such documents and the terminology used therein	X	X		X	X
4. Evaluate and properly address the needs of	X	X		X	X

end-users in translating the different types of legal documents discussed					
5. Evaluate and appropriately apply the relevant translation norms to the translation of the different types of legal documents discussed	X	X		X	X
6. Produce accurate and stylistically appropriate translations of legal texts in English and Chinese	X	X	X	X	X

Assessment:

Assessment is based on

- a) Formative assessment: 70% (Eight translation assignments, 50% with 5-10% each; one group presentation, 10%; tutorial participation, 10%)
 ✓ Four E-C translation tasks and four C-E translation tasks
- b) Summative assessment: 30% (Two one-hour tests, 10% each; one vocabulary quiz, 10%)
 ✓ One E-C test and one C-E test

Recommended/ Supplementary readings:

- Alcaraz Varó, Enrique. *Legal Translation Explained*. UK: St. Jerome, 2002.
- Cao, Deborah, *Translating Law*. London: Multilingual Matters, 2007.
- Chen, Albert H.Y., *An Introduction to the Legal System of the People's Republic of China*. Hong Kong: Lexis Nexis, 2004.
- Cheng, Le, King Kui Sin and Anne Wagner (eds), *The Ashgate Handbook of Legal Translation*. London: Routledge, 2016.
- Chui, Carole and Derek Roebuck, *Hong Kong Contracts* (2nd edition). Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 1991.
- Dobinson, Ian and Derek Roebuck, *Introduction to Law in the Hong Kong SAR*. Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell Asia, 2001.
- Li, David C.S. and Zoe Pei-sui Luk, *Chinese-English Contrastive Grammar: An Introduction*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2017.
- 王道庚：《法律翻譯：理論與實踐》。香港：城市大學出版社，二〇〇六年。
- 李克興：《法律翻譯理論與實踐》。北京：北京大學出版社，二〇〇七年。
- 李宗鏗、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，二〇一五年。
- 陳可欣：《兩岸三地侵權法主要詞彙》。香港：城市大學出版社，二〇一四年。
- 陳可欣：《兩岸三地合約法主要詞彙》。香港：城市大學出版社，二〇一四年。
- 陳弘毅等編：《香港法概論（第三版）》。香港：三聯書店(香港)有限公司，二〇一五年。
- 范文祥：《英文合同閱讀與分析技巧》。中國：法律出版社，二〇〇八年。
- 陸文慧編：《法律翻譯：從實踐出發》。香港：中華書局，二〇〇二年。
- 湛樹基等編：《香港雙語法制：語言與翻譯》。香港：香港大學出版社，二〇一九年。
- 程超凡編：《英漢－漢英雙向法律詞典（修訂增補本）》。北京：法律出版社，二〇〇七年。

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/>.