Course Title	:	Introduction to Computer-aided Translation
Course Code	:	TRA2001
Recommended Study Term	:	Any
No. of Credits/Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Tutorial
Class Contact Hours	:	3-hour tutorial per week in computer laboratory
Category	:	Elective (Category A)
Prerequisite	:	Nil
Co-requisite	:	Nil
Exclusion	:	Nil
Exemption Requirement	:	Nil

Brief Course Description:

This course provides students with basic training in computer-aided translation (CAT), helping them to acquire basic knowledge about machine translation (MT), concepts and available translation technology for translation, and hands-on experience of applying computer tools to enhance translation productivity. The role which computer technology plays in translation will be discussed.

Language of instruction: English / Chinese

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Aims:

This course aims to equip students with basic knowledge and skills in computer-aided translation. Students will be given hands-on experience utilizing CAT and translation memory (TM) tools to support and facilitate the translation process.

Learning Outcomes (LOs):

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

1. Describe basic concepts of MT and CAT;
2. Explain the theory and practice of the variety of computer tools which state-of-the-art translation technology could offer;
3. Apply available MT systems and CAT tools and select appropriate tools for particular translation tasks;
4. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of translation technology;
5. Edit the source and target texts to optimize efficiency of translation technology and translation quality; and
6. Develop the ability to work professionally on an independent and collaborative basis.

Indicative Contents:

1. Rationales behind using MT and CAT in the translation and localization industry
2. The role of translation technology
3. History and current development of MT and CAT

4. Theory and practice of MT and CAT, including translation memory, terminology management, editing, and software localization
5. Analysis of translation process and necessary toolkits
6. Human-machine interaction and supervised learning in MT and CAT, towards a fuller utilization of computer technology
7. Economic and socio-cultural relevance of MT and CAT, and their strengths and limitations
8. Basic training for hands-on experience of using available MT systems and CAT tools

Teaching Method:
Three hours of tutorial per week. The tutorial session is to be held in a computer laboratory. Topics listed under "Indicative Contents" will be covered in lectures.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes:
Students' progress towards the learning outcomes will be measured by means of:
1. Three individual assignments: students will translate texts to demonstrate their ability to identify and solve common problems for the translator in the application of CAT tools.
2. One group translation assignment: students will work in groups on a long translation project with the aid of CAT and TM tools in a mock professional translation setting.
3. One group presentation: students will give a group presentation at the end of the semester. The topic will involve an analysis of the translation process and the translation quality of their own collaborative translation project.

	Assessment Method	
Learning Outcome	Assignments	Presentation
Describe basic concepts of MT and CAT	X	X
Explain the theory and practice of the variety of computer tools which state-of-the-art translation technology could offer	X	X
Apply available MT systems and CAT tools and select appropriate tools for particular translation tasks	X	X
Identify the strengths and weaknesses of translation technology	X	X
Edit the source and target texts to optimize efficiency of translation technology and translation quality	X	
Develop the ability to work professionally on an independent and collaborative basis	X	X

Assessment:
Continuous assessment: 60% (Three assignments, each carries 20%)
Presentation: 30%
Class Performance: 10%

Supplementary readings:
史宗玲：《電腦輔助翻譯》，臺北市：書林，2004年。
劉星光主編：《中國機器翻譯研究述評：問題與對策》，北京：科學出版社，2015年。
Austermühl, F., *Electronic Tools for Translators*, Manchester: St. Jerome Publishing, 2001.
Bowker, L., *Computer-Aided Translation Technology: A Practical Introduction*, Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2002.
Bowker, L., *Lexicography, Terminology, and Translation*, Canada: University of

Ottawa Press, 2006.

Chan, S.W., *The Future of Translation Technology: Towards a World without Babel,* New York: Routledge, 2016.

Chan, S.W. (ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Technology*, New York: Routledge, 2015.

Dickinson, M., Chris B., and Detmar Meurers, *Language and Computers*, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013.

Esselink, B., *A Practical Guide to Localization*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing, 2000.

O'Hagan, M., *The Coming Industry of Teletranslation: Overcoming Communication Barriers through Telecommunication*, Bristol: Multilingual Matters Ltd, 1996.

O'Hagan, M., "The Impact of New Technologies on Translation Studies". In:

Carmen Millán and Francesca Bartrina (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Translation Studies*, London: Routledge, 1993.

Somers, H., *Computers and Translation: A Translator's Guide*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2003.

Trujillo, A., *Translation Engines: Techniques for Machine Translation*, London: Springer, 1999.

Wilks, Y., *Machine Translation: Its Scope and Limits*, London: Springer, 2009.

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/