

Higher Diploma Programme in Applied Translation Studies

應用翻譯高級文憑課程

Modules Outlines

Module Title: Introduction to Translation

Credit Unit: 4

Description: This course provides students with a general understanding of the nature, history and theories of translation, translation problems caused by language and cultural differences between English and Chinese, and the fundamental translation skills. Subjects to be covered include the nature and process of translation, translation history and its latest development, translation theories and their application, use of dictionaries, comparison and contrast between the English and Chinese languages and translation problems caused by their differences, as well as basic translation skills.

Module Title: Theories of Translation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: The principal objective of this course is to develop and sharpen participants' critical skills in describing, analyzing and assessing translations by introducing them to the various translation theories of translation in China and the West. The course offers an overview of a wide spectrum of translation theories, such as those advanced by Tytler, Steiner, Nida, Newmark, Vermeer (Skopos Theory), Xuan Zhuang (玄奘), Yan Fu (嚴復) and Lu Xun (魯迅). Participants will evaluate each theory in terms of their practical application and have a deeper understanding of what is involved in the process of translation. With a firmer theoretical foundation, participants will be able to improve their general competence in translation.

Module Title: Practical Translation

Credit Unit: 4

Description: Students are guided to understand the nature of the translation process as well as the various approaches to translating. They will also be trained to use basic translation skills and techniques to translate texts on general topics. Through the study of examples and regular practice, the course enables students to understand the format, organization, language and style of various texts, and to produce accurate and fluent translations.

Module Title: Translating for the Media

Credit Unit: 3

Description: This course will focus on the translation of media texts, both written and spoken ones, including newspaper reports, editorials, magazine articles, TV news reports, radio news reports and subtitles. The objective is to familiarize class participants with the linguistic and stylistic differences and similarities between various media texts, so as to equip them with the techniques necessary for journalistic translation.

Module Title: Commercial Translation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: As a specialized translation course, it is designed to provide a solid and all-round training in the translation of major commercial texts including business letters, faxes, promotional leaflets, advertisements, press release, contracts, as well as company regulations and reports through the introduction of fundamental elements of commercial correspondence such as correctness, directness, clarity, conciseness, tone, style and layouts.

Module Title: Scientific and Technical Translation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This is another specialized course that deals with the common problems and solutions in respect of technical translation. Texts including scientific prose, manuals, articles and reports will be widely used to familiarize students with the diction, sentence structures, organization, forms and styles of various types of technical documents. Upon completion of the course, participants should be capable of handling with ease the technicalities and difficulties that they are likely to come across in the process of translating.

Module Title: Introduction to Interpretation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course is aimed at providing participants with the basic knowledge and training in interpretation. Participants will learn the key features of interpretation, as opposed to those of written translation. They will become aware of what are the various types of interpretation and what is required of an interpreter. Various techniques used in interpretation, for example, note-taking, will also be taught. There will be classroom exercises in at-sight interpreting and consecutive

interpretation from English into Cantonese and vice versa.

Module Title: Intermediate Interpretation

Credit Unit: 4

Description: This course is aimed at training participants to develop skills that are required in interpreting, such as short-term memory and the ability to work under pressure. There will be plenty of classroom interpretation exercises. Participants will be drilled to perform various tasks, such as at-sight interpreting, consecutive and simultaneous interpretation from English into Cantonese and vice versa.

Module Title: Consecutive Interpretation

Credit Unit: 3

Description: This course is a continuation of the course 'Intermediate Interpretation'. Participants will receive further training in at-sight interpreting, summary interpreting in the consecutive mode and consecutive interpretation from English into Cantonese and vice versa. There will be a large volume of exercises.

Module Title: Conference Interpreting

Credit Unit: 3

Description: This course is a continuation of two courses, 'Intermediate Interpretation' and 'Consecutive Interpretation'. Participants will be made aware of what is required of a professional conference interpreter and how the professional prepares oneself. Participants will receive further training in both consecutive interpretation and simultaneous interpretation from English into Cantonese and vice versa. There will be a large volume of exercises which consist of preparatory exercises and mock conferences. The preparatory exercises include shadowing, multitasking and simultaneous interpretation aided with texts, and they are designed to help participants to develop good interpretation skills.

