



**FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CHINESE-ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION**

**LEARNING MODULE OUTLINE**

Academic Year	2025/2026	Semester	1
Module Code	TRAN4110-411/412		
Learning Module	Research Methods and Thesis Writing		
Pre-requisite(s)	Nil		
Medium of Instruction	English/Chinese		
Credits	2	Contact Hours	30 hrs
Instructor	Jiang Xiaohua	Email	xhjiang@mpu.edu.mo
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**MODULE DESCRIPTION**

This module is designed to develop research and writing skills for non-native English-speaking students enrolled in the Chinese/English Translation Program at MPU. It will be an intensive hands-on experience that requires the extensive use of library paper and electronic resources and constant practice to put ideas on paper in terms of sentences, paragraphs and papers/essays. It will familiarize the students with the FLT graduate thesis writing requirements and expectations, emphasizing on the fight against plagiarism. The reference formats such as MLA and APA will be briefly studied.

**MODULE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOS)**

On completion of this learning module, students will be able to:

M1.	Know the basic skills of academic writing;
M2.	Know the format and layout of graduation translation project;
M3.	Apply translation theories to the analyses of their graduation translation project;
M4.	Develop and support a central argument.

These ILOs aims to enable students to attain the following Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs):

PILOs	M1	M2	M3	M4
P1. Knowledge and skills of translation and interpreting in the areas of public administration, tourism, commerce and mass media;	✓	✓		✓
P2. Knowledge of translation theories, critical understanding of translation and interpreting;	✓	✓	✓	✓



P3. Knowledge and skills of both Chinese and English as language professionals;	✓	✓	✓	✓
P4. Knowledge of cross-cultural communication;	✓		✓	
P5. Master Chinese-English translation and interpreting skills, strategies and technologies;			✓	
P6. Apply Chinese and English writing competence into translation practices;				
P7. Apply knowledge of languages and translation studies into bi-lateral translation practices between English and Chinese;		✓	✓	✓
P8. Apply strategies and techniques in public speaking, consecutive and simultaneous interpreting;		✓	✓	✓
P9. Gain cross-cultural awareness in translation and interpreting practices;		✓	✓	✓
P10. Obtain basic research abilities.				

#### MODULE SCHEDULE, COVERAGE AND STUDY LOAD

Week	Content Coverage	Contact Hours
1	Introduction to the course: academic thinking and academic writing (2 hours) (Understand a) the definitions of “academic thinking” and “academic writing”, and b) the basic requirements of an academic paper)	2
2	Different research methods: 1) inductive reasoning (2 hours) (Understand the academic characteristics of inductive reasoning, and can distinguish and analyze a paper with inductive reasoning)	2
3	Different research methods: 2) deductive reasoning (2 hours) (Understand the academic characteristics of deductive reasoning, and can distinguish and analyze a paper with deductive reasoning)	2
4	Different research methods: 3) interdisciplinary research method (2 hours) (Understand the academic characteristics of interdisciplinary research method)	2
5	Different research methods: 4) case study method (2 hours) (Understand the academic characteristics of case study)	2
6	Thesis writing: basic layout (2 hours) (Understand the basic layout and development of an academic paper; understand the differences between a quotation and a plagiarism)	2
7	Thesis writing process: from writing the first draft to revising and finalizing the paper (2 hours) (Understand theoretical framework, literature review, analysis, conclusion, sources cited and references)	2
8	Introduction to Graduation Project (2 hours) (Understand the requirements, dos and don'ts, assessments of the Graduation Project of our programme)	2
9	Graduation Project (1): the part of translation (2 hours) (Understand the importance of original text choice, translation strategy, etc.)	2
10	Graduation Project (2): commentary (2 hours) (Understand the steps and skills of commentary writing.)	2
11	Graduation Project (3): error analysis and revision (2 hours) (Learn to analyze and revise academic errors in commentary writing)	2



12	Graduation Project (4): analytical perspectives (2 hours) (Understand the steps of commentary writing 1)	2
13	Graduation Project (5): analytical perspectives (2 hours) (Understand the steps of commentary writing 2)	2
14	Review	2
15	Final exam	2

### TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

In this learning module, students will work towards attaining the ILOs through the following teaching and learning activities:

Teaching and Learning Activities	M1	M2	M3	M4
T1. Lectures and group discussions	✓	✓	✓	✓
T2. In-class and out-of-class practice and workshops	✓	✓	✓	✓
T3. Knowledge- and practice- based assignments and tests	✓	✓	✓	✓

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance requirements are governed by the Academic Regulations Governing Bachelor's Degree Programmes of the Macao Polytechnic University. Students who do not meet the attendance requirements for the learning module shall be awarded an 'F' grade.

### ASSESSMENT

In this learning module, students are required to complete the following assessment activities:

Assessment Activities	Weighting (%)	ILOs to be Assessed
A1. Class performance and attendance	15%	M1-M4
A2. In-class training	15%	M1-M4
A3. Assignments	30%	M1-M4
A4. Final exam	40%	M1-M4

The assessment will be conducted following the University's Assessment Strategy (see [www.mpu.edu.mo/teaching\\_learning/en/assessment\\_strategy.php](http://www.mpu.edu.mo/teaching_learning/en/assessment_strategy.php)). Passing this learning module indicates that students will have attained the ILOs of this learning module and thus acquired its credits.

### MARKING SCHEME

**Excellent:** Strong evidence of original thinking; good organisation, capacity to analyse and systemise; superior grasps of subject matter; strong evidence of extensive knowledge base.



**Very Good:** Evidence of grasps of subject; strong evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; good understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

**Good:** Evidence of grasp of subject; some evidence of critical capacity and analytical ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

**Satisfactory:** Profiting from the study experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

**Pass:** Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the learning module.

**Fail:** Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weak in critical and analytical skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

## REQUIRED READINGS

Teaching materials will be drawn from a range of publications in the field of interpreting. No single textbook will be used.

## REFERENCES

Williams, J. D. (2023). *Language Acquisition and Academic Writing: Theory and Practice of Effective Writing Instruction*. New York: Routledge.

Philip Adu, D. Anthony Miles (2023). *Dissertation Research Methods: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing Up Your Research in the Social Sciences*. New York: Routledge.

Donna Starks, Margaret J. Robertson (2023). *50 Things to Think About When Writing a Thesis: Paving Your Own Path to Submission*. New York: Routledge.

李向武. (2015). *英語學術論文寫作教程*. 成都: 西南交通大學出版社.

連淑能. (2014). *英漢對比研究*. 北京: 高等教育出版社.

## STUDENT FEEDBACK

At the end of every semester, students are invited to provide feedback on the learning module and the teaching arrangement through questionnaires. Your feedback is valuable for instructors to enhance the module and its delivery for future students. The instructor and programme coordinators will consider all feedback and respond with actions formally in the annual programme review.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Macao Polytechnic University requires students to have full commitment to academic integrity when engaging in research and academic activities. Violations of academic integrity, which include but are not limited to plagiarism, collusion, fabrication or falsification, repeated use of assignments and cheating in examinations, are considered as serious academic offenses and may lead to disciplinary actions. Students should read the relevant regulations and guidelines in the Student Handbook which is distributed upon the admission into the University, a copy of which can also be found at [www.mpu.edu.mo/student\\_handbook/](http://www.mpu.edu.mo/student_handbook/).