Module Title: English/Putonghua Interpretation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course is similar to ‘Intermediate Interpretation’, but the languages involved in this course are English and Putonghua rather than English and Cantonese.

Module Title: Cantonese/Putonghua Interpretation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course is also similar to ‘Intermediate Interpretation’, but the languages involved in this course are Cantonese and Putonghua rather than English and Cantonese.

Module Title: Basic Putonghua

Credit Unit: 3

Description: 本課程集中研習漢語拼音方案，普通話與粵語的語音對比，訓練學員以普通話作簡短對話。

Module Title: Intermediate Putonghua

Credit Unit: 3

Description: 本課程透過各式各樣的學習活動，讓學員掌握漢語拼音知識，訓練學員準確發音，提高普通話的運用及表達能力。

Module Title: Advanced Putonghua

Credit Unit: 4

Description: 本課程旨在鞏固學員對漢語拼音方案的認識，操練普通話發音、輕聲、兒化韻，學習日常用語，以及訓練聽力、朗讀和說話技巧。

Module Title: English Oral and Listening Skills

Credit Unit: 4

Description: This course helps to improve participants English speaking and listening skills. It will introduce effective strategies for listening and various types of oral communication techniques. Participants will have a large volume of practice such as discussion, interviews, role plays, pair work, and individual and group presentations on various topics.

Module Title: Chinese Reading and Writing Skills

Credit Unit: 4

Description: This course will emphasize the reading and writing skills of Chinese language. Participants will learn how ideas are developed and organized while reading and then learn to develop a writing plan and the skills in drafting, editing and proofreading; linking and developing sentences to paragraphs and paragraphs to essays. The ability to make explanatory comments to facilitate readers of an essay will also be introduced.

Module Title: English Reading and Writing Skills

Credit Unit: 4

Description: The structure of this course is similar to that of 'Chinese Reading and Writing Skills'. However, the language concerned is English.

Module Title: English Grammatical Studies

Credit Unit: 3

Description: This course aims at enhancing participants' general abilities in writing accurate and grammatical English. It provides an introduction to the study of the structure of English. General outline and rules of English grammar, as well as sentence formation in English will be studied.

Module Title: Chinese Stylistics and Rhetoric

Credit Unit: 3

Description: 課程透過閱讀不同類型的範文，分析和討論中文文體的結構，使學員瞭解不同文體的特性和異同，提升理解及閱讀能力。再通過學習各種修辭的技術，掌握豐富傳意和表達的技巧，包括遣詞用字、造句、和通篇結構的考慮，提升寫作能力。

Module Title: English Stylistics and Rhetoric

Credit Unit: 4

Description: This course aims at familiarizing students with a broad spectrum of rhetorical and stylistic features of English. The course covers such rhetorical devices as alliteration, simile, metaphor, oxymoron, paradox, parallelism, antimetabole, personification and so forth. Major varieties or genres of English will be examined in depth, such as the language of advertising, legal texts and the language of journalism. Upon completion of the course, participants should be able to appreciate and produce a wide range of rhetorical features as well as to identify the

structure of a text and its discourse features.

Module Title: English and Cantonese Pronunciation Skills

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course is divided into two parts. It aims at training participants to pronounce both English and Cantonese accurately. Part I introduces participants to the International Phonetic Alphabet and various aspects of English pronunciation. Part II introduces the Cantonese phonetic symbols. Relevant English and Chinese dictionaries will be used for practicing.

Module Title: Summary and Commentary in Chinese

Credit Unit: 3

Description: In this course, participants will be trained to make use of source material in English to provide a specific report in Chinese. Participants will learn how to skim the source material initially to gain an overall view of the material and then scan it in order to sift out the information required. Ability to make explanatory comments to facilitate readers of a report will also be introduced.

Module Title: Summary and Commentary in English

Credit Unit: 3

Description: This course is similar to 'Summary and Commentary in Chinese'. However, in this course, the source language is Chinese and the target language English.

Module Title: Language and Linguistics

Credit Unit: 4

Description: The primary objective of this course is to equip students with a set of analytical apparatuses for the scientific study of language. Participants will be introduced to the basic concepts of modern linguistics, such as the origin of language, the properties of language, langue and parole, and the diachronic and synchronic description of language. Participants will learn how to analyse the linguistic structure of a language at the phonological, morphological, syntactical, semantic and pragmatic levels. This is followed by a comparative and contrastive study of the structure of English and the structure of Chinese.

Module Title: Selected Topics on World History, Culture and Literature

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course provides a broad introduction to the history and civilization of the western world, from the first great ancient civilizations in the Fertile Crescent and Egypt to the world conflicts of the 20th century. Selected highlights and the interconnections among history, culture and literature will be examined. Participants will be able to enhance their ability to appreciate different cultures and thus be able to handle a wide variety of translation works in a better way.

Module Title: Selected Topics on Chinese History, Culture and Literature

Credit Unit: 2

Description: 課程旨在讓學員了解及欣賞中國的文化與風俗，從而更好地處理各種翻譯文稿。課程從不同切入點去分析中國歷史的發展，從中抽取不同的文化元素分類剖析，結合不同時期有代表性的文學作品進行解讀，瞭解三者相互間的關係與影響。探討範圍包括中國傳統文化的形成、近代東西文化的融合和現代文化的傳承演變。

Module Title: Critical Thinking

Credit Unit: 1

Description: This course aims at guiding participants to become a better thinker in every aspect of their life, especially in academic environments. Participants will explore how human being thinks. They will identify the core skills of effective thinking; analyze one's own thought processes so as to identify one's weaknesses and overcome them; assess matters of fact, matters of opinion, and matters of judgment.

Module Title: Translation Project

Credit Unit: 6

Description: This course provides a venue for participants to work independently and apply in an integrated manner the concepts and skills they will have acquired in previous translation and language-enhancement courses. Participants will be required to translate an extended text of about 5000 words.

Module Title: Selected Topics on Hong Kong Culture

Credit Unit: 2

Description: 課程從多角度去對香港文化的形成期作一個橫切面的探討，分析香港這個殖民地在中國近代史中動盪的年代，受傳統與現代的文化衝擊下，產生的文化形態。其中包括當時中國傳統「嶺南文化」的延續、「五四」新文化運動的衝擊、社會現代化的推動、自由經濟資本主義的發展、西方文化傳播的影響及中國共產主義興起的反響等多個現象。

Module Title: Contemporary History

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This course provides a general analysis of twentieth century history. It covers a broad range of historical approaches including social, economic, political, diplomatic, intellectual and cultural.

Module Title: Translation for Public Administration

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This elective course aims at introducing participants to the specialized registers of various types of texts, which typically appear in the day-to-day communication at government agencies and related organizations (e.g. public bodies), and at developing participants' skills in translating these documents from English into Chinese and vice versa. An in-depth analysis of the vocabulary, terminology, discourse structure and other distinctive features of these documents will form the focus of this course. Participants will learn how to translate such documents as notices, minutes of meetings, press releases, statements issued by government departments/public bodies, correspondence between government departments/public bodies and the public, forms and internal documents.

Module Title: Literary Translation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This is a specialized translation course with the aim of equipping students with the ability to appreciate literary writings and grasp the essence of literary translation by introducing the general artistic quality of major literary works such as prose, fictions, poetry and plays in terms of their themes and representation.

Module Title: Translation Workshop

Credit Unit: 2

Description: In this workshop, participants are required to take part actively in group discussion so as to sharpen their translation ability. Translation errors, problems and solutions will be covered. Participants are required to prepare a piece of translation for presentation and comment in class.

Module Title: Film Translation

Credit Unit: 2

Description: Students are introduced to the cultural and linguistic features involved in films and subtitling. Specific language and cultural issues, and the technical problems in the translation of subtitles are analysed and discussed. From a wide spectrum of film clip examples of various genres, students are exposed to the varieties of English and Chinese used on-screen. Students will then start developing their own viewpoints through the language and cultural senses in evaluating the messages transmitted in films. Students will also learn to use simple subtitling software to create subtitled films of their own.

Module Title: IT Skills for Translators

Credit Unit: 2

Description: This practice-oriented course aims to provide students with essential knowledge of information technology, including (1) general computer application (such as use and maintenance spelling and grammar checker of word processor), (2) specific translation software tools (such as translation memory and concordance) and (3) Internet resources (such as free translation services). It is expected that by the end of the course, students can acquire basic computer skills and develop an ability to apply the knowledge to their profession.